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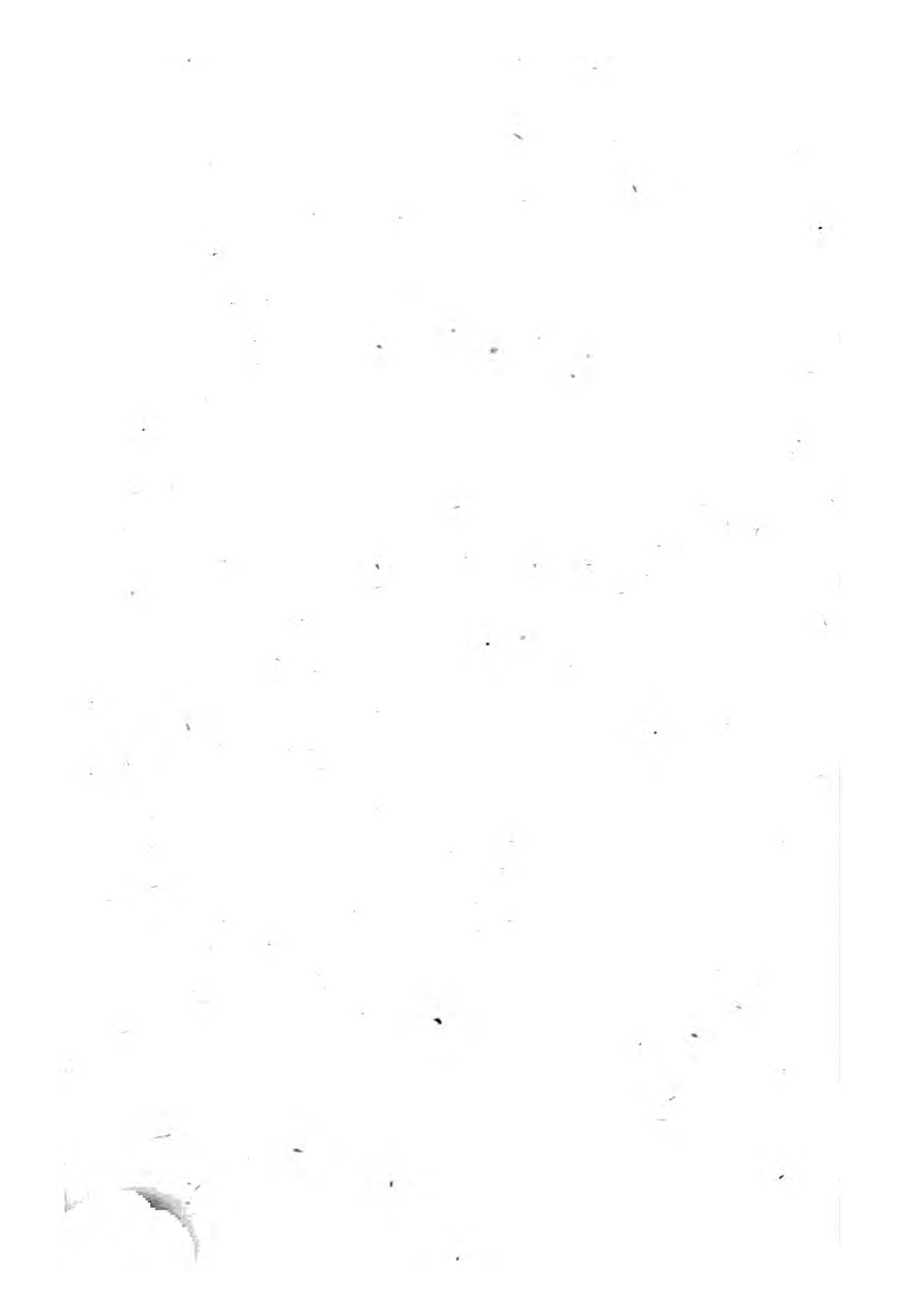
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Topographical and Descriptive,

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AND HISTORICAL APPENDIX.

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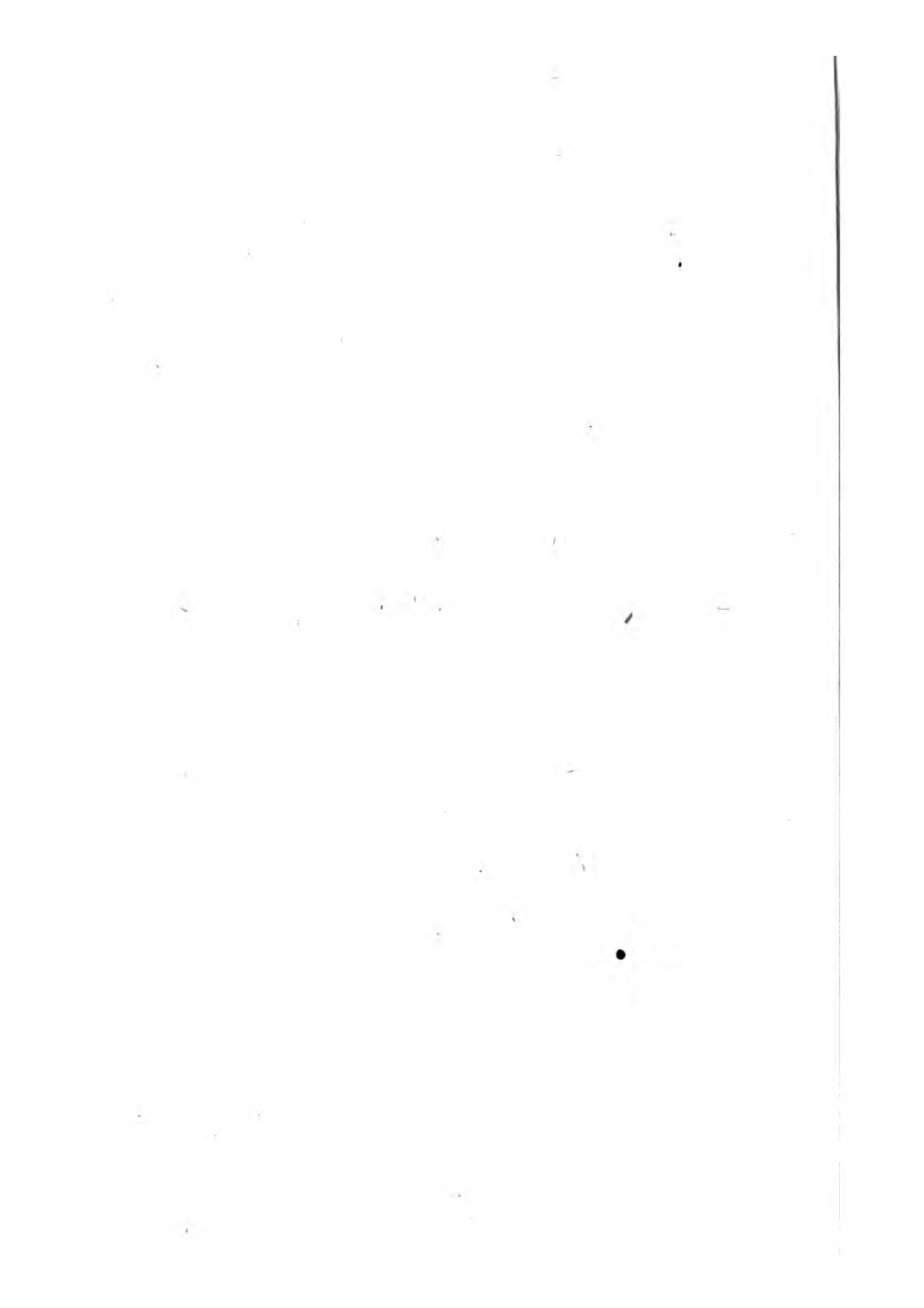


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CONTENTS.

PART I.—GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

LESSON	PAGE
I. Situation, Boundaries, and Extent	7
II. Parts of the Sea, Islands, and Capes	8
III., IV. Mountains	9, 11
V. Table-lands, Valleys, and Plains	12
VI.-VIII. Rivers	13, 15, 16
IX. Lakes and Lagoons	18
X. Climate	19
XI. Vegetable Productions	21
XII. Animal Productions	22
XIII. Mineral Resources	24
XIV. Race and Language	25
XV., XVI. Religions of Hindustan	26, 27
XVII. Area and Population	29
XVIII., XIX. Government of India	30, 31
XX. Revenue and Commerce	32
XXI.-XXIII. Means of Internal Communication—Roads, Railways, Canals, and Irrigation Works	34, 35, 36
XXIV. Education, Post Office, Telegraphs, etc.	37
XXV.-XXVIII. Peoples of Hindustan	39, 40, 42, 43

PART II.—POLITICAL DIVISIONS.

I. LOWER PROVINCES OF BENGAL.

XXIX. General Description	45
XXX. Divisions of Lower Bengal	46
XXXI., XXXII. Notes on the Provinces of Lower Bengal	47, 48
XXXIII. Chief Towns of Lower Bengal	49

II. NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES.

XXXIV. General Description—Situation, Extent, Climate, Productions, Divisions, etc.	51
XXXV. Notes on the Provinces of North-Western India	53
XXXVI. Chief Towns of the North-Western Provinces	54

III. OUDE.

LESSON	PAGE
XXXVII. General Description—Situation, etc.; Climate; History ...	56
XXXVIII. Divisions and Chief Towns of Oude	57

IV. THE PUNJAB.

XXXIX. General Description—Situation, Extent, Natural Divisions, Productions, etc....	58
XL. People, Language, Divisions, etc.	59
XLI. Notes on the Provinces of the Punjab	61
XLII. Chief Towns of the Punjab	63

V. THE CENTRAL PROVINCES OF INDIA.

XLIII., XLIV. General Description—Situation, Extent, Surface, Climate, Productions, Railways, Language, Divisions, etc. ...	64, 65
XLV. Notes on the Divisions of the Central Provinces	66
XLVI. Chief Towns of the Central Provinces	67

VI. THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY.

XLVII., XLVIII. General Description—Situation, Extent, Coast, Surface, Climate, Productions, People and Language, Industry and Trade, Internal Communication, Government, etc.	68, 69
XLIX. Divisions of the Bombay Presidency; Notes on the Provinces of Bombay	70
L., LI. Chief Towns of the Bombay Presidency	72, 73

VII. THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY.

LII., LIII. General Description—Situation, Extent, Internal Communication, Government, etc.	74, 75
LIV. Divisions of the Madras Presidency	76
LV., LVI. Notes on the Divisions of the Madras Presidency	78, 79
LVII., LVIII. Chief Towns of the Madras Presidency	82, 83

VIII. BRITISH BURMA.

LIX. General Description—Situation, Extent, Climate, Productions, People, Language, etc.	85
LX. Divisions of British Burma	86
LXI., LXII. Notes on the Provinces of British Burma	87, 88
LXIII. Chief Towns of British Burma	89

IX. HYDERABAD, MYSORE, AND COORG.

LXIV. Hyderabad (Haidarabad), or the Assigned Districts of Hyderabad	91
LXV. Mysore—Situation, Extent, Climate, Productions, etc.	92
LXVI. Chief Towns of Hyderabad, Mysore, and Coorg	94

PART III.—INDEPENDENT AND PROTECTED NATIVE STATES; FOREIGN POSSESSIONS; CEYLON AND THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

I. NATIVE STATES.

LESSON	PAGE
LXVII., LXVIII. 1. Native States of North-Eastern India—Nepal, Sikkim, Botan, Munipur, Hill Tippera	96, 97
LXIX.—LXXII. 2. Native States of North-Western India—Kashmir, Gurwal, Bawalpur, Hill States, Sikh States, Rajputana, Rampur	99, 100, 102, 104
LXXIII.—LXXVI. 3. Native States of Central India—Hyderabad, or the Nizam's Dominions, Malwa States, Orissa States	105, 106, 108, 109
LXXVII.—LXXIX. 4. Native States of Western India—Cutch, Kyrpur, Rewa Caunta, Guzerat States, Kolapur, etc. ...	111, 112, 114
LXXX. 5. Native States of Southern India—Cochin, Travancore, etc.	115

II. FOREIGN POSSESSIONS IN INDIA.

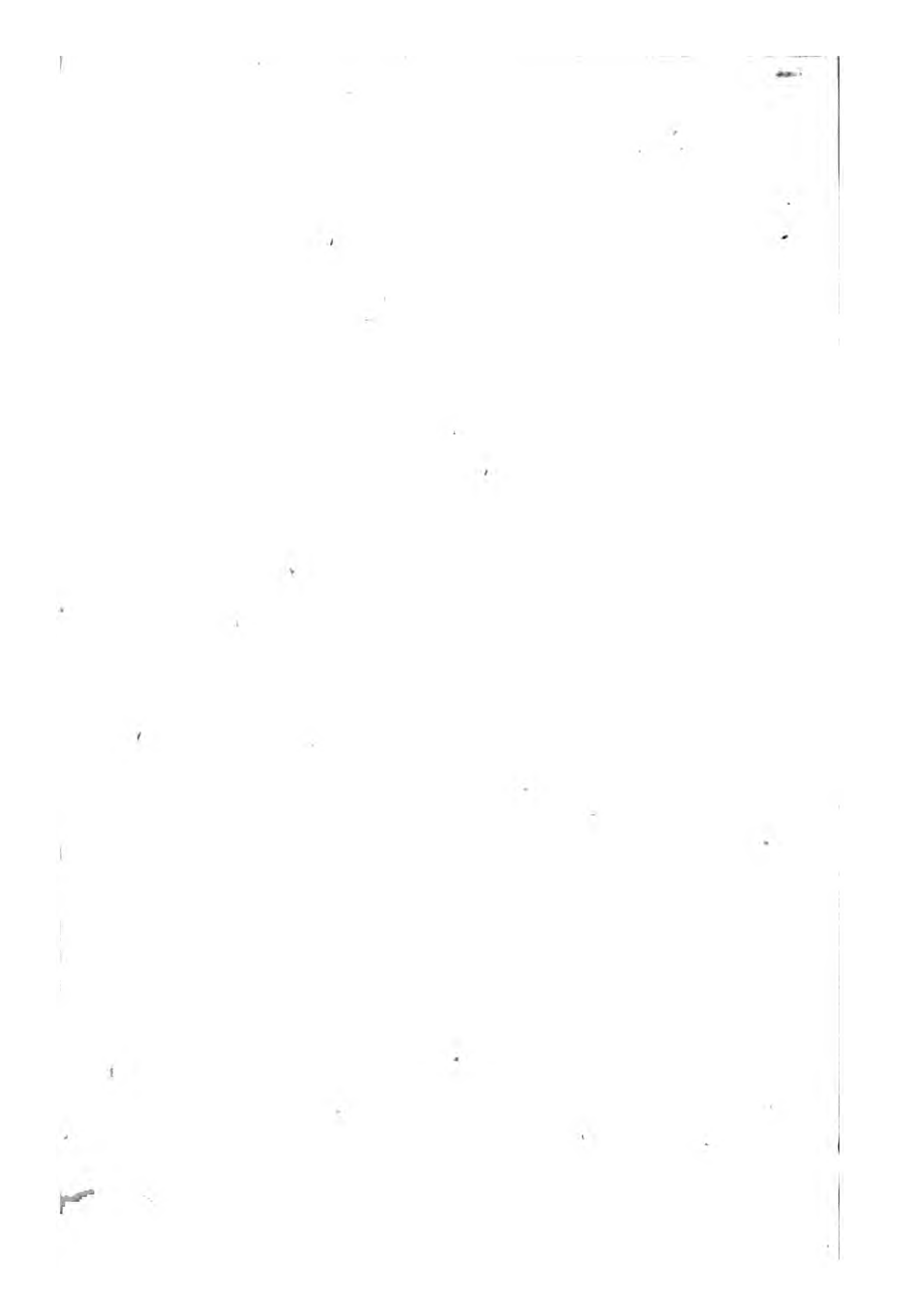
LXXXI. 1. French Possessions—Pondicherry, Carical, Chandernagore, Yanaon, Mahé	117
LXXXII. 2. Portuguese Possessions—Goa, Daman, Diu	118

III. CEYLON AND THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

LXXXIII.—LXXXVI. Ceylon—Situation, Extent, Surface, Climate, Natural Productions, Government, Divisions, Chief Towns ...	119, 120, 122, 123
LXXXVII. The Straits Settlements: General Description; Singapore	124
LXXXVIII. The Straits Settlements: Penang, Malacca	125

PART IV.—A SKETCH OF INDIAN HISTORY.

I.—III. The Rise and Fall of the Mogul Empire	1, 3, 4
IV. Early European Settlements in India	6
V. The East India Company	8
VI. French and English Conflicts in India... ..	10
VII., VIII. Progress of the British Power in India	12, 13
IX.—XII. History of the English in India	15, 17, 18, 19

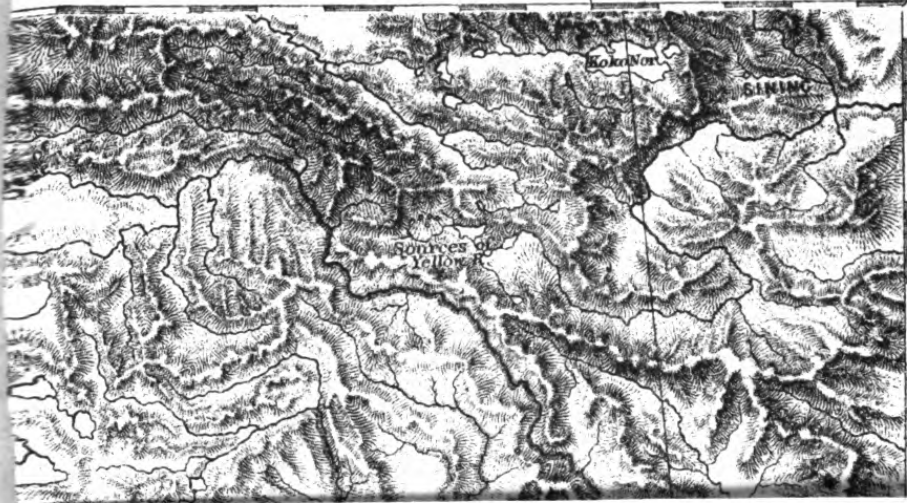


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GEOGRAPHY OF INDIA.

PART I.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

LESSON I.

SITUATION, BOUNDARIES, EXTENT.

SITUATION.—INDIA, or Hindustan, consists mainly of a large peninsula situated in the south of Asia, between the parallels of 8° and 36° N. Lat., and the meridians of $66\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ and $99\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ E. Long.

Geographically and physically, this peninsula embraces only the provinces lying between the mouths of the *Indus* and *Ganges*, and between the *Himalaya Mountains* and the Indian Ocean; but politically, India properly includes the British possessions lying along the eastern shore of the Bay of Bengal, viz. Assam, Aracan, Pegu, and the Tenasserim Provinces.

BOUNDARIES.—The natural boundaries of India are remarkably well defined. It is separated from Tibet on the north by the lofty range of the *Himalaya*; from Affganistan and Beluchistan on the north-west by the *Suliman Mountains*; and from the Chinese Empire on the north-east by the eastern spurs of the *Himalaya*. Its southern shores are washed by the waters of the *Arabian Sea* and the *Bay of Bengal*.

The eastern boundary is less regular, but is tolerably well-defined by the *Yoma* and *Siamese Mountains*, which separate the British territories in Further India from Burma and Siam. *Palk's Strait* separates India from the island of Ceylon in the south.

EXTENT.—The greatest length of Hindustan, from the northern extremity of the Punjab to Cape Comorin in the south, is about

1,800 miles; and its greatest breadth, from Kurrachi, beyond the *Indus* in the west, to the eastern part of Assam, is nearly the same distance. The total extent of Hindustan is estimated at rather more than $1\frac{1}{2}$ million square miles.

Besides the British possessions in India, there are nearly two hundred native states, of varying dimensions, under the rule of native sovereigns or chieftains, who are mostly tributary to the British Crown. These, with the French and Portuguese possessions, cover an area of nearly 670,000 square miles, leaving a little over 900,000 square miles to the British territory proper. Of the native states, about 50,000 square miles are under British administration.

COAST.—India has a coast line of about 3,600 miles. The seaboard is generally unbroken, and there are consequently but few good harbours. The south-west coast of the peninsula is called the **Malabar Coast**; the south-east, the **Coromandel Coast**.

LESSON II.

PARTS OF THE SEA.

Bay of Bengal, between Hindustan and Burma, or Further India.

Gulf of Martaban, to the south of Pegu.

Palk's Strait, between the northern extremity of the island of Ceylon and the coast of India.

Gulf of Manaar, to the south of Palk's Strait, and separated from it by a low chain of islands and reefs known as *Adam's Bridge*.

Gulfs of Cambay and Cutch, on the western coast of India.

ISLANDS.

Ceylon, a large island to the south of Hindustan.

Andaman and Nicobar Islands, two groups of islands in the *Bay of Bengal*.

Mergui Archipelago, off the coast of the Tenasserim Provinces.

Laccadives and Maldives, two groups lying off the south-western shores of Hindustan in the *Arabian Sea*.

Penang, or Pulo-Penang, and Singapore, two islands off the coast

of the Malay Peninsula. These, with the territories of Malacca and Wellesley Province, form what are known as the **Straits Settlements**. Penang is also called **Prince of Wales Island**.

CAPEs.

Cape Negrais, south of Pegu at the mouth of the *Irawadi*.

Point Palmyras, on the eastern coast of Hindustan, near to the mouth of the *Mahanadi*.

Point Calimere, at the entrance to *Palk's Channel*.

Cape Comorin, the most southern point of Hindustan.

Dondra Head, on the south coast of Ceylon.

Point Pedro, northerly extremity of Ceylon.

Cape Diu, south of Guzerat.

LESSON III.

MOUNTAINS.

The **HIMALAYA** ("the abode of snow")—a great mountain region forming the northern frontier of Hindustan, having an average width of about 150 miles, and extending through more than 22 degrees of longitude, from Cashmere to the southern bend of the *Bramaputra*.

This mountain system contains some of the loftiest peaks in the world. *Mount Everest*, the highest peak of the Himalaya, is 29,002 feet above the sea level; *Kunchinjinga* and *Dawalagiri* are both upwards of 28,000 feet in height; and a large number of peaks are above 25,000 feet.

The height of the snow-line on the southern slope of the *Himalaya* is 16,200 feet; on the northern, it is 17,400. This anomaly is probably owing to the dry atmosphere of Tibet, and the small quantity of rain and snow which falls there.

The passes through the *Himalaya* are lofty and difficult, none being at a less elevation than 17,000 feet.

SULIMAN MOUNTAINS,—a lofty range forming the boundary between the Punjab and the high plateau of Affganistan. This chain extends from north to south a distance of about 350 miles, and is

nearly parallel to the course of the river *Indus*. Some of the peaks of the *Suliman Mountains* reach an elevation of about 11,000 feet, which is above the limit of perpetual snow in that latitude. The highest peak of the range is *Takht-i-Suliman*.

Communication between Affganistan and the plains of the *Indus* is maintained by the *Kyber Pass*, which commences at Peshawur, and extends to the plains of Jelalabad, a distance of about 30 miles. Though little more than 3,000 feet above the sea level, it is very difficult, being here and there merely a narrow ravine between perpendicular rocks at least 600 feet in height. It was here that a British army, on its retreat from Cabul, in January, 1842, was almost entirely destroyed.

Hala Mountains,—a continuation of the *Suliman Mountains* to the southward, forming the boundary between Sind and Beluchistan. They are of less elevation and are crossed by the *Bolan Pass*.

Salt Range,—an inconsiderable chain of mountains stretching from the north-eastern extremity of the *Suliman Mountains* to the banks of the river *Jelum*, and intersected by the channel of the *Indus*.

The range receives its name from the large beds of common salt which it contains in many places. It is rich also in other minerals, as alum, slate, saltpetre, sulphur, etc. Its elevation nowhere exceeds 3,000 feet.

Aravalli Mountains,—in Rajputana. The highest peak is *Mount Abu* (5,000 feet). Mean elevation, about 3,600 feet. The chain runs in a north-eastern direction to Ajmir, and, for a distance of more than 200 miles, has no pass for wheel carriages.

Vindya Mountains,—stretching from east to west for about 350 miles between the valleys of the *Ganges* and *Nerbudda*, and forming the southern edge of the *Plateau of Malwa*. The highest point of this range is *Jam Ghat* (2,328 feet); the other summits range from 1,000 to 2,000 feet in height.

Satpura Mountains,—a range of volcanic origin, running east and west for a distance of 200 miles between the valleys of the *Nerbudda* and *Tapti*.

LESSON IV.

MOUNTAINS (*continued*).

WESTERN GHATS,—a bold and lofty range of mountains running parallel to the western coast of Hindustan, from the mouth of the *Tapti* to the *Neilgherries* in the south. At Mahabaleshwar, the sanitarium of Bombay, this range has an elevation of about 4,500 feet; but further southwards, in *Bonasson Hill*, near Coorg, it attains a height of 7,000 feet.

Access to the highlands and table-lands of Central and Southern India is obtained by means of gorges or passes in this chain, called *Ghats* or *Ghauts*. It is from these that the whole range derives its name.

EASTERN GHATS,—a similar range, but more broken and of less elevation, running parallel to the eastern coast of India. The mean height of this chain is about 1,500 feet; but, near Madras, it attains an elevation of about 3,000 feet.

The two ranges of the Ghats, unite at their southern extremities in the

NEILGHERRIES,—a small group of mountains, covering an area of about 600 square miles, and situated in Southern India between Mysore and Malabar. Ootacamund, the sanitarium of the Madras Presidency, is situated among these hills.

Dodabetta, the culminating point of all the mountains of Southern India, has an elevation of 8,760 feet. Other peaks rise to from 6,000 to 8,000 feet.

Pulnai Mountains, or *Vurragerry Hills*,—in Madura, in the extreme south of India. These are a lofty and very picturesque group, rising in many places to upwards of 7,000 feet above the sea level.

Within 30 miles of *Cape Comorin* this group terminates abruptly in a bluff granite peak, about 2,000 feet high, from the base of which a low range of similar rocks extends southwards to the sea.

Mahadeo Mountains,—in Nagpur, a cluster of mountains situated eastward of the *Satpura* and *Vindya* ranges, and forming the watershed between the basins of the *Nerbudda* and *Godavery*. Some of the higher peaks of this range reach an elevation of 5,000 feet.

Cossya, Garrow, Jyntea, and Naga Hills,—in Assam, a rugged region, but rather a plateau than a mountain range. The district is rich in minerals—coal, iron, and limestone abounding.

The largest known rain-fall in the world takes place at **Cherra Punji** in this region; nearly 600 inches have been known to fall within the year at this place; the mean annual fall is estimated at 300 inches.

Sewalik Mountains,—a range running parallel with the *Himalaya* between the valleys of the *Ganges* and *Sutlej*. The highest point is 3,500 feet above the sea.

Rajmahal Hills,—in the Lower Bengal Provinces, north-west of the delta of the *Ganges*. The highest point of this district is *Mount Parasnath* (4,000 ft.), with a temple on its summit.

LESSON V.

TABLE-LANDS, VALLEYS, AND PLAINS.

Plateau of the Deccan,—extending southwards from the *Vindya Mountains*, and bounded on the east and west by the *Ghats*. Its mean elevation is about 3,000 feet. It slopes gradually towards the south-east. The central part consists of undulating, treeless plains, covered with verdure in the rainy season, but desert in the dry season.

Malwa,—a table-land lying between the *Vindya* and *Aravalli Mountains*, and having an elevation of from 1,500 to 2,000 feet above the sea level. The region is drained by the *Chumbul*, *Betwa*, and other tributaries of the *Jumna* and *Ganges*.

Plain of the Ganges,—extending between the *Himalaya Mountains* and the *Plateau of Malwa*, and from the *Bay of Bengal* to the *Aravalli Mountains* in Rajputana.

The Thur,—a large sandy desert extending from the eastern base of the *Hala Mountains* to the western base of the *Aravalli* range, a distance of 350 miles; and from the *Runn of Cutch* northwards to the *Sutlej*, for a distance of 450 miles, covering an area of 150,000 square miles, or nearly an eighth part of the surface of India.

The western portion of this tract is crossed by the *Indus*, and the eastern by the river *Luni*; and it is in the neighbourhood of these rivers only, and in parts within the reach of artificial irrigation, that the land is capable of cultivation.

Between these rivers and the *Aravalli Mountains* the desert forms a continuous succession of sandhills for a space of 450 miles in length, and from 50 to 100 miles in breadth. Crops of grain can be grown in the intersecting valleys after the rains, which are, however, slight and irregular, and speedily absorbed by the thirsty sand. Travelling across this tract is difficult and disagreeable; camels and horses are the only animals which can cross it.

The desert is called by the natives *Thull*, *Thur*, or *Dhat*. In Hindu geography it is termed *Marusthulli*, or, "the Region of Death."

Runns of Cutch,—salt marshes of great extent, separating the peninsula of Cutch from the mainland. The **Great Western Runn** is about 190 miles in length, by from 2 to 90 miles in width; the **Little Runn** is triangular in shape, and covers an area of about 1,600 square miles. According to the season of the year, these vast level spaces are either lakes, swamps, or deserts.

The Terai,—a broad strip of marshy jungle stretching along the foot of the sub-Himalayan ranges, and between them and the plains of India. A deadly malaria arises from the whole region, rendering it uninhabitable by man or the domesticated animals.

Wild animals, however, abound, as the elephant, rhinoceros, tiger, leopard, panther, wild buffalo, deer, etc.; but, from April to October, even these are said to abandon this "band or belt of death," as it is termed.

LESSON VI.

RIVERS.

THE river drainage of the *Himalaya* corresponds in magnitude and importance with the mountains themselves. Three of the largest rivers of the Old World have their sources in these mountains at no great distance from each other, viz., the *Indus*, the *Ganges*, and the *Bramaputra*.

1. **The INDUS.**—This river rises in the *Kailas Mountain* in Tibet, a little to the north of the north-eastern frontier of Nepaul, at an elevation of about 18,000 feet above the level of the sea. Its course is at first north-westerly through the deep gorges between the *Himalaya* and *Kuen Lun Mountains*. Issuing from the mountain region, it bends to the south-west, and after a course of about 1,800 miles, enters the *Arabian Sea* by several large branches.

The *Indus* is navigable to its junction with the *Cabul* river at Attock, a distance of 940 miles from the sea. From its source to its junction with the *Shayuk*, a distance of 500 miles, it is known as the *Sin-ka-bab*, or river which rises from the Lion's Mouth.*

The *Shayuk* and *Cabul* are the only important affluents of the *Indus* on the right bank.

On the left bank and in the lower part of its course it is joined by the *Sutlej*, which empties into it the combined waters of all the rivers of the Punjab. The chief of these are the *Sutlej*, *Beas*, *Ravi*, *Chenab*, and *Jelum*. The *Sutlej*, for some distance above its confluence with the *Indus*, is known by the name of the *Punjnud*.

The *Indus* and its tributaries drain a total area of about 372,000 square miles.

2. **The GANGES.**—The sources of this river are situated a little to the south of those of the *Indus* and *Sutlej*, at an elevation of 13,800 feet. It flows in a south-westerly direction, receiving many mountain streams, as far as Allahabad (670 miles from its sources), where it is joined by the *Jumna* on its right bank—a tributary of even greater importance than the *Ganges* itself.

The *Jumna* is 860 miles in length, and, with its affluent the *Chambul* (570 m.), drains the district lying between the *Vindya Mountains* and the watershed of the *Ganges* and *Sutlej*.

After its junction with the *Jumna*, the *Ganges* has an easterly course of 140 miles to Benares, near which place it receives the *Gumti* (500 m.) on its left bank; and a little below this the *Gogra* (600 m.), also from the north. It is then joined on the

* So called in reference to the Tibetan tradition, borrowed perhaps from the Hindus, of the origin of four great rivers from the mouths of as many animals; as, the *Indus* from the lion's mouth; the *Ganges* from that of the peacock; the *Sutlej* from the elephant's; and the *Sanpu* (Bramaputra) from that of the horse.

right bank by the river **Sone** (465 m.), which rises in the *Mahadeo Hills* and flows into the main stream a little above **Patna**.

The only other streams of importance received by the *Ganges* before its confluence with the **Bramaputra** are the **Gunduk** (400 m.) and **Kosi** (325 m.), both from the north.

The combined waters of the *Ganges* and *Bramaputra* enter the *Bay of Bengal* by numerous branches, enclosing a large delta, the southern portion of which is called the *Sunderbunds*.

The **Hoogly**, upon which stands **Calcutta** the capital of **Hindustan**, is formed by the junction of two large branches of the *Ganges* near its mouth. It receives the **Cossye** and **Damuda** from the west. The total length of the *Ganges* is 1,500 miles, 1,300 of which are navigable for boats; the area drained by this large river and its tributaries exceeds 390,000 square miles.

LESSON VII.

RIVERS (continued).

3. **The BRAMAPUTRA.**—This river rises in **Tibet**, a little to the south-east of the source of the *Sutlej*, and flows in an easterly direction through the table-land of **Tibet** for about 1,600 miles under the name of the **Sanpu** river. It then bends southwards and enters **Assam**, through which it flows with a south-westerly course.

The **Sanpu** enters **Assam** under the name of the **Dihong** river, and, immediately afterwards, is joined by the small stream on the left bank which gives its name, **Bramaputra**, to the whole river. Passing round the western extremity of the *Garrow Hills*, it bends suddenly to the south again, and joins the *Ganges*. The total length of the *Bramaputra* is about 1,800 miles.

The area drained by the *Ganges* and *Bramaputra* is estimated at about 750,000 square miles.

4. **The IRAWADI,**—said to mean, like the name **Mississippi**, "father of waters,"—is the great river of **Further India**. It rises in the extension of the *Himalaya*, eastward of the *Bramaputra*. Its course is nearly due south through **Burma** and **Pegu**, and has been estimated to be nearly 1,400 miles in length.

The *Irawadi* receives no tributaries of importance; but near the mouth it divides into several branches, enclosing a delta of 10,000 square miles in extent, intersected by a multitude of the smaller branches of the stream.

The river is navigable for vessels of 200 tons burden as far as Ava, which is 400 miles from the sea; and for boats as far as Bamo, which is 183 miles farther up the river.

5. The Mahanuddy, or Mahanadi,—520 miles in length,—drains the territory south of Bengal. It rises near Konkeir, in Berar, and enters the *Bay of Bengal*, near Cuttack, by many mouths.

6. The Godavery rises in the eastern slope of the *Western Ghats*, near the fort of Trimbuck, about 70 miles north-east of Bombay. Flowing in a south-easterly direction, it empties itself into the *Bay of Bengal*, after a course of 898 miles, by two principal branches, which form good tidal harbours for ships of moderate burden.

The *Godavery* receives the *Wein Gunga* (440 m.) with its affluents the *Payne Gunga* and *Wurda*, on the left bank; and the *Manjara* on the right. The river and its tributaries drain a total area of 112,000 square miles.

7. The *Kistna* or *Krishna* has its source in the same mountains in the plateau of *Mahabaleshwar* at an elevation of 4,500 feet above the level of the sea, and only 30 miles from the western coast. It flows to the south-east and enters the *Bay of Bengal* after a course of about 800 miles. The principal tributaries are the *Beema* (500 m.), and the *Tungabudra* (420 m.). The *Kistna* is hardly navigable. Area of basin, 94,500 square miles.

LESSON VIII.

RIVERS (*continued*).

8. The *Cauvery* rises in the hill country of Coorg in Southern India, near the Malabar coast, 4,000 feet above the sea level, passes through Mysore, Coimbatore and the Carnatic, and, after a course of 472 miles, falls into the *Bay of Bengal* by six principal mouths, which form a spacious delta.

Near Trichinopoly it divides into two branches, which form the island of Seringam. The northern branch flows into the sea under the name of the Coleroon; the southern one, being prevented by a great bund or embankment from uniting again with the northern, breaks into numberless channels, which intersect and irrigate the province of Tanjore.

The chief affluents are the *Henavuthy* in Mysore, and the *Bowani* rising in the *Neilgherries*.

Below Seringapatam two cataracts are formed, which are especially grand in the rainy season, when the volume of water is very great. They are named *Gungana-chuki* and *Birra-chuki*, and are, respectively, 460 and 350 feet high.

9. The *Nerbudda* rises in the *Vindya Mountains*, near the sources of the *Sone*, at an elevation of 2,463 feet, and flows westwards into the *Gulf of Cambay*. It has scarcely any tributaries of even the smallest importance, and is little available for navigation, being obstructed by rocks, shallows and cataracts. It has a length of 800 miles.

10. The *Tapti* rises near *Beitoul* and flows westwards with a winding course of 441 miles into the *Gulf of Cambay* below *Surat*. Its course is nearly parallel to that of the *Nerbudda*, from which it is separated by the *Satpura Mountains*. It receives the *Purna* and *Guirna*.

Besides these there are many smaller streams, which, though torrents in the rainy season, are nearly, if not quite, dry at other times. The chief of these are—

11. The *Pennar*, rising in Mysore, and flowing into the *Bay of Bengal* below *Nellore*, to the north of *Madras*. Length 245 miles.

12. The *Palar*, another stream rising in Mysore and flowing into the *Bay of Bengal* at *Sadras* after a course of 220 miles.

13. The *Myhe*, rising in the *Plateau of Malwa* and falling into the *Gulf of Cambay*, to the north of the *Nerbudda*, after a course of 350 miles.

14. The *Luni*, flowing into the *Runn of Cutch* after a south-west course of 320 miles.

15. The *Braminy*, formed by the confluence of the *Coyle* and *Soank* rivers, flows through *Orissa* and *Cuttack* into the *Bay of Bengal*, a little north of *Point Palmyras*. Length, 410 miles.

LESSON IX.

LAKES AND LAGOONS.

India has few lakes, and none proportionate to its extent or to the magnitude of its mountain and river systems. Near the coast, however, there are a number of *lagoons*, some of them of great extent, which are of importance in regard to inland navigation. The largest of these, viz. the *Runns of Cutch*, have been already described (see page 13).

The lagoons on the Malabar Coast are termed "**Backwaters**," and have a total length of 200 miles. They receive the drainage of the streams coming from the Western Ghats; but the number of open communications with the sea is very small. Cochin is situated on the principal of these openings. The Backwaters are always more or less navigable.

Lagoons also occur on the eastern coast. **Lake Chilka** is one of these, on the coast of Orissa, to the south of the delta of the *Mahanadi*. It is a salt lake or lagoon, 42 miles in length by 15 in breadth, and is separated from the sea only by a narrow bank of sand. It is very shallow—nowhere exceeding six feet in depth. Its name signifies *salt lake*—*jhil* being the Hindu word for lake. Excellent salt is made by evaporation of the waters of *Lake Chilka*.

Lake Colair,—in the Northern Circars, is a fresh-water lagoon formed by the overflowing of the rivers *Godavery* and *Kistna*, between which it lies. It covers a tract 47 miles in length by about 14 in breadth.

From the beginning of July till September this tract is covered with water, except about 60 or 70 small islands on which the inhabitants remain. During the rest of the year it is dry and passable, and in some parts highly cultivated.

Lake Pulicat is an extensive salt-water lagoon on the coast of the Carnatic a little north of Madras. It is about 33 miles in length from north to south, by 11 in breadth. It contains several islands, and communicates with the sea by very narrow channels.

Lake Sambur, in Rajputana, is a sheet of salt water about 50

miles in circumference. It becomes dry by evaporation in the hot season ; a considerable portion of Upper India is supplied with the salt which is then removed for sale.

Deedwana and Sirr are two other smaller salt lakes, also in Rajputana.

There are several small lakes beyond the *Himalaya* and in Cashmere. Two of the former—*Rakas Tal* and *Lake Manasarova*, form the sources of the *Sutlej*. One of the latter, the *Manasa Bul*, is said to be one of the most beautiful in the world. *Lake Wulur* is the largest lake of Cashmere.

The *Lunar Lake* in the *Meermal Hills*, near *Saulna*, fills up a vast crater 500 feet deep and 4 or 5 miles round. Its water is green, and bitter to the taste, but clear and without smell.

LESSON X.

CLIMATE.

The climate of India is very hot, the greater part of the country being situated within the tropics. For three months of the year, from March to June, a large part of Hindustan is burnt up by a scorching sun—the winds are hot; the ground is parched; and the streams are dried up.

With the setting in of the south-west monsoon there comes a change in the temperature. Rain falls in great abundance, and continues to fall with little intermission till October. This period is termed the rainy or wet season. From October till February the climate is temperate.

Many parts of India, from their elevation, enjoy a cooler climate. Thus, on the table-land of Mysore, at an elevation of 7,000 feet, the mean annual temperature is only 65°; while at Madras, on the eastern coast, in almost the same latitude, it is 84°. The mean temperature of Calcutta and Bombay is 82°.

The *Plain of Delhi*, at an elevation of 800 feet above the sea, though extremely hot and dry in the summer, enjoys a tolerably cold winter season,—the temperature sometimes falling 3° or 4° below freezing point, and the tanks becoming entirely frozen over.

Upper India is dry, and is subject to rapid and considerable changes of temperature. The *Table-land of the Deccan* enjoys a moderate climate.

The highest temperature is experienced in the Circars and the Carnatic, where the thermometer frequently ranges from 100° to 106°, and the cold season is of short duration. In the *Thur* the thermometer has been known to register 112° of heat.

Bengal is less exposed to extremes of temperature. The climate is moist and equable, though very oppressive for some months of the year.

MONSOONS.—The climate of India, especially of the southern portion of the peninsula, is greatly influenced by the Monsoons, which are periodical winds produced by the unequal heating of the continent of India during certain seasons of the year. Their effect is most strongly felt on the *Malabar Coast*, where the south-west monsoon commences about the middle of April and continues till August or September; it then gradually lessens in force, and light variable winds prevail, till the setting in of the north-east monsoon, about the middle of October, which continues till the following April. The transition from one to the other is usually marked by great atmospheric disturbance.

The eastern coast receives but little of the rain brought by the south-west monsoon: on the *Malabar Coast*, however, the rainfall is excessive, amounting in many places on the slopes of the Western Ghats, to several hundreds of inches.

The rainy season on the *Coromandel Coast*, as far north as the *Godavery*, commences with the north-east monsoon in October, but only lasts about two months; while that on the *Malabar Coast* usually continues for eight months.

To the north of the *Godavery*, a westerly wind, with moderate showers, begins to prevail about the middle of June. In August the rain becomes more violent and regular, and continues so till November, when the wind shifts to the north-east, and stormy weather ensues. The temperature remains moderate till March, when the hot season commences.

South of the *Godavery* a strong south wind blows along the shore during the months of January and February. This, with the sea breezes which set in every day, moderates the temperature. Later on, in March, the wind blows from the west over a

parched and shifting soil, and produces a most oppressive degree of heat—the thermometer sometimes rising to 110° in the shade, and seldom being less than 105°.

The eastern coast thus experiences a higher temperature and a longer continuance of drought than the western coast, which is directly exposed to the full influence of the south-west monsoon.

LESSON XI.

VEGETABLE PRODUCTIONS.

India is rich in all kinds of natural productions. Extensive forests of valuable timber trees abound. Of these, the chief is the teak, so useful in ship-building. The banyan, tamarind, mango, palmyra, and other palms, sandal wood, and ebony are also important. The cocoa-nut palm is grown in most of the maritime provinces. Different varieties of pines, as well as the oak and other European forest trees, are found on the slopes of the *Himalaya*. Many of the forests produce valuable drugs, dyes, and gums.

Rice,—the chief article of food of the millions of Hindustan,—is largely cultivated in the valleys of the *Indus* and *Ganges*, in the deltas of the eastern coast, and generally throughout India wherever the practice of irrigation prevails. Bengal is the chief rice-producing country,—a surplus being grown for exportation.

Maize and wheat are cultivated in the North-Western Provinces, the latter being of excellent quality, as is also the barley, which the same region produces, and from which the Hindus distil a spirit resembling Irish whiskey.

Cotton is grown near the coast and to some distance inland. Its cultivation has been much extended of late years, having received a great impulse through the stoppage of supplies from the Southern States of North America, during the civil war, 1861–5. The opening up of railway communication between Bombay and the cotton producing districts of Berar and Nagpur has also greatly encouraged this branch of national industry.

Coffee is largely produced in Ceylon and certain districts in the hill country of Southern India; and tea in Assam.

Large tracts of land are devoted to the production also of other articles of export ; as, sugar, indigo, opium, tobacco, oil-seeds, flax, and hemp.

Pepper and cardamums are largely cultivated on the west coast, as also are ginger, chillies, camphor, aniseed, coriander, turmeric, sarsaparilla, etc.

Yams, sweet potatoes, brinjals, pumpkins, cucumbers, and beans of various kinds are among the vegetables. The commoner English vegetables can likewise be grown in the cooler and more elevated districts.

The fruits are chiefly tropical, and include plantains or bananas, mangoes, tamarinds, guavas, jack-fruit, melons, grapes, pomegranates, pines, oranges, lemons, limes, figs, dates, peaches, etc.

In the hill countries of the north-west many of the fruits peculiar to temperate climes are produced in abundance, as apples, pears, grapes, walnuts, strawberries, raspberries, etc.

The grapes of *Malwa* have long been celebrated, and those of *Kunawar*, one of the hill states of the north-west, are produced in such variety and abundance that, if properly managed, the whole of India might be supplied with wine from this district alone.

LESSON XII.

ANIMAL PRODUCTIONS.

Animal life in India is as varied and abundant as its vegetable productions. Among its forests are found the elephant, rhinoceros, wild buffalo, and bear. The lower jungles are the haunt of the tiger, panther, leopard, wild boar, hyæna, wolf, fox, jackal, monkey, squirrel, porcupine, and hedgehog. The lion is also found in *Rajputana* and *Guzerat*, but is not common.

The camel abounds in the deserts of the north-west, where it is the ordinary beast of burden.

The wild ass, a handsome animal, but of untameable fierceness, roams in great herds over the sandy deserts of Western India, and especially along the borders of the *Runns of Cutch*.

Deer, of many species and varieties, are found among the mountains and forests. Several varieties of the goat are found. That of Cashmere has long been celebrated for the fineness of its wool, used in the manufacture of the famous shawls of that country.

The buffalo, both wild and tame, is indigenous. The latter is chiefly employed in the preparation of the fields for the rice cultivation. The humped or Indian ox is also most serviceable as a beast of burden.

REPTILES are numerous. Crocodiles and alligators infest the rivers, swamps, tanks, and estuaries. Serpents, large and small, are common everywhere—some being comparatively harmless, while of others the bite is speedily fatal.

BIRDS in infinite variety are found. Those of the parrot tribe are the most remarkable for beauty. Eagles are numerous among the *Himalaya*; vultures, falcons, and hawks are also met with. Many other birds are common, as herons, cranes, storks, flamingoes, pea-fowl, pheasants, geese, swans, partridges, quails, pigeons, gulls, plovers, snipe, wild ducks, and the ordinary domestic fowls.

INSECT life in India is marvellously abundant, the heat and moisture of the climate encouraging the production of swarms of noxious and troublesome creatures of this class, as mesquitoses, moths, and ants. The white ant is especially destructive to every sort of animal or vegetable substance. Clouds of locusts are occasionally seen in the northern provinces.

Among the useful insects found in India are the silkworm and cochineal insect. The latter, being only a wild species, does not produce the finest dye. Attempts have, however, been made to introduce the true species.

FISH abound in the rivers and around the coasts of India. The shark infests the mouths of rivers, harbours and sea-coasts, and grows to an enormous size.

LESSON XIII.

MINERAL RESOURCES.

Hindustan is rich in minerals. Precious stones of the more valuable kinds, as diamonds, rubies, sapphires, and emeralds, were formerly more abundant than now, but they are still found in some localities.

The once celebrated diamond mines of Golconda are now exhausted; but this gem is still found in the small native state of Punna in the Bundela country (Bundelcund).

Many of the river beds produce the commoner gems, such as jaspers, agates, cornelians, garnets, etc. Gold and silver have been found in Mysore; and particles of the precious metal occur in the beds and at the mouths of the rivers of Southern Malabar.

Tin is abundant in the Tenasserim provinces: copper and lead are also known to exist. Iron is to be met with almost everywhere.

Coal occurs extensively on the southern slopes of the *Himalaya*, in Burdwan (Lower Bengal), at Palamow (Central Provinces), in the Nerbudda districts, in Sylhet, Assam, Berar, Rewa (Bundelcund), Cutch, Cuttack, and Aracan. It has been traced from Burdwan to the westward across the valley of Palamow, and by Sohajpur to Jubbulpur on the upper *Nerbudda*, a distance of 420 miles. It is found in the same latitude in Cutch, and eastward also to the extremity of Assam, forming a great belt, which stretches from 69° to 93° E. Long., and between 20° and 25° N. Lat.

Coal has also been discovered at Hurdwar, in the province of Meerut (North-Western India), and at Attock on the *Indus*. But though so abundant and so widely distributed, no mines of this useful mineral have yet been extensively worked.

Salt is found in large quantities in the range of hills known as the *Salt Range* (p. 10), which crosses the valley of the upper *Indus*. It is also produced abundantly by the evaporation of the salt lakes of Rajputana.

Talc is found in great abundance in the neighbourhood of Mahabaleshwar (*Western Ghats*), where it is used instead of glass, being cheaper and more durable.

Valuable quarries of fine marble and freestone are found in the vicinity of Chanar, in the province of Benares (North-Western India).

LESSON XIV.

RACE AND LANGUAGE.

PEOPLE.—The inhabitants of Hindustan, though generally regarded as belonging to the Caucasian variety of the human race, and usually comprised under the one common term of **Hindus**, really consist of an immense number of families and races, having even greater diversity of character and language, appearance, manners, customs, and occupations, than is to be found among the several nations of the European continent. No two races could be more unlike than are the people of the Lower Provinces of Bengal and the warlike **Sind** of the Punjab, or the high-spirited **Rajput** of Central and North-Western India.

In general the inhabitants of the low countries are of slender proportions and of a graceful and agile figure. Their complexion varies from a dark olive to a light brown, somewhat like that of the peoples of Southern Europe. Their face is of an oval shape, with the forehead moderately large and high, their eyes and hair are black, and their nose and mouth are generally of the European type.

The mountain races are, however, usually of a larger stature and more robust proportions.

It is estimated that the total population of Hindustan exceeds 240 millions. Of these at least three-fourths, or about 180 millions, are **Hindus**, professing some one or other of the many different forms of **Brahminism**; the **Mahometans** number nearly 25 millions; about 20 millions are of the aboriginal class, slaves, pariahs, and without caste; the **Sikhs** of the Punjab amount to about 2 millions; the **Jains**, a religious sect of Central India, whose system is closely allied to both **Brahminism** and **Buddhism**, number about 5 millions, and the remaining 8 millions are composed of sundry hill tribes, East Indians (called also **Eurasians**), European settlers, etc.*

LANGUAGE.—Hindustan contains at least thirty nations, all speaking different and totally distinct languages, and all strangers

* For a more detailed account of the various races of Hindustan, see Lessons XXV.—XXVIII.

to each other. Of each of these languages there are also innumerable diversities of dialect.

The languages spoken by the Hindus proper of Northern India are derived from the ancient Sanscrit, the chief dialects being Hindi, the principal literary language of the non-Mahometan population; Hindustani or Urdu, a corruption of Hindi by an admixture of Persian and Arabic words and idioms; Bengali, Punjabi, Mahratti, Gujeratti, etc.

The languages of the Deccan and Southern India belong to what is called the Dravidian group, and include Tamil, Telugu, Canarese, Malayalam, etc.

Besides these, there are Sindi, spoken by the inhabitants of the Lower Indus; Cashmiri, by those of Cashmere; Uria, spoken on the coast of Orissa; Assamese, Nepaulese, Beluchi, etc.

Modern Persian was once used by the British Government as the language of their state papers and courts of justice; but Hindustani or Urdu has since been substituted, and is now used in all official business.

LESSON XV.

RELIGIONS OF HINDUSTAN.

BRAHMINISM, in its many different forms, is the religion of the great majority of the inhabitants of India.

The doctrines of the more ancient religion of the Hindus are contained in the *Vedas*, or four sacred books, which are of very high antiquity, being supposed to date from the fourteenth century before the Christian era. Their primary doctrine is the Unity of God. "There is in truth but one Deity, the Supreme Spirit, the Lord of the Universe, whose work is the universe."

The *Puranas* are the other sacred books of the Hindus, and are the exponents of modern Brahminism. These are eighteen in number, and were mostly written in the support of the doctrines of particular sects. They are for the most part legendary in their character.

Brahma, Vishnu, and Siva are regarded as separate manifestations of the Divinity, and, with other personified attributes and

energies, have been made the objects of worship in an infinite variety of forms, so that the pure theism of the ancient Hindu faith has become developed into an elaborate pantheistic system.

Of the Hindu sects the most important are the followers of Siva and Vishnu. The worship of Siva, the destroyer, prevails mostly among the upper classes, especially in Mysore and the Mahratta provinces; that of Vishnu, the preserver, prevails among the Hindus of Bengal and the North-Western Provinces. A large portion of the sacred writings of the Hindus is occupied with the history of the various incarnations (*avatars*) of this deity.

One of the distinguishing characteristics of Brahminism is the law of caste. Originally the whole of the people appear to have been divided into four great classes or *castes*; (1) Brahmins, or priests; (2) Shateyas, or soldiers; (3) Vaisyas, or merchants and husbandmen; and (4) Sudras, or artisans and labourers.

This division is now a purely theoretical one, there being practically an immense number of different castes, whose members intermarry only among themselves, and abstain from associating with those of other castes. The spread of education is, however, gradually undermining the influence of caste prejudices.

Other articles of faith are the doctrines of metempsychosis or transmigration of souls; the expiation of crimes by penance; the existence of places of reward and punishment; and the sacredness of certain animals, especially the bull and cow.

LESSON XVI.

RELIGIONS (*continued*).

BUDDHISM appears at one time to have prevailed extensively in Hindustan—Buddha being claimed by some Brahmins as one of the avatars or incarnations of *Vishnu*. Being opposed, however, to the polytheism of the Hindus, it became subjected to much persecution, and was at length almost entirely extinguished in India. It is now professed only by the inhabitants of Aracan, Bootan, Nepaul, and the island of Ceylon.*

* Though almost extinguished in Hindustan, the religion of Buddha, "the Wise," "the Enlightened," is still, numerically speaking, the prevailing re-

The **JAINS**, as was above remarked, are a religious sect, numerous in Guzerat, Rajputana, and Canara, professing the doctrines of Buddhism, but admitting caste (which Buddhism rejects) and the worship of many of the Hindu deities. Pali is the sacred language of both Buddhists and Jains.

The **SIKHS** ("disciples") are a sect founded by one Nanai in the fifteenth century of the Christian era. They were originally pure theists, but have since much degenerated. They occupy the district lying between the *Jumna* and *Sutlej*.

The Sikhs are now divided into several sects, the two principal of which are the **Kalisa**, or old Sikhs, and the **Sings**, or Lions. All are distinguished by their hatred of both the Hindu and Mahometan religions—many of the finest mosques in the cities of Upper India having suffered desecration and demolition at their hands.

The **MAHOMETANS** of Hindustan consist chiefly of two sects; the **Sunnis**, who insist on the supremacy of Mahomet over all created beings, and acknowledge tradition; and the **Shias**, who regard Ali as the successor of Mahomet, and equal to him in dignity, and who reject tradition.

The religion of Mahomet was introduced into India by the Arabs in the sixth and seventh centuries.

The **PARSEES**, a numerous and wealthy class, are the descendants of a large colony of fire worshippers, who left Persia in consequence of the Moslem persecution, and settled in Bombay and Guzerat. Many are now rich merchants and land-owners; others are shopkeepers, artisans, and domestic servants. They are very hospitable and liberal, especially to their own people.

The **Syrian Christians**, the descendants of the earliest Hindu converts to Christianity, exist in considerable numbers in Malabar and the Carnatic.

There are **Roman Catholics** in the French and Portuguese settlements; and **Protestants** of all denominations, but in very small numbers, scattered throughout the country.

ligion of the world. It has now been in existence for nearly 2500 years; and its adherents are estimated at upwards of 400 millions, or more than a third of the human race. Besides the territories named in the text, Buddhism holds sway over the whole of the Eastern Peninsula (including Siam, Burma, Cochin China, etc.). It is professed by at least two-thirds of the people of China; it prevails largely in Japan (although not the established religion of that country); under the form of Lamaism it is the religion of Tibet and the countries north of the *Himalaya*; and it extends to the very north of Siberia, and even into Swedish Lapland.

LESSON XVII.

AREA AND POPULATION.

The following table, giving the approximate area and population of each Presidency or Province of British India, has been compiled from the most recent returns, kindly furnished by the Statistical Department of the India Office.

PRESIDENCIES AND PROVINCES under the Administration of the	AREA in Square Miles.	POPULATION.	
Governor-General of India in Council.	Assigned Districts of Hyderabad (Berar)	17,000	
		Mysore	2,250,000
		Coorg	5,000,000
		Ajmir	170,000
		Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal	333,000
		" North-West Provinces	248,000
		" Punjab	66,857,000
		Chief Commissioner of Oude	31,310,000
		" Central Provinces	19,000,000
		" British Burma	12,000,000
		Governor of Madras	9,250,000
		" Bombay (including Sind)	2,562,000
		Total under British Administration	31,250,000
153 Feudatory States	14,000,000		
Total	970,100	193,982,000	
		48,000,000	
		241,982,000	

LESSON XVIII.**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.**

The government of British India, with the exception of Ceylon and the Straits Settlements, is administered by the Governor-General or Viceroy of India.

Previously to the outbreak of the rebellion in 1857, the entire control of Indian affairs was vested in the East India Company; but, upon the suppression of the mutiny, the authority of the Company was transferred to the Crown, and a new era was established in the sovereignty of Queen Victoria, now **EMPRESS OF INDIA** and its dependencies.

The Act for the better government of India received the royal assent, August 2nd, 1858; and, on the 1st of November in the same year, a royal proclamation signified to the people of India that the reign, or mysterious "*raj*," of the East India Company was at an end.

The Home Government of India is vested in a secretary of state, assisted by an under-secretary and a council of fifteen members. The Secretary of State for India is a member of the English cabinet.

The Local and Executive Government is administered by the Governor-General or Viceroy, appointed by the Crown, and acting under the orders of the Secretary of State for India. Under the Viceroy are the governors, lieutenant-governors, and chief-commissioners of the several provinces of India.

The Governor-General is appointed by the Crown for a term of about six years, and is assisted by a council of five ordinary members, who may be regarded as his ministers, each having the charge of a department of the Executive. Three of these are appointed by the Secretary of State in council, and the remaining two by her majesty's warrant. The Commander-in-Chief may also be constituted an extraordinary member of council by the Secretary of State for India.

The Legislative Council is composed of the members of the executive, with the addition of from six to twelve members, one half of whom must be unconnected with the public service. These latter are nominated for two years by the Viceroy.

The Presidencies or Provinces of Bengal, Madras, and Bombay possess councils of their own; but the assent of the Governor-General is required to all measures passed by the governors of these provinces in council, and they are further subject to the veto of the Crown. The Council of India legislates for those provinces which are still unprovided with local councils.

The term "Presidency," which is still applied to the governments or provinces of Bengal, Madras, and Bombay, is a relic of the time when the three settlements of Fort William (Calcutta), Fort St. George (Madras), and Bombay, each ruled by a President, comprised the whole of the British possessions in India. Its use now would, however, be misleading; for, instead of British India being divided, as is commonly stated in works on geography, into the three presidencies of Bengal, Madras, and Bombay, it is, for the purposes of government, divided into eight administrations,* each under its own civil government, and each entirely independent of the others.

LESSON XIX.

GOVERNMENT (*continued*).

The Presidencies of Madras and Bombay † are administered by Governors assisted by Executive and Legislative Councils. In all important matters the governors of Madras and Bombay communicate with the Home Government through the Governor-General; although in connexion with the far more numerous details of government they correspond directly with the Secretary of State for India.

The Lower Provinces of Bengal, the North-Western Provinces, and the Punjab, are each under a Lieutenant-Governor, assisted in the case of Bengal by a Legislative Council.

Oude, British Burma, and the Central Provinces, are under the control of three Chief Commissioners, appointed under the Supreme Government of India.

* Exclusive of the territories under the *direct* administration of the Governor-General in Council (see Table, page 29).

† The province of *Sind* is one of the three commissionerships of the Bombay Presidency.

Besides the above eight divisions of British India Proper, there are the three provinces of **Mysore**, **Berar**, and **Ajmir**.

Mysore, including the rugged mountain district of **Coorg**, is under the control of a commission appointed by the Governor-General of India.

Berar, known under the name of the **Assigned Districts of Hyderabad**, is divided into two commissionerships.

Ajmir was separated from the government of the N.W. Provinces in April, 1871, and placed under the direct control of the Central Government.

The great divisions of British India are subdivided into provinces, over each of which a commissioner is appointed. These are further divided into districts or collectorates, each under a judge and a collector, who also acts as magistrate within his district.

According to the mode in which the government is administered in each, the various sub-divisions are distinguished as **Regulation** and **Non-Regulation Provinces or Districts**.*

Resident political agents are appointed by the British Government at the courts of all the native princes. The Hindu chiefs are called **Rajas** and **Maharajas**; the Mahometan, **Nawabs**.

LESSON XX.

REVENUE AND COMMERCE.

REVENUE.—The revenue of India is derived partly from a land-tax, but largely also from the government monopolies of salt and opium.

The tax levied upon the cultivator is collected in three different ways—

* This distinction has reference mainly to the modes in which the revenue is collected and justice administered in the several provinces or districts. Those in which fixed methods prevail are termed **Regulation provinces**; but those in which power is reserved, by legislative enactment, to modify, according to circumstances, or as may be deemed requisite, either the methods of collecting the revenue or of conducting judicial administration, are called **Non-Regulation provinces**.

(1) By what is called the *Zemindary System*, which prevails chiefly in the Lower Provinces of Bengal ;

(2) The *Ryotwary System*, which is employed mainly in the provinces of Madras and Bombay ; and

(3) The *Village System*, which obtains in the Central and North-Western Provinces and in the Punjab.

According to the first plan, the tax is levied upon the *Zemindars*, or great landowners ; by the second, it is collected from the *Ryots*, or small cultivators ; while, according to the last, the assessment is made upon whole village communities without reference to individuals.

The total revenue of India from all sources in 1870–1871 was £51,413,685. Of this, the sum of £8,045,459 was realized by the Government sales of opium, and £6,106,280 by the salt monopoly. The customs duties yielded £2,610,789 ; the excise on spirits and drugs, £2,374,465 ; and stamps, £2,510,316. The revenue from the land-tax amounted to £20,622,823. House, trade, income* and assessed taxes, tributes, subsidies, and contributions from native states, profits of the Postal and Electric Telegraph Departments, etc., made up the remainder.

The gross expenditure during the same year was £51,098,505,† leaving a surplus of income over expenditure of £315,180.

COMMERCE.—During the year ending March 31st, 1871, there were entered and cleared at the different ports of British India 28,086 vessels (including steamers and native craft), having a gross tonnage of 6,429,339 tons. Of these, 8,644 vessels, with a tonnage of 3,541,617 tons, were engaged in the foreign trade—the remainder being principally native craft plying from port to port around the coast.

The total value of merchandise imported into British India during the same period amounted to £33,413,906, exclusive of treasure to the amount of £5,444,822 also imported during the year. The exports, including treasure exported to the value of £1,801,614, amounted to £57,818,022.

The greater part of the trade of India is absorbed by Great Britain, the exports to which amounted, in 1870–1, to £31,689,945.

* The income-tax has since been abolished.

† Including a sum of £1,167,810 expended upon Public Works Extraordinary.

The imports from the United Kingdom in the same year were valued at £28,826,264.

Trade is also carried on with China, the countries around the Arabian and Persian Gulfs, Australia, Ceylon, the Straits Settlements, and some of the European states.

IMPORTS.—These consist chiefly of the cotton, woollen, and hardware manufactures of Great Britain, with earthenware, glass, machinery, books and stationery, coal, beer, spirits and wines, provisions and oilman's stores, etc.

The value of the cotton manufactures alone imported into British India in 1870-1 amounted to £18,737,182.

The total value of the exports and imports of India has risen from 24 millions sterling in 1841, to about 97 millions in 1871.

EXPORTS.—The principal articles of export are cotton (raw and unmanufactured), opium, dyes of all kinds, grains and pulse, hides and skins, jute, tea, tobacco, wool, sugar, drugs, etc.

LESSON XXI.

MEANS OF INTERNAL COMMUNICATION.

Until within a comparatively recent period, India was almost destitute of any regular means of communication inland. Great progress has, however, been made in the construction of roads, railways, and canals during the past twenty years.

Most of the towns of India are now connected by good roads; rivers have been bridged, and their navigation improved; canals for irrigation, as well as for internal communication, have been dug; and a complete system of railways has been planned, and, to a great extent, carried out—Calcutta, Bombay, and Madras, and the chief cities of North-Western India and the Punjab being now connected by rail.

Steamers ply on some of the great rivers, and a regular steam communication is maintained between all the ports around the coast, from Kurrachi to Rangoon. A network of telegraphs also unites all the chief cities throughout India.

Millions sterling are being annually spent by the British Government in the maintenance and extension of roads, railways, canals

and irrigation, and other public works in India. The actual expenditure from imperial funds upon ordinary public works in 1871 amounted to £4,213,850. The sum was exclusive of £1,167,810 expended upon extraordinary public works, as irrigation and railways.

ROADS.—The roads throughout India are generally mere tracks, scarcely suited for the transport of wheel-carriages. Several fine trunk roads have, however, been constructed by the British Government.

The most important is the **Grand Trunk Road** from Calcutta to Peshawur, upwards of 1,400 miles in length, commenced in 1836.

Another, connecting Lahore with Peshawur, 264 miles in length, is a magnificent engineering work. "It passes," says Arnold, "upon 103 great bridges, and 459 smaller ones, penetrates the heart of six mountain chains, and crosses, on immense embankments, the *marais* * of two great rivers."

Eleven other trunk roads in Bengal have an aggregate length of 2,000 miles. Military frontier roads have also been formed, or are in course of construction.

LESSON XXII.

INTERNAL COMMUNICATION (*continued*).

RAILWAYS.—On the 1st of April, 1872, the total length of railway open for traffic in India was 5,133 miles; and up to that time more than £90,000,000 sterling had been expended by the different companies upon their construction.

Nearly 20,000,000 of passengers were conveyed by rail during the year. The total receipts were upwards of £6,000,000 sterling, and the working expenses amounted to a little more than half of this sum. The construction by State agency of upwards of 1,300 miles of railway has been commenced at an estimated cost of £12,300,000.

The principal lines of railway now open for traffic are—

1. The **East Indian**, from Calcutta, through Burdwan, Patna, Benares, Mirzapur, Allahabad, Cawnpur, and Agra, to Delhi.

Branch lines also connect this railway with the Burdwan coal-

* *Marais*—marsh, swamp, or fen.

fields, Moorshedabad, Lucknow, and Jubbulpur, at which latter place it joins the north-east branch of the **Great Indian Peninsular Railway** from Bombay.

The total length of this line is 1,503 miles.

2. **Sind, Punjab, and Delhi Railways**, intended, when finished, to connect Kurrachi, by way of the valley of the Indus, with the Punjab, and to meet the **East Indian Railway** at Delhi—thus completing the circuit of Northern India from Calcutta to Kurrachi.

The sections from Kurrachi to Kotri on the Indus, opposite to Hyderabad, and from Delhi, through Umritsur and Lahore, to Mooltan, are now open for traffic. Steam navigation, by the *Indus* connects Mooltan with Kotri. The total length of these lines as yet completed is 664 miles.

3. The **Great Indian Peninsular Railway**, having a total length of 1,269 miles. This line commences at Bombay, and divides at a place called Calliani into two main lines,—one proceeding to the north-east to Jubbulpur, to join the **East Indian Railway** from Calcutta, with a branch to Nagpur; the other going to the south-east, through Poona, Sholapur, and a part of the Nizam's dominions, to Raichur, where it meets the **Madras Railway**.

4. The **Madras Railway**, 825 miles in length. This line crosses the peninsula from Madras on the Coromandel coast to Bepur on the Malabar Coast.

At Arconum, 42½ miles west of Madras, a main line proceeds to the north-west, through Cuddapa and Gundacul to Raichur, where it meets the **Great Indian Peninsular Railway**, and thus connects Madras with Bombay.

Branch lines also connect this railway with Negapatam, Bangalore, and Bellary.

LESSON XXIII.

INTERNAL COMMUNICATION (*continued*).

CANALS and IRRIGATION WORKS.—Canals in India, though often used for the purposes of navigation, are mainly serviceable as a means of irrigating the country. Without them, vast tracts would become uninhabitable deserts.

In a climate like that of India, water is so necessary to the successful cultivation of the soil, that the native princes have, in all ages, encouraged the construction of *tanks*, or reservoirs, for the storage of the surplus waters of the rainy seasons, as well as canals for conducting the waters, so stored, over the lands. Numbers of these tanks and irrigation channels are to be found in all parts of the country, especially in the *doabs** and *deltas* of the rivers of India.

In the Madras Presidency alone there are said to be as many as 53,000 tanks and channels in repair, in addition to, at least, 10,000 which have fallen into decay, the water in them being retained by at least 30,000 miles of embankments.

Some of the tanks are of enormous size. A neglected one at Ponriary, in Trichinopoly, has an area of 60 square miles. Another still in use at Veranum is 35 square miles in extent, with an embankment twelve miles in length.

The most important irrigation works are to be met with in the Punjab, in the North-Western Provinces, and in the deltas of the *Indus*, *Godavery*, *Kistna*, and *Coleroon* rivers. The chief of these are the Bari Doab canal (565 miles), connecting the *Beas* and *Ravi*; the Jumna canals; the Ganges canal (653 miles); and the Narra, with numerous other inundation canals in Sind.

Canal and irrigation works are also in progress, which will fertilize the districts of Orissa and Cuttack, and render them less liable to the drought and famine from which they have so often suffered.

Important works are also in course of construction by the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company in the valleys of the *Tungabudra* and *Pennair* rivers in the Madras Presidency.

LESSON XXIV.

EDUCATION, POST OFFICE, TELEGRAPHS, &c.

PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.—Previously to the year 1854 very little had been done for the cause of education in India. Only fourteen government colleges for general instruction were in ex-

* *Doabs*—long triangular strips of country between two confluent rivers. (For examples, see page 59.)

istence. There were no universities, no educational departments, and no normal schools; the pupils under instruction were insignificant in number, and were drawn mainly from the higher classes; there were no grant-in-aid rules in operation; and the total annual grant for educational purposes amounted to less than £100,000. No attempt at female education had, at this time, been made by government.

Since then, however, universities have been established in each of the presidency capitals, and the attention of government has been directed to the greater extension of the means of primary instruction among the masses of the population of India.

The educational system adopted in India is based upon the famous Educational Despatches of 1854 and 1859. Each Presidency and Province of British India has now a distinct central organization under a Director of Public Instruction, assisted by Inspectors of Schools, one to each circle or sub-division of the provinces.

Government schools now exist in regular gradation, from those which give the humblest elementary instruction to the highest colleges. These are intended to serve as models, and to be gradually superseded by institutions based on the grant-in-aid system, a system founded upon the principle of perfect religious neutrality, and on rules adapted to local circumstances.

Normal schools for the training of teachers have also been established in many places, and female education receives now the cordial support of the government.

At the close of the year ending March 31st, 1871, there were 25,147 schools and colleges either belonging to, aided, or maintained by government, having an average attendance of 799,622 pupils—the gross expenditure, from imperial and other sources, amounting to upwards of a million sterling.

These figures show that great progress has been made during the last sixteen years; but, when it is considered that, even now, only 1 in 300 of the population is under instruction in the schools of India, it will be admitted that very much still remains to be done.

POST OFFICE.—Intimately associated with the extension of the means of education, is the development of the Indian postal system. The mails are now carried by railways, roads and steamers, in British India, over a total distance of 52,000 miles;

and the total number of letters, newspapers, and parcels, received for delivery through the post office in the year ending March 31st, 1871, was 84,562,634. In 1862 the number was 47,138,006.

The gross revenue of the Post Office of British India, in 1871, was £908,372, and the gross expenditure £717,014.

TELEGRAPHS.—Up to the date of the latest returns, viz. March 31st, 1869, there were 14,014 miles of telegraph in operation, constructed at a cost of nearly £200,000.

Since 1869, the Ceylon telegraphs have been included in the Indian system, and have become chargeable to the department.

The number of messages despatched in 1870–1 was 629,233, of which 67,020 were Indo-European messages.

ARMY.—The army in India during 1870–1, comprised a total effective strength, of all arms, of 191,047 officers and men, maintained at a cost of £16,074,800 sterling.

The European is, to the native force, in proportion of rather less than one half, the numbers being respectively, 63,527 and 127,520.

Besides these, a body of about 170,000 native police is employed for the performance of police duties and frontier service. The police are officered mainly by Europeans.

LESSON XXV.

THE PEOPLES OF HINDUSTAN.*

Besides the Hindus, professing the Braminical faith, there is in India multitudes of people and numerous tribes differing from each other in origin, religion, and habits of life.

The following is an enumeration of the principal of these, as well as of the more noticeable of the Hindu classes and races:—

Armenians.—Merchants and tradesmen, settled in the principal towns and cities of India.

Badaks or Budhuks.—Hereditary thieves, inhabiting the forests

* This lesson and the three succeeding ones form an appendix to Lesson XIV.

of northern Oude and the banks of the *Chumbul*. They are nomadic, and have few Hindu prejudices.

Banias.—A tribe of Hindu merchants settled in Guzerat; found also in the commercial towns on the western coast; generally quiet and well-behaved.

Banjaras or Ludanas.—Travelling merchants, living in tents, and trading chiefly in grain; dress and usages peculiar.

Bats.—Wandering minstrels found in Guzerat and other parts.

Batties.—A predatory tribe inhabiting the desert between Rajputana and the *Indus*.

Bheels.—Thought by some to be the remnant of the aboriginal people of Central India. Rude tribes inhabiting the mountainous parts of Guzerat and Malwa, and the hills along the *Nerbudda* and *Tapti* rivers.

Boras.—A sect of Mahometans of supposed Arab descent—a large society scattered over the Deccan.

Botias.—A people of Tâtar descent, occupying Bootan; small in stature, quiet and industrious, but not cleanly in their habits.

Charuns.—A race of Hindus—carriers of heavy goods, as grain—also cattle dealers—sometimes hired by travellers as an escort in the wilder parts of the country.

Coolies.—A manly and bold-looking people, once formidable robbers, found in the wilds of Guzerat and Western India.

Cossyas or Khasyas.—A tall, powerful and well-formed race of dark people inhabiting the *Cossya Hills* to the east of Bengal. They are peaceful, honest, and industrious.

LESSON XXVI.

THE PEOPLES OF HINDUSTAN (*continued*).

Daudputras.—A fair and handsome Mahometan tribe, numbering about 50,000. They crossed the *Indus* from Shikarpur in the reign of Aurungzebe, and took forcible possession of the territory which they now occupy on the left bank of the *Sutlej*.

Denwars.—The husbandmen and fishers of the western districts of Nepaul.

Garangs.—A Buddhist race, leading a pastoral life in Nepaul. They shift their abodes between the mountains and the valleys in summer and winter. Some are miners and traders.

Garrows.—A strong hardy race inhabiting the *Garrow Hills* to the east of the *Bramaputra*. They resemble the *Cossyas* in character, but are not equal to them in personal appearance. They are, however, more agricultural and industrious.

Gonds.—A savage race of Central India, blood-thirsty, cruel and revengeful. They are found in the wildest parts of what was once termed *Gondwana*, between Bengal and the Northern Circars.

Goorkas or Gurkhas.—A hardy, brave, active, and enterprising people in Nepaul and the hills to the westward; they are descendants of Hindu refugees from the Mahometan invasion, who intermingled with the Tatar and Chinese aborigines of the country.

Jarejas.—A fine, robust, and warlike race, but proud and cruel, ruling in Cutch. They are found also in the western part of Kattiwar.

Jats or Jauts.—A turbulent race, who probably migrated originally from Turkestan, occupying a great part of the North-Western Provinces. They still retain the nomadic and warlike habits of the people of that region.

Jews.—Numerous in Western India. Those of Bombay call themselves *Beni-Israel*, and are probably descendants of the ten tribes. There are two races at Cochin called **Black** and **White Jews**, the latter of more recent date than the former.

Kataris or Katodis.—A people of Northern Concan, who live as outcasts near villages, and are held in abhorrence by the Bramins.

Katties.—Natives of Kattiwar in Guzerat. Considered one of the royal races of India; but now greatly reduced. Half-civilized, and once robbers and pirates.

Konds.—Tribes found in the central parts of Orissa. They are partly civilized and practise agriculture.

Kotars.—A peculiar but industrious race found among the *Neilgherries*. Caste is not admitted among them.

Kukies or Lunctas.—A wild tribe among the hills in the north-east of Chittagong.

LESSON XXVII.

THE PEOPLES OF HINDUSTAN (*continued*).

Mahrattas.—A numerous and powerful race, who originally occupied the north-western part of the Deccan. During the 18th century a great part of Northern and Central India was in their possession. Their power was broken by Ahmed Shah Abdalli, king of Cabul, at the battle of Paniput, in 1761. They are mostly Bramins of the *Sudra* caste. The Mahratta language is widely spread, being spoken over the whole district between the *Manjara* and *Tapti* rivers.

Mairs.—The inhabitants of the district called Mairwarra in Rajputana among the *Aravalli Mountains*. They are descendants of one of the original peoples of India, and are a savage and independent race.

Maravas.—A people of considerable antiquity, inhabiting a tract of country on the coast near *Cape Comorin*.

Mechis.—Inhabitants of a strip of the *Terai*, extending from the *Bramaputra* to Konkenia, in Upper Assam. They are honest and industrious, and Sivaïtes in religion, but without caste. They are healthy in spite of the malaria which is so fatal to strangers.

Moplays or Mapilas.—The Mahometan inhabitants of *Malabar*,—a wealthy, intelligent and enterprising race.

Mags or Mughhs.—The indigenous people of *Aracan*,—a hardy, inoffensive race, short in stature, and with round flat faces and a copper complexion.

Nairs.—The aristocracy of *Malabar*, formerly hereditary soldiers.

Nayuks.—A wild tribe inhabiting the jungles between the *Myhe* and *Nerbudda*.

Newars.—The original inhabitants of the fertile parts of *Nepaul* before its conquest by the *Goorkas*. They are peaceful and industrious, and chiefly engaged in agriculture. They are *Buddhists* in religious belief, but do not acknowledge the *lamas* of *Tibet*.

Oorias.—Original inhabitants of *Orissa*, from whom the district derives its name.

Parsees.—(See Lesson XVI., page 28.)

Patans.—The people of Affgan descent, inhabiting different parts of Hindustan, but found chiefly in Bopal.

Pucharris or Paharis.—A people inhabiting the *Rajmahal Hills* and the district between Burdwan and Bagulpur—a short, thick-set, and sturdy race, dirty and inclined to sloth, but truthful in a remarkable degree, orderly and loyal.

LESSON XXVIII.

THE PEOPLES OF HINDUSTAN (*continued*).

Rajputs ("Sons of Kings").—The noblest of the Hindu races, and the dominant people of North-Western India. They are tall, vigorous and athletic, and devoted to warfare and robbery.

Ramuses.—A predatory tribe in the neighbourhood of Poona and Sattara. They are fatalists, and have no fear of law or punishment.

Rohillas.—A numerous people of Affgan descent, occupying the country east of Delhi. They are a tall and handsome race, of a comparatively fair complexion, animated and intelligent, but entirely devoid of truthfulness. Crimes are frequent among them, and perjury is almost universal.

The Rohillas entered Hindustan about 1720, and conquered the district (Rohilcund), which bears their name. They were completely defeated by the British at the battle of Kuttra, in 1774, an event which brought the Rohilla sway to an end. Rohilcund was ceded to the British by the Nawab of Oude, in 1801. The Rohillas are Mahometans.

Saurias or Sauras.—A wild tribe found in southern Orissa.

Shekawatties.—A tribe of Rajputs living in the desert north of Jeypur.

Sikhs.—A religious community which rose to power upon the breaking up of the Punjab and adjacent countries. (See Lesson XVI., page 28.)

Sontals.—An uncouth people inhabiting the jungles of part of the Lower Provinces of Bengal.

Sudas.—A rude people, probably of Rajput lineage, chiefly

shepherds, living in grass huts in the *Thur* or *Great Desert*, in a state of great privation and misery. Their principal source of wealth consists in the sale of their daughters to rich Mahometans. They also furnish wives to the Jarejas of Cutch.

Thugs.—A confederacy of professional murderers, found chiefly in Central India. They have been greatly reduced in numbers by the severe measures of the British Government. They are most devout worshippers of the goddess Kali.

Tudas, or Tundavers.—A small tribe occupying some of the higher valleys of the *Neilgherries*. They are ignorant of the mythology, language, learning, and manners of the Hindus. Their wealth consists in herds of buffaloes, which they tend and milk—exchanging their butter for grain. They are tall, athletic, and of a bold appearance, but quiet and honest.

Wagheas.—A predatory tribe of Rajputs in Kattiwar.

Waralis.—A wild tribe, speaking the Mahratti language, and living in the jungles of Northern Concan.



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E S E

E M P I R E

PART II.
POLITICAL DIVISIONS.

I. LOWER PROVINCES OF BENGAL.

LESSON XXIX.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

SITUATION AND BOUNDARIES.—The Lower Provinces of Bengal are situated almost entirely in the lower basin of the *Ganges* and *Bramaputra*.

They are bounded on the north by Nepaul, Sikkim, and Botan; on the east by Burma; on the south by the Bay of Bengal; and on the west by the North-Western Provinces.

NATURAL DIVISIONS.—The Province, or Presidency, as it is sometimes termed, may be said to have three natural divisions:—The basin of the *Ganges*, including Bengal Proper and Behar; the basin of the *Bramaputra*, which embraces the large province of Assam; and the ill-watered Chota Nagpur country to the west and south-west, which belongs geographically to Central India.

CLIMATE, etc.—The climate is extremely moist, owing to the periodical rains, the great heat, and the swamps of the Ganges delta.

Agriculture forms the principal occupation of the people; but the manufactures of the province are also of importance.

The exports and imports of the province in 1870-71 amounted to £42,042,603 sterling.

The government is administered, under the Viceroy, by a Lieutenant-Governor, who is entrusted with the care of a territory larger than that of France, containing an area of 248,231 square miles,* and a population, according to the census of 1872, of 66,856,859.

* The Regulation and Non-Regulation districts comprise 211,331 square miles, and the Tributary and Native States make up the remainder.

LESSON XXX.

DIVISIONS OF LOWER BENGAL.

Lower Bengal is divided into eight *Regulation* and three *Non-Regulation* Provinces. Each province is under a Commissioner.

The Regulation Provinces of Bengal are subdivided into 36 districts, each under an officer styled Magistrate and Collector; in the Non-Regulation Provinces there are 19 districts, each administered by a Deputy Commissioner.*

Included in the provinces of Lower Bengal are the independent or semi-independent states of Sikkim, Munipur, Tipperah, the Cuttack Mehals, and the territories of many frontier tribes, most of which will be separately described in a later portion of this work.

The seat of government of the province is at Calcutta.

REGULATION PROVINCES.

<i>Provinces.</i>	<i>Districts.</i>
Bagulpur . .	Bagulpur, Mongyr, Purnea, Sontal Pergunnas.
Burdwan . .	Bancora, Beerboom, Burdwan, Hoogly (with Howrah), Midnapur.
Chittagong .	Tippera, Bulloa (or Noacolly), Chittagong, Hill Tipperah.
Cuttack or } Orissa. }	Balasore, Cuttack, Puri or Juggernath.
Dacca . . .	Backergunge, Cachar, Dacca, Furridupur, Mymensing, Silhet.
Nuddea or } Presidency }	Jessore, Nuddea, Sunderbunds, Twenty-four Pergunnas.
Patna . . .	Gaya or Behar, Patna, Sarun, Shahabad Tirhut, Chumparun.
Rajshaye . .	Bogra, Dinajpur, Malda, Murshedabad, Pubna, Rajshaye, Rungpur.

* The **Garrow Hills**, a district of the *non-regulation* province of Cooch Behar, is managed by an Assistant Commissioner.

NON-REGULATION PROVINCES.

- Assam** . . . Kamroop, Cossya Hills, Jyntea Hills, Durrung, Luckimpur, Naga Hills, Nowgong, Seeb-sagor.
- Chota Nagpur** Lohardugga, Maunboom or Pachete, Ramgur or Hazareebagh, Singboom.
- Cooch Behar** . Cooch Behar, Garrow Hills, Darjeeling, Goalapura, West Dooars.

LESSON XXXI.

Notes on the PROVINCES of LOWER BENGAL.

Bagulpur.—Situated south of the eastern extremity of Nepaul, and reaching from the foot of the *Himalaya* to the hilly tracts to the south of the middle *Ganges*. Area, 18,685 square miles. Population, 6,613,358.

Burdwan.—A low, flat district traversed by the *Hoogly* and its tributaries. Liable to floods. Area, 12,719 square miles. Population, 7,286,957.

Chittagong.—A fertile tract lying between the delta of the *Bramaputra* and Aracan. Area, 17,459 square miles. Population, 3,480,136. The northern and eastern parts are hilly, and inhabited, near the *Cossya Hills*, by the wild Garrows.

Cuttack.—A province, lying on the north-west coast of the *Bay of Bengal*, and containing an area, including the Tributary Me-hals, of 23,901 square miles, with a population of 4,317,999. It is well watered by many streams, the chief of which is the *Mahanuddy*. The delta of this river lies wholly within the province. The interior of the country is mountainous. *Lake Chilka* is an important natural feature of the district.

Dacca.—A large and level tract of country lying within the delta of the *Ganges* and *Bramaputra*. It is traversed by streams in every direction, and is admirably adapted to the cultivation of rice. It has an area of 22,289 square miles, and a population of 9,517,498.

Nuddea or Presidency.—A level district, occupying the middle portion of the *Ganges delta*. Area, exclusive of the unsurveyed

and uninhabited Sunderbunds, 9,875 square miles, with a population of 6,545,464.

The name **Sunderbunds** is given to a great alluvial group of islands forming the southern base of the delta. They are covered with dense vegetation, and form the retreat of tigers, wild buffaloes, deer, wild swine, etc.

Patna.—An important province in the middle valley of the *Ganges*. Area, 23,732 square miles. Population, 13,122,743.

Rajshaye.—17,694 square miles in extent, with a population of 8,902,000. A vast flat, in the central valley of the *Ganges*, subject to annual inundations.

LESSON XXXII.

PROVINCES OF LOWER BENGAL (*continued*).

Assam.—A large province, upwards of 27,000 square miles in extent, situated on the north-eastern frontier of India. It is part of a large plain, intersected by the *Bramaputra* and numerous streams, and bounded on the north, east, and south by lofty mountains.

The climate of Assam is superior to that of Bengal; the heat being more moderate in the daytime, and the nights being cool and refreshing. The rains last from March till October. The excessive rainfall of **Cherra Punji**, among the *Cossya Hills*, has been already noticed.

Tea is largely cultivated in Assam, and the quantity exported is rapidly increasing. Coffee is indigenous, and is also cultivated. The soil of some parts is suitable for the cultivation, in large quantities, of cotton and sugar.

The province is rich in mineral wealth. Iron is found in the *Naga Hills*; coal, to the north of the *Bramaputra*; salt is obtained from the evaporation of salt springs.

Wild animals abound in the forests and jungles, as the elephant, rhinoceros, tiger, bear, leopard, wild buffalo, etc. Game of every kind is plentiful, and the rivers are full of fish.

The population (about 1,680,000 in number) consists partly of

Hindus and partly of Mahometans; but there are many aboriginal tribes, as Boteas, Akas, Miris, Abors, Bor-abors, Kangtis, Bor-Kangtis, Nagas, Multuks, Cossyas, and Garrows. The present inhabitants are descended from a Tâtar tribe who conquered the country and held it against the Great Mogul. The whole was taken possession of by the British in 1826. Upper Assam was placed under a native raja; but in 1838, owing to misgovernment, it came under British administration.

Under its new masters, Assam is fast emerging from its former state of barbarism, and promises to become one of the finest and richest provinces of the Indian Empire.

Cooch Behar.—Area, including native states, 13,275 square miles. Population, 1,540,000. This newly constructed province is situated on the north-eastern frontier of Bengal, adjoining and including portions of the native states of Botan and Cooch Behar.

The *Darjeeling Hills* in the north-west of the province are well adapted to the growth of tea and coffee. The *Bramaputra* flows through the province, between the *Cooch Behar* and *Garrow Hills* districts.

Chota Nagpur.—Area, including the Tributary Mehals, 43,901 square miles. Population, 3,825,571. Situated between Burdwan and Central India in the south-western corner of Bengal. A hilly district, thinly peopled, and a portion of the ancient kingdom of Orissa. Its forests yield valuable timber, dye-woods, and drugs. Its mountains contain iron and copper ores.

Distance from the sea, and imperfect inland communication are great drawbacks to the development of the natural resources of this province.

LESSON XXXIII.

CHIEF TOWNS OF LOWER BENGAL.

Calcutta,—the capital of British India and the seat of government, is situated on the left bank of the *Hoogly*, about 100 miles from the sea. It covers an area of about eight square miles, and contains a population, including the suburbs, of 706,500; or of upwards of 800,000 if the town of Howra, on the opposite bank of the river,

be also included. Calcutta is divided into two parts, the native and European towns: the former, crowded and dirty; the latter, full of spacious streets, large houses, and fine public buildings.

FORT WILLIAM, to the south of the European town, is a strong fortress capable of holding a garrison of 15,000 men.

HOWRA, on the opposite bank of the *Hoogly*, is the station of the East India Railway. It has a population of 97,784.

Calcutta is said to derive its name from Kali,* the goddess of Evil, a famous temple in her honour having once existed in one of the villages assigned to the East India Company, and upon the site of which Calcutta now stands.

CHITTAGONG,—the chief town of the district and province of the same name, and one of the principal seaports of Bengal. It is situated on a navigable estuary at the northern extremity of Aracan. An unhealthy town. Population, 20,600.

BALASORE,—the chief town and seaport of the district of Balasore in the province of Cuttack, 116 miles south-west from Calcutta, and 730 north from Madras. Population, 18,000. It was formerly in the occupation of the Portuguese. Pilots for the *Hoogly* are procurable in the *Balasore Roads*.

JUGGERNATH,—one of the great strongholds of the Hindu religion, situated on the coast of the district of Puri or Juggernath in the southern part of the Cuttack, between the *Mahanadi* and *Lake Chilka*.

The great Temple of Juggernath, which dates from the twelfth century, is here. There are also many other religious establishments. Government no longer lends its countenance to the cruelties formerly practised during the annual processions at this place.

At Canarac, 19 miles north-west of Juggernath, was the celebrated "Black Pagoda," a temple of the sun.

ALIPUR,—4 miles south-east of Fort William, contains the official residence of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

DUM DUM, eight miles north-east of Calcutta, was formerly an

* *Kali*, the wife of Siva, known also by the names of *Bavani*, *Durga*, *Uma*, etc. She is represented as bloodthirsty and cruel, and the terror of gods and men. At the same time she is the patron deity of poetry, arms, and art. Mythologically she is merely the energy of Siva in his destructive character of *Kal* or time. *Calcutta* = *Kalighat*, or the steps leading from the Ganges to the Temple of Kali.

artillery cantonment. It possesses a cannon foundry and an arsenal.

Barrackpur,—16 miles north of Calcutta, is a large military cantonment, and contains the country residence of the Viceroy.

Mutla or **Port Canning**, situated on the *Mutla* branch of the *Ganges*, is a new town, 29 miles south of Calcutta, with which it is connected by railway.

Alipur, **Dum Dum**, and **Barrackpur** are in the district of the **Twenty-four Pergunnas** in the province of **Nuddea** or **Presidency**.

Patna,—an ancient city situated on the middle *Ganges* in the district and province of **Patna**. Population, 158,900, chiefly **Mahometans**. It extends for a mile and a half along the right bank of the river, and contains many mosques. The houses and streets are poor. It is the chief civil station of the district.

Dinapur,—an important military station, with fine barracks, on the right bank of the *Ganges*, a few miles above **Patna**.

Murshedabad,—6 miles north of **Burhampur**, on the *Baghiretti*, one of the channels of the *Ganges*, once a place of great wealth and splendour, and the capital of **Bengal**; now only a collection of huts, but with a large population and considerable trade.

Darjeeling,—a hill station and sanitarium, 7,000 feet above the sea level, in the non-regulation province of **Cooch Behar**. It has a delightful climate, the mean annual temperature being below that of **England**. It is situated in the district of the same name on a spur of the *Sinchul* mountains.

II. THE NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES.

LESSON XXXIV.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

SITUATION, EXTENT, ETC.—The North-West Provinces of **India** extend from the Lower Provinces of **Bengal** on the east, to the **Punjab** on the west; and from **Nepaul**, **Oude**, and **Tibet**, on the north, to **Bundelcund**, **Malwa**, and **Rajputana** on the south.

In this extent there is comprised an area nearly equal to that of **Great Britain**, with a population of 31,310,290.

CLIMATE, PRODUCTIONS, ETC.—The climate is subject to great extremes, the cold of winter being severe, and the heat of summer excessive. April, May, and June are the hot, dry months.

The central portion of this region is occupied by the great valley of the *Ganges*, which is a large plain, gradually sloping to the east. Here are grown abundant crops of cotton, rice, maize, indigo, oil-seeds, and tobacco, fruit, and vegetables.

The malarious “*Terai*” occupies the northernmost part.

The most fertile tract is the district or *doab* between the *Ganges* and *Jumna*. Several other districts, both of the North-Western Provinces and the Punjab, are similarly bounded by the affluents of the *Ganges* and *Indus*. Such tracts are alluvial and fertile, but need irrigation. Very important canals have been constructed or are in course of construction for this purpose on several of the *doabs*.

The N.W. Provinces are not rich in minerals; but iron and copper are found in *Kumaon*. *Kunkur*, a kind of limestone, is abundant in the provinces west of the *Ganges*.

DIVISIONS, ETC.—The government of this territory, which was separated from Bengal in 1833, is administered by a Lieutenant-Governor, appointed by the Governor-General in Council. The seat of government is Allahabad.

There are five *Regulation* and two *Non-Regulation* Provinces, each under a commissioner. The provinces are again divided into thirty-six districts, each of which is administered by a magistrate-collector.

REGULATION PROVINCES.

<i>Provinces.</i>	<i>Districts.</i>
Agra . . .	Agra, Eta or Eytah, Etawa, Furruckabad, Mutra, Mynpuri.
Allahabad . .	Allahabad, Banda, Cawnpur, Futtepur, Humirpur, Jounpur.
Benares . . .	Azimgur, Benares, Busti, Gazipur, Goruckpur, Mirzapur.
Meerut . . .	Alligur, Bulundshur, Dera Doon, Meerut, Mozuffurnuggur, Saharunpur.
Rohilcund . .	Bareilly, Pillibeet, Bijnour, Budaon, Moradabad, Shajehanpur.

NON-REGULATION PROVINCES.

- Jansi . . . Jaloun, Jansi, Lullutpur.
 Kumaon . . . British Gurwal, Kumaon.

LESSON XXXV.

Notes on the PROVINCES of NORTH-WESTERN INDIA.

Agra.—A level tract between the *Ganges* and *Jumna* rivers, having an area of about 9,900 square miles, and a population of more than 5,000,000. This province suffers much from drought in the dry season.

The term *Doab*, although applied generally to a peninsula formed by the confluence of two rivers, belongs especially to this province, which is known as "The Doab."

Allahabad.—More than 13,500 square miles in extent. Population, 5,440,000. Situated partly in the *Doab* and partly south of the *Jumna*. Communication good, by means of fine navigable rivers, good roads, and railways.

Benares.—Area, 21,943 square miles. Population, 8,260,000. A flat, fertile tract, stretching from Nepaul in the north to the hill country of Bundela on the south.

Meerut.—Area, 10,947 square miles. Population nearly 5,000,000. Well watered by the *Ganges* and *Jumna*, and by the Ganges Canal. Soil fertile, producing good crops of wheat, barley, oats, pulse, tobacco, and European vegetables in the cold season, and rice, cotton, maize, and indigo in the hot season.

Rohilcund.—Population, 5,220,000. An extensive tract, comprising an area of 10,868 square miles, lying on the left bank of the *Ganges*, between the *Doab* and Nepaul.

A great part of this province lies within the "Terai." The soil is fertile, but much of the country is covered with a dense, impenetrable jungle. Rohilcund was formerly included in Delhi.

The inhabitants are noted for their cutlery, brass-work, carpets, embroidery, and cabinet work.

Jansi.—A narrow strip of territory, extending from the *Jumna*, above Allahabad, towards the south-west. It was formerly a part of Bundelcund. Area, 5,109 square miles. Population, about 930,000.

Kumaon.—Area, 11,500 square miles. Population, 740,000. A mountainous territory, extending from the *Himalaya* into the plains of northern Delhi and Rohilcund. The climate varies from the heat of the plains and of the *Terai* to the cold of the snowy *Himalaya*. Some of the peaks in the district of Gurwal rise to upwards of 20,000 feet in height; in Kumaon as many as thirty-four peaks are above 18,000 feet.

The sides and slopes of the mountains are fertile, producing wheat, barley, and other grains. Many of the valleys and ravines are clothed with forest, and the general appearance of the country is picturesque in the extreme. The northern part is watered by the many streams which feed the *Ganges*.

The inhabitants are chiefly Hindus; but those of British Gurwal are a mixed Mongol and Indo-European race. Their religion is an admixture of Braminism and Paganism, almost every peak, forest, rock, and spring having its presiding deity.

The cultivation of the tea plant has been introduced into Kumaon, which is likely to rival Assam in the production of this article of export.

LESSON XXXVI.

CHIEF TOWNS of the NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES.

Agra,—the chief city of the province of Agra, and formerly the residence of the Mogul emperors, situated on the right bank of a branch of the *Jumna*. Population, 145,000. Here are the famous Pearl Mosque (*Moti Musjid*) and the tomb called the Taj Mehal.

Secundra, a village six miles north of Agra, contains the tomb of the emperor Akbar, the greatest of the Mogul sovereigns.

Agra is distant from Calcutta 783 miles. It was until lately the seat of government of the North-West Provinces.

Mutra,—on the right bank of the *Jumna* above Agra, regarded as sacred by the Hindus, as being the scene of the eighth avatar (incarnation) of Vishnu.*

Allahabad,—at the confluence of the *Ganges* and *Jumna*, the seat of government of the North-Western Provinces. Population, 145,000. Regarded as holy by the Hindus, who flock in great multitudes, at certain seasons, to bathe in the sacred waters of the united streams of the *Ganges* and *Jumna*. Salt is largely manufactured and exported from the district.

Cawnpur,—on the *Ganges*, in the district of the same name. Population, 98,000. A military station and the centre of a large trade. Scene of the massacre of the English residents during the mutiny of 1857.

Benares,—situated on the left bank of the *Ganges*, the sacred capital or Jerusalem of Hindustan; crowds of pilgrims from all parts of India flock to worship at its temples and to bathe in the river. The *Ganges* forms here a fine sweep of four miles, along the convex side of which buildings rise from the water's edge, giving a most picturesque aspect to the city, which in this respect has been compared to Naples.

Benares has a population of about 200,000, mostly Hindus. It is the great entrepôt of the trade between the North-Western Provinces and Bengal, and has, besides, considerable manufactures of its own. It is the chief seat of Braminical learning, and swarms with teachers of Hindu worship, with Braminee bulls, and with devout, rich, and corpulent beggars who are attracted thither by the profuse almsgiving of the pilgrims.

The British cantonment and civil station is at Secrole, 3 miles to the west of the city.

Gazipur,—a large town on the *Ganges* below Benares, famous for the manufacture of rose-water and *attar* of roses.

Mirzapur,—a great cotton mart on the right bank of the *Ganges*, 27 miles above Benares. Population, 76,000.

* *Krishna* or *Kistna* was the eighth avatar of Vishnu. This personification of the deity was the son of Vasudeva and Devaki, the sister of Cansa, the king of *Mutra* (*Mathura*). During the hundred years' reign of *Krishna* many wonders were wrought. He is now the great object of worship throughout the whole of Bengal and the North-Western Provinces.

Hurdwar or **Gangadwara**,—in the district of Saharunpur, in the province of Meerut, the scene of a great annual fair, at which sometimes as many as 2,000,000 pilgrims have been known to attend. It is situated on the right bank of the Upper *Ganges*.

Rurki,—in the same district, is the seat of a large civil engineering establishment.

III. OUDE.

LESSON XXXVII.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

SITUATION, ETC.—This province, which was annexed by the British in 1856, under the administration of Lord Dalhousie, is situated in the middle valley of the *Ganges*, which river forms its southern boundary. The lower ranges of the *Nepaul Hills*, form its northern limit.

Its area of nearly 24,000 square miles is about equal to that of Holland and Belgium together, and it has a population of upwards of 11,200,000, or more than 474 to the square mile. The inhabitants are mainly Rajputs, Hindus by religion, in character proud and warlike. They number rather more than 10 millions: the remainder are chiefly Mahometans.

The province lies for the most part between the *Ganges* and its tributary the *Gagra*. The surface is generally level, the soil is fertile, and produces abundant crops of wheat, barley, rice, and other grain, with sugar, indigo, and opium. The forests contain teak and other valuable timber trees.

The trade of the province is considerable. Saltpetre and soda are largely obtained and exported.

CLIMATE.—The climate is subject to extremes of temperature; in summer the thermometer rises to 112°; in winter it sinks below freezing point. Hot sultry winds from the west prevail at times in the plains, with occasional fierce hurricanes.

HISTORY.—Oude was originally a part of the Mogul empire, being governed by the hereditary vizier of the Mogul sovereigns. At the beginning of the present century, the Vizier-Soubahdar, with the consent of the British government, assumed the title of *Padishah*, or king, and renounced his nominal dependence on the Mogul emperor.

A period of anarchy and misrule then ensued, during which the government was of the worst description, and the people were sunk in poverty and misery. This lasted till 1856, when, in consequence of the king's refusal to submit to the direct interference of the British government, the country was annexed by Lord Dalhousie.

Under British rule Oude is now becoming one of the most flourishing of the countries of India. Roads have been made, bridges built, and police, gaols, hospitals, and schools established. In 1871-2 the number of schools in Oude maintained or aided by government was 898, attended by nearly 30,000 pupils; in 1864 the numbers were 38 and 1,656, respectively.

LESSON XXXVIII.

DIVISIONS and CHIEF TOWNS.

The government of Oude is administered by a chief commissioner, assisted by four commissioners, each ruling over a division of the country.

The four divisions are Lucknow, Sitapur, Fyzabad, and Roy Bareilly. Each division comprises three districts, which are administered by Deputy-Commissioners; and the districts are again sub-divided into 43 *tahsils*.

CHIEF TOWNS.—Lucknow, the capital and seat of government, is situated on the right bank of the *Gumti*, an affluent of the *Ganges*. It has some handsome streets and fine buildings, but the greater part consists of narrow, dirty streets, with mean clay-built houses.

The palaces and tombs of the former kings of Oude, together with numerous mosques, give a pleasing aspect to the city when viewed from a distance. The "*Imambara*," or chief mosque, is one of the most beautiful specimens of oriental architecture.

The population of Lucknow is about 285,000. A branch line connects the city with Cawnpur and the East Indian Railway. There is steam communication also by river with Calcutta.

Fyzabad, the former capital, situated on the *Gogra*, 80 miles east of Lucknow, is still a city of some importance, with a considerable population. It has manufactures of cloth, metal, and arms. Population, 38,000.

A few miles distant to the westward are the ruins of **Oude** or **Ayodhya**, the ancient capital of the demi-god Rama, Vishnu's seventh avatar, whose history forms the subject of the *Ramayana*, one of the finest of the Hindu epic poems. The ruins, which are considered sacred, and are still resorted to by pilgrims, cover a large area.

The city is said to have been built by Menu, the legislator of India, and to have once extended 200 miles in length and 50 in breadth, Lucknow having been one of its suburbs.

Roy Bareilly.—On the *Sai*, a tributary of the *Gumti*, about 50 miles south of Lucknow. Population, 11,500.

Other towns of importance are **Shahabad**, **Kyrabad**, **Pertabgur**, **Gonda**, **Barraitch**, **Sitapur**, etc.

IV. THE PUNJAB.

LESSON XXXIX.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

SITUATION, EXTENT, etc.—This most important and extensive territory receives its name from two Persian words which signify "five rivers," having reference to the five great streams which water the country; viz., the **Indus**, **Jelum**, **Chenab**, **Ravi**, and **Sutlej**.

The provinces and states comprised under the name **Punjab** cover an area of upwards of 100,000 square miles, and contain, according to the latest returns, a population of 17,596,752.

The territory extends from the *Jumna* on the east to the *Suliman Mountains* on the west, and from **Kashmir** on the north to **Rajputana** and **Sind** on the south.

NATURAL DIVISIONS.—The north-eastern part of this region is mountainous. The remaining portions are generally flat, and divided naturally into four *Doabs*. These are—

- (1) BARI DOAB between the *Beas* and *Ravi* ;
- (2) REECHNA DOAB, between the *Ravi* and *Chenab* ;
- (3) JETCH DOAB between the *Chenab* and *Jelum* ; and
- (4) SIND SAGUR DOAB between the *Jelum* and *Indus*.

Between the *Beas* and *Sutlej* there is also the JULINDUR DOAB.

The rainfall of the Punjab is small—the rivers depending for their supply of water upon the melting of the snows and glaciers of the *Himalaya* at their sources.

PRODUCTIONS.—The whole country is favourable for irrigation, and, where this is practised, is extremely fertile—the most important agricultural products being rice, cotton, hemp, indigo, tobacco, sugar, oil-seeds, etc., together with the ordinary tropical vegetables and fruits. Tea is grown in the hill country. Timber is scarce, there being little or no forest land.

The middle portion of each doab is covered with a low scrub, which is the home of multitudes of wild animals, as lions, tigers, leopards, lynxes, panthers, wolves, bears, jackals, foxes, wild hogs, deer of many kinds, porcupines, monkeys, etc.

Pasture-ground is also afforded for herds of camels, sheep, buffaloes, and horses, which are domesticated.

The north-western part of the Punjab is crossed by the *Jungher* or *Salt Range*, which is a chain of low hills stretching across the *Sind Sagur Doab* from the northern extremity of the *Suliman Mountains* to the west bank of the *Jelum*.

Hot springs are found in various parts of the range ; alum, antimony and sulphur also occur ; but the principal mineral wealth is salt, which is found in compact glassy strata, and is highly esteemed in India for its medicinal properties.

LESSON XL.

PEOPLE, LANGUAGE, DIVISIONS, etc.

PEOPLE.—The inhabitants of the Punjab include—

- (1) SIKHS, who are most numerous about Umritsur and Lahore ;
- (2) JATS, chiefly agriculturists, found in all parts east of the *Indus*, but mainly on the *Bari Doab* ;

(3) PATANS, inhabiting the strip of country between the *Indus* and *Suliman Mountains*; and

(4) GOOJURS, who are probably the aborigines of the country. (Some of these have been already described in Lessons XXV.—XXVIII.)

LANGUAGE.—*Punjabi* is the language spoken in the interior of the country; *Hindi* in the towns. *Urdu* and *Persian* are also taught in the schools.

DIVISIONS, etc.—The Punjab and its dependencies were formed into a Lieutenant-Governorship in 1859. The territory formerly constituted the kingdom of Lahore, but was annexed to the British dominions in 1849, after the victory over the Sikhs at Guzerat.

The Punjab is divided into ten provinces, which are again divided into thirty-two districts. Each province is ruled by a commissioner and each district by a deputy commissioner. The districts are further subdivided into 132 *tahsils*.

For the purposes of education, the Punjab is divided into four circles, with an inspector over each. There is a Director of Public Instruction over all. Nearly 2,000 schools are either maintained or aided by Government, in which upwards of 67,000 pupils are under instruction.

Since its annexation in 1849 much has been done by the British Government to improve the country, by the construction of roads, railways, canals, and irrigation works, and by the establishment of good government, an efficient police, and a complete telegraphic system.

The feudatory states attached to the Punjab are thirty-four in number, containing an area of 140,000 square miles and a population of about 5,000,000. These will be treated of in a subsequent section. Affganistan is also connected with the Punjab by treaty.

DIVISIONS of the PUNJAB.

<i>Provinces.</i>	<i>Districts.</i>
Amritsur, or Umritsur. }	Gurdaspur, Sealcot, Amritsur.
Umballa, or Cis-Sutlej States }	Ludiana, Simla, Umballa.

Delhi	Delhi, Gurgaon, Paniput or Kurnal.
Derajat	Dera Gazi Khan, Dera Ismael Khan, Leia or Bannu.
Hissar	Buttiana or Sirsar, Hurriana or Hissar, Rotuk.
Lahore	Ferozpur, Gujranwala or Gujuruwalla, Lahore.
Peshawur	Hazara or Huzara, Kohat, Peshawur.
Multan	Gogayra or Montgomery, Jung, Mozuf- furgur, Multan.
Rawul Pindi	Gujrat, Jelum, Rawul Pindi, Shahpur.
Trans-Sutlej States.	Hoshiarpur, Jalundur, Kangra.

LESSON XLI.

Notes on the PROVINCES of the PUNJAB.

Amritsur, or Umritsur.—A province with an area of about 5,300 square miles, between the *Chenab* and *Beas*, north-east of Lahore. It extends northwards to Kashmir, and is intersected by the *Ravi*. Population, 2,744,000.

Cis-Sutlej States, or Umballa.—Area, about 4,000 square miles; population, 1,653,000; situated mostly in the Sirhind or Sikh country, on the left bank of the *Sutlej*.

Delhi.—An important province, formerly within the government of the North-Western Provinces of India, situated between the *Jumna* and the Sirhind, having an area of nearly 5,600 square miles, and a population of 1,921,000.

The soil is arid and sandy, but where irrigated produces crops of wheat, barley, and other grains. Sugar and cotton are also grown.

Derajat.—A part of the *Daman** or large plain extending between the *Indus* and the *Suliman Mountains*. The province is named *Derajat*, from the towns Dera Ismael Khan, Dera Futti Khan, and Dera Ghazi Khan.† It contains an area of about

* **DAMAN**—Border. It is 300 miles long, from the *Salt Range* on the north to the confines of Sind on the south, and has an average breadth of 60 miles.

† **DERA**=camp. Ismael, Futti, and Ghazi, are the names of *khans* or chiefs of marauding tribes.

12,500 square miles, and a population of nearly 1,000,000. The soil is hard and clayey, and sometimes loose and sandy. Where irrigated, the clay is productive.

Hissar.—Area, 6,662 square miles. Population, 1,227,000. This province reaches from the *Sutlej* nearly to the *Jumna* at Delhi and southwards to the north-western limit of Rajputana.

For a great part of the year the country is nearly destitute of water. Many of the streams rising in the sub-Himalayan range flow through the province towards the *Indus*, and are lost in the desert of Rajputana. Much of the territory bordering this desert is waste and uninhabited.

Lahore.—A large province, 8,905 square miles in extent, and with a population of 1,890,000, lying between the *Chenab* and *Sutlej*.

Multan.—Area, 20,185 square miles; population, 1,475,000. This province comprises four districts, and occupies the south-western corner of the Punjab, being bounded on the east by the *Punjnud** and *Sutlej*, and on the west by the main-stream of the *Indus*. Rich crops are produced in that part of the province which is subject to inundations of the *Chenab*.

Peshawur.—A province in the north-western part of the Punjab, with an area of 7,767 square miles, and a population of 1,036,000. It is situated on both sides of the *Indus*, and extends from the Kyber Pass to the frontier of Kashmir. It is bounded on the north by the *Himalaya Mountains*. The country is hilly and well watered. The heat of summer is considerable, but is tempered by cool breezes from the mountains.

Rawul Pindi.—A province situated between the upper *Indus* and *Chenab*, and intersected by the *Jelum*. It is bounded by the province of Peshawur on the north-west, and by Kashmir on the north-east. The southern portion of the province is crossed by the *Salt Range*. Area, 16,764 square miles; population, 2,198,000.

Trans-Sutlej States.—Area, 12,508 square miles; population, 2,464,000. This province includes three districts, and is situated in the doab between the *Sutlej* and its tributary the *Beas*. It extends northwards to the sub-Himalayan ranges. The district of Kangra in the north of the province is hilly and favourable for the cultivation of the tea plant.

* **PUNJNUD**—the name applied to the combined waters of the *Chenab* and *Sutlej*, before their confluence with the *Indus*.

LESSON XLII.

CHIEF TOWNS OF THE PUNJAB.

Amritsur.—A populous city in the centre of the district of the same name. It has a large fortress, built by Runjeet Sing; also a richly decorated temple of Vishnu, situated on an island in the middle of a tank, called the "Fountain of immortality," to which pilgrimages are made. Amritsur is the centre of a large and increasing trade, and possesses manufactures of calico, silk, and shawls. Population, 136,000.

Delhi.—Population, 154,000. The ancient capital of the Mogul sovereigns. It is full of ruins of temples, palaces, etc. The modern city was founded in 1631, and is situated on the right bank of the *Jumna*; but anciently the city is said to have extended for thirty miles along both banks of the river.

Modern Delhi is thirty miles in circuit, and is enclosed on three sides by a wall. It contains the imperial palace, a mile in circumference. The **JUMNA MUSJID**, or mosque, is the finest building of the kind in Upper India. Near the city is the celebrated **KUTTUB MINAR**, a column 242 feet high, erected by the emperor Kuttub.

The city has some manufactures of cotton-cloths, shawls, and jewellery, and is a place of considerable trade. It was seized by the rebel sepoys in May, 1857, and recaptured by the English, under General Wilson, in September following.

Paniput (25,000), a walled town, surrounded by ruins, situated near the right bank of the *Jumna* to the north of Delhi. It is celebrated in Indian history as the scene of two great battles,—one in 1545, between the native sovereign of Delhi and the founder of the Mogul empire; the other in 1761, between the king of Cabul and the Mahratta chiefs.

Lahore, on the *Ravi*, the capital of the Punjab and the seat of government. Population, about 100,000. It contains several fine mosques, and the tomb of the Emperor Jehangir. Three miles west of the city are the celebrated gardens of Shah Jehan.

Multan, one of the principal towns of the Punjab, is situated near the river *Jelum*. Population, 57,000. It has extensive bazaars and manufactures of silks, cottons, shawls, brocades, etc.

It was formerly a fortress of great strength, but was besieged and taken by the British in 1849.

Peshawur (58,000), the capital of the district and province of Peshawur, is situated in the plain watered by the *Cabul River*, a few miles from the entrance to the *Kyber Pass*, in the extreme north-west of the Punjab. It was the ancient capital of eastern Affganistan; now one of the largest military stations of the English in India.

Simla (7,000), a sanitarium in the *Himalaya* to the south of the upper *Sutlej*, much resorted to by the English residents of the plains. Climate, temperate and invigorating. Elevation, 7,800 feet above the sea level.

Ludiana (40,000), the chief town of a district in the Sirhind of the same name. Manufactures of shawls and strong calico. It is situated near the left bank of the *Sutlej*.

Sobraon, a village on the *Sutlej*, and the scene of the victory gained by Lord Gough over the Sikhs in 1846.

Ferozpur, a military station on the *Sutlej*. Population, 20,000. Iron ore is worked in the neighbourhood.

Dera Ghazi Khan (17,000), a large and populous city, distant about four miles from the right bank of the *Indus*, in the province of Derajat. It has manufactures and an important transit trade.

Kurnal, Biwani, Hoshiarpur, Sealcot, Gujranwala, Gujrat, Dera Ismael Khan, are also towns of importance.

V. THE CENTRAL PROVINCES.

LESSON XLIII.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

SITUATION, EXTENT, ETC.—The Central Provinces, which are about equal in extent to Great Britain and Ireland, and contain about one-third of the population of the United Kingdom, were formed into a chief-commissionership in 1861. They are situated in the northern part of the Deccan, and are bounded on the north and east by independent Malwa, Bundelcund, and the provinces of Lower Bengal; and on the south and west by the provinces of Madras, Hyderabad, and Bombay.

The whole territory extends from east to west a distance of 600 miles, and about 500 miles from north to south. The total area under the administration of the Central Provinces is about 112,680 square miles, of which 84,643 square miles are British territory. According to the census of January, 1872, the total population, inclusive of the Feudatory States, amounted to 9,224,825.

SURFACE.—Portions of the country are wild and rugged, covered with jungle and thinly peopled; other parts are cultivated and populous. The *Satpura Mountains* extend eastward through the territory, which is watered by the rivers *Mahanadi*, *Godavery*, and the upper courses of the *Nerbudda* and *Tapti*.

CLIMATE.—The year is divided into three seasons: the hot season, from April to June; the rainy season, which then sets in and continues till October; and the cold season, which lasts from November till March.

PRODUCTIONS.—The Central Provinces are rich in natural resources. The forests contain valuable timber trees, and plants yielding drugs, resins, gums, and dyes. Cotton of the finest quality, rice, wheat, maize, millet, oil-seeds, opium, sugar-cane, and indigo, are successfully cultivated.

Iron ore, coal, marble, and building-stone, gold and precious stones are among the mineral resources of the region. The manufactures of the district are rude and unimportant.

LESSON XLIV.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (*continued*).

RAILWAYS.—The railway from Calcutta to Bombay passes through the Central Provinces, and is doing much to improve the condition of a country concerning which, but a few years ago, very little was known.

A line is also open connecting Nagpur with Bombay; so that the cotton, which forms the staple product of the district, now finds an easy outlet to Bombay and the markets of Europe.

PEOPLE.—The country is peopled mainly by *Mahrattas*, *Mahometans*, and *Gonds*. There are also a great many of a class called

Banjaras, who act as public carriers between different parts of the interior of India.

LANGUAGE.—The languages chiefly spoken are Mahratti, Urdu, Hindi, Gondi, Uriya, and Telugu.

DIVISIONS, ETC.—The administration of the Central Provinces is in the hands of a chief commissioner, appointed by the Governor-General of India.

The British portion of the territory is subdivided into four commissionerships and nineteen districts, each of the latter being under a deputy-commissioner.

The four commissionerships or provinces, which, like those of the Punjab, are governed upon the *non-regulation system*, are Nagpur, Jubbulpur, Nerbudda, and Chuttees Gur.

Until recently, owing to the misrule of the native chieftains, the absence of education and the want of means of communication, the condition of the population of this part of India was most deplorable—a large proportion of the people being little removed from a state of barbarism.

The establishment of British authority is, however, working a great and beneficial change. Roads, bridges, canals, and railways have improved the means of communication; and an educational department, similar to those of the other provinces of India, has, since its establishment in 1862, succeeded in providing instruction in its schools for nearly 50,000 scholars.

LESSON XLV.

NOTES ON THE DIVISIONS OF THE CENTRAL PROVINCES.

Nagpur, a province in the south-western part of the territory. It is bounded on the south by Hyderabad, from which it is separated by the *Wurda* and *Pranhita*, tributaries of the *Godavery*. Between the *Pranhita* and the *Idrawatty*, another affluent of the *Godavery*, the country is a wilderness, thinly peopled in parts by savage tribes of the Gonds. Total population of Nagpur, 2,272,000.

Chuttees Gur lies to the eastward, and is drained by the *Mahanadi* and its tributaries. Population, 3,277,000.

Sumbulpur, a detached district, about 2,000 square miles in extent, and situated in the middle valley of the *Mahanadi*, belongs to this province.

Nerbudda and Jubbulpur occupy the northern portion of the Central Provinces. They form an elevated table-land lying between the *Vindya*, *Mahadeo*, and *Satpua* ranges.

Iron ore abounds in various parts, and valuable beds of coal have been discovered within the province.

The inhabitants are chiefly Gonds; but Mahometans, Brahmins, Bundelas, Rajputs, and Mahrattas are also found. The Gonds are regarded as the aboriginal race of this part of India. Population of Nerbudda, 1,602,000; Jubbulpur, 1,942,000.

LESSON XLVI.

CHIEF TOWNS.

Nagpur, the chief town of the Central Provinces, is a meanly-built and straggling place situated on the *Nag*, a tributary of the *Wein Gunga*. It has manufactures of chintzes, coarse blankets, tent cloths, and copper and brass utensils. Its trade has greatly increased since the opening of railway communication with Bombay, from which it is distant 440 miles. It has a population of 84,000, mostly Bramins.

Sumbulpur, the capital of the detached portion of the province of Chuttees Gur, on the *Mahanadi*, is a very unhealthy place.

Wyragur, a small town, 80 miles south-east of Nagpur, on the *Wein Gunga*, is a place of some trade. Diamond washing was formerly carried on in its neighbourhood.

Chindwara, a small town, healthily situated on a tableland in the mountainous tract called *Deogur*, north of Nagpur. It has an agreeable climate, and is much visited on this account.

Hoshungabad, an irregularly-built town on the *Nerbudda*. The district around is remarkable for its extreme fertility. Coal is also found in the neighbourhood.

Jubbulpur, on the *Nerbudda*, is also a thriving place, situated in the midst of a populous and fertile country. Population, 64,000.

Since the connexion between the East Indian and Great Indian Peninsular Railways at this place has been completed, Jubbulpur has become the great *entrepôt* of the trade of Central India, the traffic passing through it being larger than that of any city in India, with the exception of Bombay.

Excellent coal is found in the district.

Saugor, a clean, well-built, and populous town, with many English residents, situated on a small lake among the hills north of the *Nerbudda*. Population, 46,000.

VI. THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY. LESSON XLVII.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

SITUATION, EXTENT, ETC.—The part of India included under the name of the Bombay Presidency, extends from north to south a distance of nearly 1,050 miles, between the Arabian Sea on the west, and the territories of Rajputana, Malwa, the Central Provinces, Hyderabad, and the northern part of Mysore on the east.

The total area of British territory within the Presidency, inclusive of the Commissionership of Sind, amounts to 142,042 square miles, with a population of upwards of 14,000,000.

Sind has an area of 54,403 square miles, and a population of about 2,000,000; leaving to Bombay Proper an area of 87,639 square miles, with a population of a little more than 12,000,000.

If to the above are added the Native States,* usually comprised within the limits of the Bombay Presidency, the total area is brought up to 205,665 square miles, and the population to upwards of 20,000,000.

COAST.—The Presidency has a very extended coast line, stretching from Kurrachi in Sind, on the north, to the Malabar

* Particulars relating to the Native States, both Independent and Protected, will be found further on, classified according to locality and mode of government.

coast, on the south, and broken in the northern part by the mouths of the *Indus*, and the *Gulfs of Cutch and Cambay*.

SURFACE.—The chief physical features of Western India have been already so fully described, that only a brief reference to them is here required.

The principal chain of mountains is that of the *Western Ghats*, which, under different names, run parallel to and near the coast of the Arabian Sea southwards from the river *Tapti*. The country is also crossed by the western portions of the *Vindya* and *Satpura Mountains*.

The chief rivers are the *Lower Indus*, *Myhe*, *Nerbudda*, and *Tapti*. The upper courses of the *Godavery*, *Beema*, and *Kistna* are also within the province.

LESSON XLVIII.

CLIMATE, PRODUCTIONS, ETC.

CLIMATE.—The climate of the Presidency, owing to differences of latitude and of elevation above the sea level, varies considerably. Sind and the coast southwards are dry and sultry. South of Bombay the coast climate is humid, and the rainfall excessive. The districts inland in this latitude enjoy a temperate and healthy atmosphere.

The natural productions are much the same as those of other parts of tropical India; as also are the animals.

PEOPLE AND LANGUAGE.—The people are mostly of the Mahratta race; but there are great numbers also of Jains, Guzeratis, Bheels, Parsees, and Jews, as well as Europeans.

The languages spoken are Mahratti and Canarese in the south, and Guzerati in the north; but Portuguese, Arabic, Urdu, Persian, and English are all used.

INDUSTRY AND TRADE.—The bulk of the population is engaged in agricultural pursuits. The manufactures are not of much importance. The exports and imports of the whole province amounted, in 1870-1, to nearly £42,000,000; the total revenue and expenditure for the same year being respectively £10,097,831 and £8,266,178.

INTERNAL COMMUNICATION.—Good roads connect the principal towns, and facilitate the transport of produce. An extensive railway system is also being developed, Bombay being already connected by railways in different directions with Madras, Nagpur, Calcutta, and Ahmedabad.

GOVERNMENT, ETC.—The Presidency is under the rule of the Governor of Bombay, who is appointed by the Queen, and who is assisted in his government by a Council of three members and by a Legislative Council.

Much has been done by the Government for the spread of education throughout the Presidency. According to the latest returns (1870–1), there are in existence within the province 3,036 schools and colleges, maintained or aided by the Government, with a total average attendance of 178,130 pupils. These numbers are exclusive of unaided private schools, and missionary and indigenous schools.

LESSON XLIX.

DIVISIONS of the BOMBAY PRESIDENCY.

The whole territory is divided into three provinces—the Northern Division, the Southern Division, and Sind. Each of these provinces is administered by a commissioner.

The provinces are subdivided into twenty districts, each under a magistrate-collector. Bombay is the seat of government.

<i>Provinces.</i>	<i>Districts.</i>
Northern Division.	Ahmedabad, Bombay and Kolaba, Broach, Candeish, Kaira, Surat, Tanna or Northern Concan.
Southern Division.	Ahmednuggur, Belgaum, North Canara, Darwa, Kuladgi, Poona, Rutnagerry or Concan, Sattara, Sholapur.
Sind	Kurrachi, Hyderabad, Shikarpur, Frontier of Upper Sind.

NOTES ON THE PROVINCES OF BOMBAY.

Northern Division.—This province includes the seven districts enumerated in the above table, and extends from the hilly district of Mewar, north of the *Gulf of Cambay*, southward as far as Bombay.

The two northern districts of **Ahmedabad** and **Kaira**, which are separated from each other by the small *Sabur Mutti* river, are generally flat, and destitute of navigable rivers. The soil is fertile, and by means of irrigation—principally from wells—is made to produce crops of wheat, rice, millet, cotton, tobacco, sugar, indigo, and opium.

The Island of Bombay is included in the district of Bombay and Kolaba. This district is rich in forests of teak and other timber-trees.

The southern districts of the province are hilly.

Southern Division.—This province contains nine districts. **Ahmednuggur**, in the latitude of Bombay, being the most northern, and **North Canara**, to the south of Goa, the most southern of them.

The latter is one of the most fertile districts in India; the narrow tract between the *Western Ghats* and the sea producing abundant crops of rice, and the hill-slopes being covered with forests of valuable timber trees.

Sind.—This province is situated in the lower course and delta of the *Indus*, and is separated from the other provinces of Bombay by the peninsulas of Cutch and Guzerat. It is bounded on the east by Rajputana, and on the west by Beluchistan. It has an area of 54,403 square miles, and a population of 1,795,594.

The climate is dry and sultry, and being beyond the influence of the monsoons, the region is almost a rainless one. At least one half of Sind is desert; and of the remainder only those parts watered by the *Indus* and its numerous branches are capable of cultivation. The productiveness of the province is due entirely to the *Indus*, which annually overflows its banks upon the melting of the snows of the *Himalaya*, and thus fertilizes the adjacent lands.

The inhabitants are a mixed race of Jats and Beluchis, and are

partly **Hindus** and partly **Mahometans** in religion. They are, as a rule, a fine handsome race of people. The languages spoken are **Sindi**, a dialect of **Sanskrit**, and **Beluchi**—the latter being used west of the *Indus*. The educated classes employ **Persian**.

The trade of the country, since its annexation in 1843, has been greatly extended. There are manufactures of silk, cotton, cloth, paper, leather, and arms. Internal communication has been improved by the construction of roads and canals.

LESSON L.

THE CHIEF TOWNS OF THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY.

Bombay, the capital of the Presidency and the seat of government, is situated at the south-eastern extremity of the island of **Bombay**, which came into the possession of the English upon the marriage of **Charles II.** with the **Infanta of Portugal**. The island is connected by an artificial causeway with the larger island of *Salsette* to the north.

Within the shelter formed by these islands is a harbour of large dimensions, and one of the most secure in India. The commerce of **Bombay** is large, and is increasing in extent annually. The city possesses extensive dockyards for the construction and repair of shipping.

The population, exceeding 566,000, includes **English**, **Parsees**, **Hindus**, **Mahometans**, **Jews**, **Portuguese**, **Malays**, and **Chinese**. More than half are **Hindus**; **Mahometans** and **Parsees** exist in about equal numbers. On an island in the harbour are the celebrated cavern-temples of **Elephanta**.

Surat, on the *Tapti*, is a large town of 95,000 inhabitants. It was formerly a place of great trade and importance. Much of its trade has, however, been diverted to **Bombay**, and it is now in a declining state. It is connected by railway with **Bombay**, from which it is distant 150 miles.

Ahmedabad, with a population of 130,000, is the chief town of the

district of the same name. It was formerly one of the finest cities in India, but is now much decayed. It abounds in ruins of mosques, palaces, aqueducts, and fountains; some of the mosques are among the most magnificent of their kind in India.

Broach or Baroche, on the *Nerbudda*, 190 miles N. of Bombay, has a population of 33,000. It is a thriving place, and exports large quantities of cotton. Under the name of Barygaza, it was an important commercial emporium in Greek and Roman times.

Poona, formerly the capital of the Mahratta empire, is situated in a small hollow on the banks of the *Muta*, a tributary of the *Bcema* river, in a very extensive and treeless plain, 2,000 feet above the level of the sea, and surrounded by the rugged *Ghats* which rise from 1,500 to 2,000 feet above the plain. Population, about 80,000. It is an important military station.

Poona was formerly a very irregularly built town, with ruinous and ill-paved streets, and without drainage; but it has been much improved of late years, and partly rebuilt. The military quarters are on high ground, about a mile from the city.

LESSON LI.

CHIEF TOWNS OF THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY (*continued*).

Ahmednuggur, 100 miles east of Bombay, and 83 north-east of Poona, is a large and increasing town, and formerly the capital of a kingdom. It contains a large oval fort, a mile in circuit. Population, 25,000.

Mahabaleshwar, situated on an undulating table-land among the *Western Ghats* to the south of Poona, at an elevation of 4,500 feet, is a small town and the sanitarium of Western India.

Sattara, the chief town of the district of Sattara, is situated on the *Kistna*, a little below its source, and 55 miles south of Poona. It is a strong fortress and military position.

Bijapur, in the district of Kuladgi, once the capital of a powerful

kingdom, is now in ruins. It has been called "the Palmyra of the Deccan." Outwardly it still presents the appearance of a flourishing city; but within, it is but a heap of ruins, embracing decayed tombs, temples, palaces, and mosques.

Sholapur, in the district or collectorate of the same name, is an improving place. It is situated on the line of railway connecting Bombay with Madras.

Belgaum is a small but strongly fortified town in the collectorate of Belgaum, eastward of the Portuguese settlement of Goa.

Hydrabad, the chief town of the province of Sind, is situated near the left bank of the *Indus*, about 120 miles from the sea. Population, 25,000.

Kurrachi, on the coast to the westward of the *Indus* delta, and close to the extreme western boundary of British India, is the principal seaport and place of trade in Sind. It has a spacious harbour, and is a place of great commercial and political importance. Communication by railway has been opened between it and Kotri, a town on the *Indus*, opposite to Hyderabad.

Tatta, at the head of the delta of the *Indus*, was the ancient capital of Sind. It has some manufactures of silk and cotton-cloths, but has lost most of its former wealth and importance.

Larkana, situated near the *Indus*, in one of the most fertile tracts of northern Sind, is one of the chief grain marts of India. Population, 11,000.

Shikarpur, also in northern Sind, and to the westward of the *Indus*, is a place of great commercial importance. Population, 30,000.

VII. PRESIDENCY OF MADRAS.

LESSON LII.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

SITUATION, EXTENT, &c.—The Province of Madras comprises nearly the whole of the mainland of India south of the *Kistna River*, together with a considerable tract stretching northwards along the coast of the Bay of Bengal as far as *Lake Chilka*, and known as the Northern Circars.

The total area of the territories under British administration is 141,746 square miles, containing, in 1872, a population of 31,311,142. The area, inclusive of the Native Independent and Protected States, and the island of Ceylon, would be upwards of 200,000 square miles, with a population of about 36 millions.

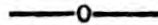
The coast-line is of great extent, having a length of not less than 1,730 miles, but is singularly destitute of good natural harbours.

The province has an extreme width towards the north of 300 miles. It consists chiefly of a table-land, bounded on two sides by the *Western* and *Eastern Ghats*, but sloping gradually towards the east and north. This plateau is crossed by several large rivers, which are of importance in regard to the supply of water for irrigation, without which the whole of this part of India would be a desert.

Within the province are included the lower courses of the *Godavery* and *Kistna*; many tributaries of the *Kistna*; the *Cauvery* and its tributaries; the *Palar*, *Pennar*, and many smaller streams. The *Kistna* and its tributary, the *Tungabudra*, form the northern boundary of the Presidency.

CLIMATE.—The climate of the Madras territory is greatly influenced by its narrowness, the elevation of its different parts, the position of its mountain chains, and the direction of the monsoons. The interior is generally dry—the moisture from the sea being intercepted by the mountains which border the coasts.

The *Coromandel Coast* is hotter than the *Malabar*; the temperature occasionally rising to more than 100°. The atmosphere on the *Malabar Coast* is moister, and the mean temperature lower. The heat along the coast is greatly moderated by the sea breezes which set in, generally at noon, throughout the greater part of the year.



LESSON LIII.

INTERNAL COMMUNICATION, GOVERNMENT, &c.

Internal communication throughout the province is very complete. Roads and bridges are kept in good order. The lagoons

on the western coast have already been alluded to (see p. 18.), and their usefulness in extending traffic pointed out. The rivers of Southern India give but little assistance to inland communication; but, by means of canals and other works, are being made available for the purposes of irrigation (see p. 37).

An extensive railway system is also in course of construction. In 1871, there were 1012 miles of railway open for traffic within the presidency, 832 miles of which belonged to the Madras Railway Company. Madras is now connected by railway with Bombay, Bangalore, Salem, Coimbatore, Beypur, Trichinopoly, and Negapatam. Among the projected lines is one from Trichinopoly, through Madura to Tinnevely and Tuticorin.

Race, Language, etc.—The inhabitants of the province include many races, but consist mainly of Hindus and Mahometans. The languages employed are Tamil, Telugu, Canarese, Malayalam, Urdu, and English. Schools are being rapidly multiplied. There are now 3,479 colleges and schools, maintained or aided by the government, and attended by upwards of 115,000 pupils.

Government.—The Governor of Madras, like the Governor of Bombay, is appointed by the Queen, and is assisted by an Executive Council of three members. He is also empowered to elect a Legislative Council; but all measures passed by this council must have the sanction of the Viceroy to render them valid.

Revenue, etc.—The total revenue of the presidency in 1870–71 amounted to £8,207,300, and the total expenditure to £6,153,146. The total value of exports and imports during the same year amounted to £9,182,810.

LESSON LIV.

DIVISIONS OF THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY.

There are five great divisions of the Madras Presidency, which are again divided into twenty-one collectorates, two of which, viz., Ganjam and Vizagapatam, are governed upon the *non-regulation system*.

<i>Divisions.</i>	<i>Collectorates.</i>
1. Circars	Ganjam, Vizagapatam, Rajamundry, Guntur, Masulipatam.
2. Carnatic	North and South Arcot, Madras, Chingle- put, Trichinopoly, Tanjore, Madura, Nellore, Tinnevelly.
3. Ceded Districts .	Bellary, Cuddapa, Kurnul.
4. Coimbatore and Salem. }	Coimbatore, Salem.
5. Canara and Ma- labar. }	

The Circars, or Northern Circars, extend along the coast of the Bay of Bengal, from the mouth of the *Kistna* to *Lake Chilka*, a distance of 470 miles. They are separated from the Nizam's Dominions and the Central Provinces by the range of mountains forming the eastern boundary of the plateau of the Deccan. The division receives its name from its comprehending the five *circars* or districts north of the Carnatic. Four of these were ceded by the Great Mogul in 1765; but the fifth was not acquired by the English till 1788.

The Carnatic.—This name was anciently applied to the great Hindu kingdom of Southern India, which embraced almost the whole of the peninsula east of the *Western Ghats*, and between the *Kistna* and *Cape Comorin*. It was divided into two parts, distinguished as BALA-GHAT and PAYEN-GHAT, or Upper and Lower Carnatic; that is, the districts above and below the line of the *Eastern Ghats*.

The latter is the division noted in the above table. It extends along the coast of the *Bay of Bengal*, and between it and the *Eastern Ghats*, for a distance of 560 miles, southwards from the mouth of the *Kistna*.

The district is historically famous as having been the scene of the struggle for ascendancy in the East, between the English and French. The last representative of the old Mahometan dynasty of the Carnatic died in 1855. Up to the end of the last century there was a Nawab of the Carnatic, invested with sovereign powers.

The Ceded Districts are so called from their having been ceded to the English by the Nizam, in the year 1800. They comprise a large extent of country in the interior, situated between the Nizam's Dominions and Mysore.

The whole region is elevated, but is highest towards the west, where it approaches the slopes of the *Western Ghats*. Several streams cross the district, and, breaking through the *Eastern Ghats*, enter the *Bay of Bengal*, the chief being the *Pennar River*.

LESSON LV.

NOTES ON THE DIVISIONS OF THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY.

Ganjam, the most northerly of the Madras collectorates, extends southwards along the coast of the *Bay of Bengal*, from *Lake Chilka*, and is bounded on the west by **Orissa**. The coast is bold and rocky, but slopes away into the lagoon district towards the north. Inland the country rises into hills, covered with jungle, and inhabited by savage tribes of *Konds*. The low country is extremely fertile. Area, 7,657 sq. miles. Population, 1,487,000.

Vizagapatam lies on the coast southward of Ganjam. It has an area of nearly 19,000 sq. miles, and a population of 2,284,000. The boundary of the two collectorates forms a part of what is commonly known as the **Orissa Coast**. The climate on this coast is moist and hot, but the district is not so subject to the land-winds, which are so oppressive in the Carnatic. Both Ganjam and Vizagapatam are governed upon the *non-regulation* system.

Masulipatam, **Rajamundry**, and **Guntur** are low-lying districts situated within and around the deltas of the *Godavery* and *Kistna* rivers, and contains an area of nearly 16,000 square miles, with a population of rather more than 3,000,000.

They are exceedingly fertile, producing large crops of rice and other grains, tobacco, sugar-cane, indigo, and cotton, both for home consumption and exportation. There are manufactures of cotton goods and carpets.

The *Godavery* and *Kistna* have been rendered available for irrigation by the construction of dams and canals.

Nellore, a collectorate on the **Coromandel Coast**, to the south of Guntur, has an area of 8,340 square miles, and a population of

1,375,000. It is intersected by the *Pennar* River and other streams, whose beds are mostly dry in the hot season.

The coast is low and sandy, and much of the land is barren and uncultivated. The ordinary crops are, however, grown in the irrigated tracts. The district is famous for its fine breed of bullocks, which are in great request as draught oxen all over Southern India.

North and South Arcot, situated along the coast still further southward, resemble Nellore in soil, climate, and productions. They are hilly towards the interior, and are crossed by several streams, the most important of which are the *Palar* and *S. Pennar*.

The southern boundary is formed by the *Coleroon* branch of the *Cauvery*. The districts abound in tanks for storing up water for irrigation, many of which are of immense extent.

Total area of the two districts, 12,500 square miles; population, 3,770,000.

Madras, a district around the city of Madras, extending between Nellore and North Arcot. It is everywhere flat. The soil, where irrigated, is fertile.

Tanjore, Madura, and Tinnevely, are districts occupying the part of India south of the *Cauvery*, and between the coasts of *Palk's Strait* and the *Gulf of Manaar*, on the east and south, and the *Pulnai Mountains*, or *Varragerry Hills*, and *Western Ghats*, on the west.

Near the sea the soil is sandy and barren, but inland it is extremely productive. The sugar-cane, cotton, and tobacco are largely grown. The climate of the plains is dry and hot; that of the hills is temperate and genial—the temperature ranging from 50° to 70°. Total area, 17,580 square miles; population, 5,925,000.

LESSON LVI.

NOTES ON THE DIVISIONS OF THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY (*continued*).

Trichinopoly, a small district in the valley of the *Cauvery*, between Salem and Tanjore has an area of about 3,100 square miles, and a population of 1,200,000.

The rainfall of the district is moderate, and the climate, for a great part of the year, is dry and hot. The soil is a deep, black mould, which, by means of irrigation, is made to produce large crops of cotton and tobacco. Cocoa-nut palms also abound.

Bellary, a large district in the interior of the province, situated between the Nizam's Dominions and Mysore, is one of the group of collectorates known as the Ceded Districts. It is a part of the plateau of Southern India. The climate is very dry. Area, 11,350 sq. miles; population, 1,653,000.

Cuddapa is another of the Ceded Districts adjoining Mysore, with an area of 9,140 sq. miles, and a population of 1,344,000. It is an extensive and elevated plain, upon which the chains of the *Eastern Ghats* rise in abrupt and parallel ridges. The plain is crossed by numerous streams, which unite to form the river *Pennar*. This river enters the Bay of Bengal below Nellore.

Kurnul, the third of the group of Ceded Districts, is a long strip of country on the right bank of the *Kistna*, which separates it from Hyderabad. It is a hilly region, and abounds in forests producing teak and other valuable woods. Area, 7,984 sq. miles; population, 955,000.

Coimbatore, an extensive inland district, is situated between Mysore and Madura. It has an area of about 8,100 sq. miles, and a population of 1,755,000.

The *Neilgherry Mountains* rise in the western part of the district, and separate it from Cochin and Travancore. Cotton, tobacco, grain, etc., are cultivated in the plain; while the hill country is made to produce coffee, tea, cinchona, and many European fruits and vegetables. Where uncultivated, the *Neilgherries* are clothed with forests of teak and other valuable timber.

Iron ore and saltpetre are obtained in considerable quantities within the district. Coimbatore is crossed by the railway which connects Madras with Beypur, on the *Malabar Coast*.

Salem is an inland district between Mysore and South Arcot. Area, 7,610 sq. miles; population, 1,963,000. The western part is mountainous. The chief products are cotton, coffee, tea, indigo, tobacco, and sugar. Iron ore is found among the hills.

Canara, or South Canara, as it is usually called, to distinguish it from the district of the same name lying to the north of it in the Bombay Presidency, is a narrow strip of territory in the north-

west of the Presidency of Madras, between the *Malabar Coast* and the *Western Ghats*.

It contains a varied population of Bramins, Nairs, Moplays, Jains, and Christians, amounting in all to 918,170. There are numerous inlets on the coast, but no harbours for large vessels. The collectorate embraces an area of 3,480 sq. miles.

Malabar extends southward from Canara, between the lofty *Western Ghats* and the sea. The district is about 140 miles in length by 40 in breadth, and contains an area of about 6,260 sq. miles, with a population of 2,275,000.

The shores are low and sandy; but at a short distance inland the Ghats rise from the plains to an elevation of from 5,000 to 6,000 feet. Forests of teak, black-wood, and sandal-wood, clothe the mountain slopes. The soil of the plains is exceedingly fertile, producing abundant crops of rice, ginger, cardamoms, and pepper. The cocoa-nut palm also flourishes. Coffee is cultivated in the district of the Wynaad in the east of the collectorate.

The inhabitants of Malabar belong to a great variety of races, most of whom have already been noticed in the general description of India, in the earlier part of this work. Among them are the NAIRS, the former rulers of the territory, and still a numerous and influential people; the TIARS, who are mostly cultivators; the MOPLAYS or MOPILAS; and the two races of Black and White Jews of the Malabar Coast.

The Nairs and Tiars are Hindus; the Moplays are Mahometans. There are also many Christians belonging either to the Roman or Syrian communions—the latter attributing their origin to the preaching of the apostle St. Thomas.

The name of the province of Malabar is applied to the whole of the south-western coast of India, and is supposed to be derived from the word "Malayalam," signifying "skirting the hills."

LESSON LVII.

CHIEF TOWNS OF THE MADRAS
PRESIDENCY.

Madras, the capital of the presidency, and the seat of government, is situated on an exposed part of the *Coromandel Coast*. Population, 395,440. Though without a harbour, and otherwise unfavourably situated for commerce, it is a place of great trade. Large ships lie off in the roadstead, and land their passengers and cargoes in light native craft, constructed so as to live through the tremendous surf which generally beats upon this coast.

Fort St. George is the principal part of the city. The Pettah or Black Town lies to the north of it, and contains the greater part of the native population. A large open space, or esplanade, separates the two parts of the city.

Madras trades chiefly with Great Britain, Calcutta, Ceylon, Burma, the Straits Settlements, Mauritius, and America. Its chief exports are cotton, indigo, oil-seeds, coffee, sugar, rice, etc. There is now communication by railway between Madras and many places in the interior, as well as with Bombay and Beypur on the western coast.

Ganjam, in the north-east of the province, near the coast, was once a place of some trade, but is now, owing to its unhealthiness, almost abandoned. Berhampur, near the coast, 20 miles south of Ganjam, has manufactures of silk, cotton, and sugar. Population, 20,000.

Vizagapatam, the chief town of the district, has a small harbour and docks for vessels of light burden. It is noted for its carving and filigree work in gold and silver. The climate is unhealthy. Bimlipatam, 18 miles from Vizagapatam, is a flourishing maritime town.

Rajamundry, situated on the left bank of the *Godavery*, has a population of 17,000, but is meanly built. There is a fort outside the town. Madapollam, in the same district, is noted for the manufacture of cotton cloths.

Masulipatam, near the mouth of the *Kistna*, has a population of

30,000, and manufactures of printed cotton goods. The situation is marshy and unhealthy.

Nellore, 100 miles north of Madras, near the mouth of the *Pennar* river is the chief town of the Nellore collectorate. Population, 20,000.

Vellore, an important town in North Arcot, has a population of 50,000. It is situated on the *Palar*, 79 miles west of Madras, and on the railway connecting the capital and Beypur. It has a large pagoda dedicated to Kistna.

Arcot, on the *Palar*, below Vellore, with which it is also connected by railway, was formerly the Mahometan capital of the Carnatic. The capture of Arcot, then a town of 100,000 inhabitants, in 1751, by Clive with a mere handful of sepoys, and his holding it for 15 days against the attack of overwhelming numbers, are among the most striking events of that most stirring period of Indian history.

Cuddalore, at the mouth of the *South Pennar*, near Pondicherry, is the chief town of South Arcot. It has a small harbour and pier. The situation is low but not unhealthy. Population, 15,000.

LESSON LVIII.

CHIEF TOWNS (*continued*).

Tanjore, situated on a branch of the *Cauvery*, is a place of considerable trade, and has manufactures of silk, muslins, and cottons. It contains numerous pagodas, one of which is regarded as the finest in India. Population, 40,000.

Negapatam, a place of trade at the mouth of one of the branches of the *Cauvery*. It is the present terminus of the Great South of India Railway. Population, 10,000.

Tranquebar, to the north of Negapatam, was purchased from the Danish government in 1845. It is a seaport and a place of some trade. Population, 25,000.

Trichinopoly, on the *Cauvery*, is the chief town of the district.

The inhabitants manufacture filigree work, hardware, cutlery, saddlery, and cheroots. Population, 30,000. Trichinopoly is connected by railway with Negapatam, and with the main line from Madras to Beypur.

Madura, the capital of the district of Madura, in the south of the Carnatic, is a well-built town of great antiquity; it was once the chief seat of learning of Southern India.

Bellary, the chief town of the Ceded Districts, is situated on an elevated plateau to the south of the *Tungabudra* river. Height above the sea, 1600 feet. Population, 30,000. A branch railway connects it with the main line between Madras and Bombay. Kurnul, on the *Tungabudra*, above its confluence with the *Kistna*, is a town of 20,000 inhabitants.

Coimbatore is a clean and well-built town at the foot of the *Neilgherries*, and on a small tributary of the *Cauvery*. The railway from Madras to Beypur passes through it. Ootacamund, among the *Neilgherries*, at an elevation of nearly 6,500 feet, is the great sanitarium of Southern India.

Salem, the chief town of the district of Salem, is situated in a valley among the hills which rise on the left bank of the *Cauvery*. Population, 19,000. The railway between Madras and Beypur passes through it.

Mangalore, the chief town of South Canara, is a flourishing seaport. Population, about 12,000. Exports of rice, teak, and sandal-wood.

Calicut, a sea-port on the coast of Malabar, still carries on an extensive trade, but has declined from its former importance. It was first visited by the Portuguese in 1498, at which time it was the capital of a native sovereign called the Zamorin. Population, 25,000. Beypur, the terminus of the Madras railway on the Malabar coast, is situated on an estuary six miles south of Calicut.

Cochin, on the coast of the Malabar district, to the west of, but not included in, the small native state of Cochin. It is situated at the entrance of the series of lagoons called the *Backwater* of Cochin (see page 18). It is a place of great trade, and has a large population of Hindus, Moplas, Europeans, Arabs, Persians, Portuguese, and Jews. Shipbuilding is carried on here to a large extent.

VIII. BRITISH BURMA.**LESSON LIX.****GENERAL DESCRIPTION.**

Under the term British Burma, are included, for administrative purposes, the kingdom of Aracan, annexed in 1826; Pegu, finally occupied after the Burmese war of 1852; and a long and narrow strip of territory stretching along the coast southwards from the *Gulf of Martaban*, called the Tenasserim Provinces.

These districts were united in 1862, under the control of one executive officer, termed a Chief Commissioner, appointed by the Supreme Government of India. Under the same jurisdiction also are included the numerous islands near the coast, as well as the groups of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

The whole territory is situated on the eastern side of the *Bay of Bengal*, and has a total length from north to south of nearly 1,000 miles, with an area of 93,664 square miles. It is bounded on the west by the Burmese Empire and the kingdom of Siam, from which it is separated by the *Yoma* and other ranges of mountains.

The territory consists mainly of flat, alluvial plains, lying between the coast and the ranges of forest-clothed mountains which rise at no great distance from the shore.

CLIMATE.—The climate is very moist, the rainfall being considerable—varying from 60 inches in some places to 190 in others. The year is divided into three seasons, the rainy, the cold, and the hot. The rains commence in May or June, and continue, with occasional intervals of dry weather, till the end of October; the months of November, December, and January, may be termed the cold, or rather cool, season; the remaining months of the year are hot, but the heat is tempered by cool winds which prevail in the middle of the day.

PRODUCTIONS.—The agricultural products consist of rice, cotton, tobacco, sugar, pepper, indigo, and areca-nuts. A very small proportion of the territory, however, is under cultivation. On the hills are forests of valuable timber, chiefly teak.

Numerous wild animals, as elephants, rhinoceroses, and tigers, abound in these forests. Sheep, oxen, and buffaloes are the common domesticated animals of the country.

The mineral wealth of the province, especially of Tenasserim, is very great. Coal of excellent quality has been found in the neighbourhood of Moulmein; iron, tin, antimony, and copper, also exist. Gold, too, has been found in some of the streams.

The revenues of the country have greatly increased since the peaceful settlement of the country. In 1870-1 the revenue of the united provinces amounted to £1,210,658—the expenditure for the same year being £639,499. The total value of exports and imports amounted in the same period to £3,569,090.

People and Language, etc.—The total population amounts to 2,562,000, or less than twenty-eight to the square mile, so that British Burma is the most thinly peopled province of British India.

The inhabitants of Burma belong to branches of the Indo-Chinese family. They consist of Taliens, or Peguans, Burmese, Karyens, Trongsus, Seelongs, and Passas. Of these the two first are the most civilized, and form the bulk of the population. The others are mostly wandering half-savage tribes. The Seelongs inhabit the islands on the coast, and subsist mainly upon the spontaneous productions of nature, as turtles, fish, etc., and seldom cultivate the ground.

The language spoken is chiefly Burmese, which is the language of the courts, of public transactions, and of general conversation.

LESSON LX.

DIVISIONS OF BRITISH BURMA.

British Burma is divided into three provinces, viz., Aracan, Pegu, and Tenasserim (including Martaban); and these are again divided into thirteen districts, over each of which is a Deputy-Commissioner, who acts as Collector and Civil Sessions Judge.

<i>Provinces.</i>	<i>Districts.</i>
Aracan. . . .	Akyab, Ramri, Sandoway.*
Pegu	Rangoon, Bassein, Myanoung, Promé, Thayet.
Tenasserim . .	Toungu, Shwe-gyen, Amherst, Tavoy, Mergui.

LESSON LXI.

NOTES ON THE PROVINCES OF BRITISH BURMA.

Aracan, situated on the N.E. shores of the *Bay of Bengal*, between 18° and $21\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ N. lat.—length from N. to S. 290 miles; breadth, varying from 15 to 90 miles; area, 18,530 square miles; population, 460,000.

The coast line, which is mostly rugged, is skirted by islands, the chief of which are *Ramri*, *Cheduba*, and *Shapuri*. The eastern boundary is formed by the *Yomadoang Mountains*, which stretch northward from *Cape Negrais* to the *Tippera Hills*, and separate the province from Pegu and the empire of Burma. This ridge reaches, in places, an elevation of 5,000 feet. There are several passes across the range from Aracan to Ava, the chief of which is that known as the *Aeng Pass*, the summit of which is 4,664 feet above the sea level.

The principal river of the district is the *Kuladen*, or *Huritung*, which rises to the east of Chittagong, and, after a course of about 250 miles, terminates in a bay, full of islands of considerable size.

Other rivers intersect the province, as the *Myu*, *Lemyo*, *Talak*, and *Aeng*. The district drained by these is low and unhealthy, being very little above the sea-level and subject to inundations.

The climate of Aracan is hot and moist. The land is extremely fertile, and suitable for the cultivation of every kind of tropical produce. Only rice, however, is cultivated to any great extent.

* Besides these, there is the Northern Aracan Hill District, under a Superintendent of Hill Tracts.

Aracan is divided into the districts of Akyab, Ramri, and Sandoway. Ramri includes the islands on the coast. The island of Ramri is 50 miles in length, and is separated from the mainland by a narrow strait. It is mountainous and covered with jungle. Cheduba is 30 miles in length. It is farther from the coast, and is low, dry, and sandy, free from jungle, and more healthy.

Pegu, formerly the richest province of the Burmese empire, was annexed to British India in 1852, at the close of the second Burmese war. It includes the delta of the *Irawadi*, with a large adjoining tract in the interior, and embraces an area of 28,404 square miles, containing a population of about 1,525,000.

The *Irawadi* enters Pegu after a course of 800 miles from the lofty *Himalaya*. The lower part of its valley is a large alluvial delta, intersected by the numerous branches into which the river divides. This delta extends over an area of more than 10,000 square miles.

LESSON LXII.

PROVINCES OF BRITISH BURMA (*continued*).

Tenasserim and Martaban.—These provinces stretch southwards from Pegu along the coast of the *Bay of Bengal*. They consist of a narrow strip of land between the coast and a lofty range of granitic mountains separating them from Siam on the east.

The coast is bold and rocky, and fringed by the numerous islands of *Mergui Archipelago*; it is also indented with numerous creeks and inlets, as well as by the estuaries of several considerable rivers, the chief of which are the *Salween* and *Sitang*, both flowing southwards into the head of the *Gulf of Martaban*.

The districts of Amherst, Tavoy, and Mergui are mountainous, and the plains and valleys are few and of small extent. Martaban, to the north, consists of alluvial plains watered by the rivers just mentioned, and producing abundant crops of rice. The climate is moist, and the country covered with vegetation.

The Tenasserim Provinces were annexed by Britain in 1826, at the same time that Aracan was acquired. They altogether embrace an area of 46,730 square miles, with a thinly scattered population of about 577,000.

Andaman Islands,—a group of islands of volcanic origin, situated in the *Bay of Bengal*, about 200 miles to the S.E. of *Cape Negrais*. They consist of four large and a number of smaller islands, surrounded by dangerous coral reefs, and covered for the most part with a dense tropical growth. They extend from north to south, under the meridian of 93° E. long., a distance of about 250 miles.

The inhabitants are savages, and without occupation or settled government; they have no fixed habitations, but wander from place to place, and feed on fish and fruits; they worship the sun and moon.

The Cocos ISLANDS are two uninhabited islands to the north, included in the same group.

Nicobar Islands,—a group situated to the south of the Andaman Islands. They were formerly inhabited by piratical Malays, who carried on a considerable trade in areca (betel) nuts, cocoa-nuts, yams, pigs, and poultry.

The Danes effected a settlement here in 1756, but the place was abandoned by them in 1846. The islands were formally annexed by the Indian Government as a convict settlement for India, in 1869.

LESSON LXIII.

CHIEF TOWNS OF BRITISH BURMA.

Akyab, the capital of the province of Aracan, is situated on an island at the mouth of the *Kuladen*. It is a regularly-built town, and is well situated for trade. Population, 15,280.

Aracan has much trade with Calcutta, but is unhealthy, and is inconveniently situated 50 miles inland. The houses are raised to protect them during the inundations to which the district is liable. Population, 10,000.

Bassein, on a branch of the *Irawadi*, is a place of much trade, the river being navigable for ships of the largest burden. Population, 19,577.

Rangoon, the chief town of Pegu, is situated on a branch of the *Irawadi*, called the Rangoon river. Population, 100,000. It is the seat of a large and increasing trade. Pegu, the ancient capital, stands on a river of the same name, which joins the eastern branch of the *Irawadi*.

Prome is a large and important place on the main stream of the *Irawadi* to the north of the delta. Population, 24,682.

Moulmein, or Maulmain, the chief town of the Tenasserim provinces, is situated on the left bank of the *Salween*, in the district of Martaban. It enjoys a large trade in exporting the produce of the country, as teak-timber, paddy, and rice, and in supplying the inhabitants of the interior with European manufactured goods and salt. Maulmain has also large ship-building establishments. The population is 53,653. MARTABAN, on the opposite side of the river, belongs to native Burma. Amherst, lower down the river, has a good harbour and a large timber trade.

Mergui, a well-built town at the mouth of the *Tenasserim* river, is a healthy place, with much foreign trade. Population, 9,877.

Tavoy, a Peguan town of great antiquity, is situated in a low and swampy but fertile plain, on the left bank of the river of the same name. Population, 14,467. There is extensive rice cultivation in the neighbourhood. Tenasserim, formerly the capital of the province, but now a place of very little importance, stands on the bank of the *Tenasserim* river, 30 miles S.E. of Mergui.

Port Blair, in the Andaman Islands, possesses an excellent harbour. A penal colony for all India was established here in 1858. It was here that the late Governor-General of India, Lord Mayo, while on a visit of inspection to the settlement in 1871, was assassinated by a fanatical Mahometan convict.

IX. HYDERABAD, MYSORE, and COORG.**LESSON LXIV.****GENERAL DESCRIPTION.**

A short account of these three provinces will complete the description of British India Proper. In the three remaining sections some account will be given of the Native Independent and Protected States, and of the two Crown Colonies of Ceylon and the Straits Settlements.

Hyderabad, Mysore, and Coorg, are thus grouped together because they are under the direct administration of the Governor-General in Council.

HYDERABAD, or, more properly, Haidarabad, is the name given to that part of Central India lying northward of the river *Kistna*, and between the *Wurda* and *Godavery* rivers, on the east, and the Bombay territory, on the west. The Central Provinces bound the district on the north. The region is known also under the title of "The Nizam's Dominions."

Of this region the northern portion only is directly under British administration, and is commonly known as the Assigned Districts of Hyderabad. These consist chiefly of the valuable provinces of Berar, which were assigned to the British Government in compensation for military assistance rendered to the Nizam Ali in the early struggles for the sovereignty of the Deccan upon the dissolution of the Mogul empire.

The districts thus assigned comprise an area of 16,960 square miles, with a population of 2,231,565. They are divided into two Commissionerships of East and West Berar, with two districts in each.

The northern boundary is formed by the river *Tapti*, which separates the territory from the Central Provinces; the *Wurda*, an affluent of the *Payne Gunga*, divides it from Nagpur on the east, and the *Payne Gunga* bounds it on the south. It is watered also by the numerous tributaries of these rivers.

Hyderabad is one of the most important of the cotton producing districts of India, and is crossed by the railway which connects Bombay with Nagpur.

Much has been done for this important province since 1853, when it was brought under British administration. Previously to that date its condition was lamentable: there were scarcely any roads or bridges; and being without police, crimes of violence were frequent.

Means of communication have now been opened up, irrigation works renewed and extended, and hospitals, schools, and a police established. In March, 1871, there were 344 schools in the province maintained or aided by the Government, with an average daily attendance of 11,122 pupils. In 1867 the numbers were respectively 147 and 6,644. Many other improvements have likewise been effected. Although entirely under British administration, the nominal sovereignty of the country is still retained by the Nizam.

LESSON LXV.

MYSORE.

SITUATION, EXTENT, &c.—This important province is situated in the southern portion of the table-land of the Deccan, between the *Pennar* river and the *Neilgherries*. It has an area of 27,077 square miles, and a population of 5,055,412.

The country consists mainly of an elevated table-land, about equal in area to the mainland of Scotland or Bavaria; its mean elevation is about 2,000 feet, but it rises in places to 6,000 feet. Isolated masses of rock, called *Droogs*, rise abruptly in many parts to the height of 1,500 feet above the plateau. The chief of these are *Nundidroog* and *Severndroog*.

A line of watershed crosses the country from east to west; the drainage to the north being into the *Tungabudra* and *Pennar*; the rivers to the south flowing into the *Cauvery*.

CLIMATE and PRODUCTIONS.—The climate of Mysore is much tempered by the elevation of the district. At Bangalore (3,000 feet above the sea level) the mean average temperature at noon is 76°. The nights are generally cool. The south-west monsoon brings abundant rain to the region. Numerous reservoirs pro-

vide the means of irrigating the lands. Crops of rice and other grain, sugar, betel, opium, and coffee, are produced. Many of the fruits and vegetables of Europe are also successfully cultivated.

PEOPLE.—The inhabitants are generally tall and robust, and Braminists in religious belief. They live in wretched mud-built huts, thatched, and with no other opening than a low doorway.

DIVISIONS AND GOVERNMENT.—There are three principal divisions,—Nundidroog, Astagram, and Nuggur, which are again divided into eight districts. Mysore is at present under the rule of a Commissioner appointed by the Viceroy. Besides the Commissioner, there is a Judicial Commissioner, or Chief Judge, and a Director of Public Instruction.

For nearly 40 years this state was under the rule of Hyder Ali and his son Tippu Sultan. In 1799 it was erected into a native state, governed by a Maharaja under the protection of the British Government. After a long period of misrule the native sovereign was dethroned in 1832, and the province placed under British administration.

Good roads have been constructed throughout the country, and schools have been multiplied. Of these there are now 540 supported or aided by Government, with an attendance of 18,443. A branch of the Madras railway penetrates the district as far as Bangalore.

COORG.

This is a small rugged mountain district lying between Mysore and the Malabar Coast. The climate is wet, but not, upon the whole, unhealthy. The country consists of a succession of steep ridges and ravines, and is nowhere less than 3,000 feet above the sea-level. The drainage of the country is mainly in the direction of the *Cauvery*.

The natural productions are,—coffee, tea, cinchona, cotton, and cardamoms. The people are an athletic, hardy, industrious, and intelligent race.

Coorg contains an area of about 2,000 square miles, and a population of 168,312. It is divided into six *talooks*, and these again into 24 *náds*.

The province is administered by the Commissioner of Mysore. It was formerly an independent sovereignty, but its Raja was dethroned and his territory annexed in 1834.

LESSON LXVI

THE CHIEF TOWNS OF HYDERABAD, MYSORE, and COORG.

Umrawatti, on the railway between Bombay and Nagpur, is the chief town of the Assigned Districts of Hyderabad. For a long time it was one of the principal cotton marts of the Deccan, and its importance in this respect has been increased since the opening of the railway. It is three miles in circumference and is surrounded by a stone wall. Population, 24,000. Akola, or Akowla (population, 14,000), is a town of some importance, lying near the railway eastward of Umrawatti.

Ellichpur, the former capital of the Mogul province of Berar, is a large town of 28,000 inhabitants, lying to the north of Umrawatti.

Gawulgur, a fortress, thirty-two miles N.N.W. of Ellichpur, stormed by the British forces under Wellesley on the 14th December, 1803. Akote, Maiker, Gotmal, and Meil, are other towns of the district.

Bangalore, in the centre of Mysore, is the chief military station of the province. It enjoys one of the finest climates in India, being situated on a ridge at an elevation of 3,000 feet above the sea level. It is now the largest town in Mysore, has an extensive trade, manufactures of silk and cotton, and a population, including the cantonment, of upwards of 130,000.

Mysore, in the southern part of the province, near the right bank of the *Cauvery*, and ten miles S.W. of Seringapatam, is the chief town of the territory. Population, 50,000. Elevation above the sea, 2,450 feet. There is a fort containing the palace of the Raja.

Seringapatam, a fortified city upon an island in the *Cauvery*, formerly the capital of the kingdom under Hyder Ali and Tippu Sultan, the latter of whom perished at its storming by the British, May 4th, 1799. The situation is unhealthy and inconvenient, and the place has much declined since its capture. Population, about 12,700. Near it is the famous temple of **SRI RANGA**.

Hunsur, formerly only a depôt for military stores, but now a place of great commercial importance. It has manufactures of blankets and flannels; and all kinds of work in brass, iron, copper, and wood are executed. The climate is fine and healthy, and the district produces fruit and vegetables in abundance.

Bednore, or **Nuggur**, is an important town situated on the slopes of the *Western Ghats*, in the extreme N.W. of the province, at an elevation of 4,000 feet. Hyder Ali made it his capital in 1763, and called it Hyder-nuggur (Hyder's town). **Nundidroog**, a celebrated fortress, now falling into decay, situated on an almost inaccessible hill 1,700 feet high. **Chittledroog**, a town and fort, 128 miles N. of Seringapatam. The fortress was once used as a state prison.

Merkera, the chief town of Coorg, is situated on a plateau 3,700 feet above the sea level. The climate is healthy, and the population is composed principally of British visitors from the plains. **Virajenderpetta**, sixteen miles S. of Merkera, is chiefly inhabited by native Christians. It is a large town 3,400 feet above the sea.

PART III.

INDEPENDENT AND PROTECTED NATIVE STATES ; FOREIGN POSSESSIONS ; CEYLON, AND THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

I. NATIVE STATES.

LESSON LXVII.

1. NATIVE STATES OF NORTH-EASTERN INDIA.

NEPAL.—This is a large independent state, situated on the slope of the *Himalaya*, between the British province of Kumaon, on the west, and the little state of Sikkim, on the east. It has a total length of about 500 miles, with an average breadth of 100. It covers an area of 54,000 square miles, and has a population of about 2,000,000.

Nepal possesses almost every variety of climate, and its natural productions, both animal and vegetable, exhibit the same diversity—those of the tropical regions being found almost side by side with those of more temperate climes.

The country consists of several parallel belts, rising from the plain of the *Ganges* to the snowy elevations of the *Himalaya*. Along its southern border extends the unhealthy region of the "TERAI," which has already been described (see p. 13). Next succeeds a rugged district, consisting of a series of small hills rising in terraces till they gradually unite with the *Himalaya*. Forests of valuable timber here abound, and the valleys are fertile, and, when cultivated, produce crops of barley, millet, and other grains, besides fruits of various kinds.

Along the northern frontier are some of the highest peaks of the *Himalaya*, as *Mount Everest* (29,000 feet), *Kunchin-jinga* (28,177 feet), and *Dawalagiri* (26,862 feet). The country is traversed by several large rivers, the chief of which are the *Gogra* and the *Gunduck*, both affluents of the *Ganges*.

The mineral productions of Nepal are important. Copper and iron are both worked; lead and arsenic are known to exist; and good building stone is abundant. The manufactures include vessels of copper, brass, and iron, bell-founding, coarse cotton cloth, and paper.

The people are mostly of the Mongolian, or Tâtar family, divided into numerous tribes, among whom are the Goorkas, Newars, and Botias. The Goorkas are Hindus in religion, the Newars and Botias are Buddhists. The Goorkas speak a dialect of Hindu, called Prabratiya.

The country was formerly ruled by numerous independent Rajas; but these were all reduced to subjection by the Raja of the Goorkas, who now rules at Katmandu, the present capital of Nepal. Here is also the residence of the British Political Agent. The population of Katmandu is estimated at 50,000. The town is situated on a valley on the banks of the *Bogmutty*, an affluent of the *Ganges*, at an elevation of 4,784 feet.

Nepal once included large tracts to the westward of the river *Kali*, but these were surrendered to the British in 1816, after an invasion of the country by their forces under Sir David Ochterlony.

SIKKIM.—This is a small state with an area of 1,670 sq. m., and a population of about 62,000, situated among the *Himalaya* between Nepal and Botan. It contains some of the loftiest mountain peaks in the world.

LESSON LXVIII.

NATIVE STATES OF NORTH-EASTERN INDIA (*continued*).

BOTAN.—This state lies to the east of Sikkim, and between Assam and the *Himalaya*. It is about 252 miles in length, by

120 in width, and it covers an area of 19,000 sq. miles. It is a mountainous country, cold and rugged.

The people appear to belong to the Mongolian family, and are divided into three classes,—(1) the *priests*, who are perhaps the most numerous and degraded, occupy the best houses, and live an idle life at the expense of the common people; (2) the *chiefs*, or “penlows,” who are the aristocracy, but who live in the coarsest manner; and (3) the *labourers*, who are miserably poor and wretched. Their religion is Buddhism.

The sovereignty of the country is vested nominally in the “DURM-RAJA,” a spiritual prince, who is regarded as immortal; but the government is really exercised by the DEB-RAJA, who is elected every three years by the penlows, and who is assisted by a council. The whole system of government is bad, and there is no security for life or property. The population is scanty, and the people are sunk in immorality and vice.

Punaka or Dosen, is the capital; but during the summer months, Tassisudon, in the north of the state, becomes the seat of government. It is deserted, however, for the former place during winter, on account of the excessive cold.

MUNIPUR.—This state is governed by a Raja who is tributary to the British Government. His territory is situated between Assam and the Burmese Empire and has an area of about 7,000 sq. miles, with a population of 75,000.

The central portion consists of a valley, 36 miles by 18, at an elevation of 2,500 feet above the level of the sea, with a rich alluvial soil, producing, where cultivated, luxuriant crops of rice, pulse, sugar-cane, and tobacco. The tea plant also flourishes.

The inhabitants are a hardy and active race, and fond of warfare. They are half pagans, and polygamy prevails among them.

Munipur was conquered by the Burmese in 1774. It was reconquered by the British in 1825, when the Raja was restored. A British Political Agent resides at the town of Munipur.

HILL TIPPERA.—A mountainous district situated to the N.E. of Chittagong, between the British territories of Silhet and Cachar on the north, Burma and Chittagong on the east and south, and British Tippera on the west.

Some parts are rich and fertile, but the greater part of the country is covered with a dense jungle, the habitation of ele-

phants, deer, hogs, monkeys, and other wild animals. The people are a half savage, black race, called Kookies, who live in rude thatched huts, raised on stakes from four to seven feet from the ground.

LESSON LXIX.

2. NATIVE STATES OF NORTH-WESTERN INDIA.

KASHMIR.—This name, though belonging specifically to the Valley of Kashmir (or Cashmere) Proper, is applied to the tract of country extending from the Punjab on the south and west, to Tibet on the north and east.

This territory was formerly included in the Sikh dominions, and formed a part of the kingdom of Lahore, established in the early part of the present century by the famous Sikh chieftain, Runjeet Sing, who died in 1839. It had been taken by the Sikhs from the Affgans in 1819. In 1845 it was ceded to the British, who, in the year following, erected the territory into a separate state under a native Raja.

The extreme length of Kashmir is about 350 miles, and its breadth 270. Its area is 60,000 square miles, and it has a population of about 3,000,000. The whole country is mountainous, and the scenery is everywhere picturesque in the highest degree.

The Valley of Kashmir is formed by an expansion of the valley of the *Jelum* in its upper course, and is bounded on both sides by some of the loftiest summits of the *Himalaya*. The soil of the valley is extremely fertile, and produces all kinds of fruit and flowers in abundance. The rose is especially cultivated for the manufacture of the celebrated *attar* of roses.

The *Jelum*, in its progress through the valley, widens out into several beautiful lakes, the largest of which is *Lake Wulur*. The climate resembles that of Europe,—the year being divided into four seasons, and the country not being subject to the periodical rains common to the rest of India.

The manufactures of Kashmir are important. The famous shawls of the country are made from the wool of the goat, both wild and tame, the yak, wild sheep, and other animals. The wool used for the purpose is the soft downy substance growing close to the skin of the animal. Firearms, leather, saddlery, lacquered ware, and paper, are also largely manufactured and exported.

The people of Kashmir are a mixed Hindu and Tâtar race,—the latter element predominating in the more northern and mountainous parts. The inhabitants of the Valley of Kashmir are mostly Mahometans of the Sunni sect. The people are a tall, well-formed, and intelligent race. The language, Kashmiri, is an admixture of Sanskrit and Persian.

Sri-Nuggur, called also Kashmir, is the capital. It is a large town on the *Jelum*, in the midst of the valley. Population, 40,000.

GURWAL.—A mountainous tract lying to the north-west of Kumaon, and within the territory governed by the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-West Provinces. British Gurwal was separated from the district in 1815. The remaining portion is under the rule of a native Raja, who lives at Tiri. The whole country is intersected by the deep valleys of the tributaries of the *Ganges*. Area, 4,500 square miles. Population, 200,000.*

LESSON LXX.

NATIVE STATES OF NORTH-WESTERN INDIA (*continued*).

BAWALPUR.—An extensive territory, 310 miles in length, with an area of 25,000 square miles, and a population of probably nearly a million, is situated between Rajputana and the *Sutlej*, *Punjnud*, and *Indus*. A large portion of it is desert, but a narrow tract near the river is fertile, and produces corn, tobacco, indigo, and sugar.

* The statistics of the Native States can, at present, be only approximate estimates.

The inhabitants are a mixture of Hindus, Beluchis, and Affgans. Persian and Hindi are the languages spoken. The ruler of the state is called the Khan, and is a feudatory of the British Government.

Bawalpur, on the *Sutlej*, is the chief town. It is a place of some trade, and has silk manufactures. Population, 20,000.

The **HILL STATES**.—The territories included under this name are situated between the *Upper Ganges* and the Punjab. They embrace altogether an area of about 10,000 square miles, and contain a population of about 750,000. They are governed by chiefs, who are tributary to the British Government. They are rugged and mountainous, and are inhabited by a hardy people of small stature. They are divided by the *Sutlej* into two groups, those on the western side being much the larger.

1. The western group comprises Chamba, intersected by the *Ravi* and *Chenab*; Mandi; and Sukyt.

2. The states eastward of the *Sutlej* are,—Bagul, Beeja, Belaspur, Bussahir (divided into two parts, Kunawur* and Bussahir), famous for its fine grapes; Buji, or Biji; Bulsun; Dami; Durkothi, the smallest of the states, having an area of only 5 square miles, and a population of 600; Gond; Hindur, a picturesque and fertile country, intersected by a populous and well-cultivated valley; Jubul, Kothar, Koti, Kumhassin, Kunea, Kunthal, Mangol, Milog, Mudan, Puttiala,† Sangri, Simla, Sirmor, situated in the upper valley of the *Jumna*; Theog and Turre.

Adjacent to the British district of Delhi are the following native states:—Drojana, Furrucknuggur, Babadurgur, Jujur, an important state, crossed by several of the affluents of the *Jumna*, with an area of 1,230 square miles, and a population of 110,700; Loharu, Kuppurchulla and Patowdi.

* **Kunawur**.—See notice of this state in the lesson on the Vegetable Productions of India, page 22.

† The native states of Puttiala and Simla are portions only of the districts so named. The other portion of Puttiala belongs to the group of Sikh States, described below: Simla is a district in the Cis-Sutlej Province of the Punjab (see page 60).

LESSON LXXI.

NATIVE STATES OF NORTH-WESTERN
INDIA (*continued*).

THE SIKH STATES.—These are a group of small native states situated to the north-east of Rajputana, between the *Jumna* and the *Sutlej*. They are under British protection, and are inhabited by Malwa Sikhs. Their names are,—Furid Kote, Jind, Kulsea, Moliar Kotli, Mumdote, Narba, and Pattiala.

The last is the largest and most important of the group, being 4,731 square miles in area, and having a population of upwards of a million and a quarter. It is very fertile, and exports large quantities of grain to Lahore and Amritsur. Pattiala, the capital, is on the river *Kosilla*.

RAJPUTANA.—The large and important territory of Rajputana is an immense tract of country, bounded on the north by the Punjab, on the south and east by the Native States of Central India, and on the west by Bawalpur and Sind. It measures about 460 miles from north to south, by 530 miles in breadth, and covers an area of not less than 123,000 square miles, with a population of about 8,500,000.

Within this great extent of territory there are included 18 principalities, besides the British *non-regulation* province of Ajmir in the centre of Rajputana, which has already been described.

Each of these states is governed by a Raja,* who exercises supreme civil and criminal jurisdiction within the limits of his dominion, and who is only kept in check by the moral influence exercised by the British Government. They are all under the supervision of an officer, appointed by the Viceroy and styled the Governor-General's Agent. This official is assisted by a staff of about 20 political agents and assistants.

The western and northern parts of Rajputana are generally arid, barren, and uninhabited; but the southern and eastern parts, and especially the districts watered by the *Chumbul* and its tributaries, are fertile, highly cultivated, and productive. The crops in

* The native state of Tonk is under the rule of a Mussulman Nawab; Burtpur and Ulwur are but principalities.

the east and on the river-banks are corn, cotton, sugar, tobacco, and opium.

The north-western portion comprises the region of the THUR, or the Great Desert of Northern India, covering a tract equal in area to England and Wales. In the semi-desert portions there is pasturage for large herds of cattle, which form the chief wealth of the region.

The principality of Jodpur or Marwa, to the west of the *Aravalli Mountains*, a district larger than Ireland, possessed in 1868 at least $2\frac{1}{2}$ millions of horned cattle. During the disastrous famine of that year, however, as many as a million and a quarter of the inhabitants of Rajputana died of starvation and disease, and the greater portion of the cattle disappeared.

The chief rivers of the country are the *Chumbul*, *Luni*, and *Bunass*. Water for irrigation and other purposes is, however, generally obtained from wells. The south-eastern states are crossed by the *Aravalli Range*.

Salt is obtained in large quantities from salt lakes and brine springs which abound in the desert. Herds of wild asses inhabit the desert tract bordering upon the *Runns of Cutch*, besides antelopes, lions, tigers, leopards, wolves, hyænas, jackals, and foxes.

The chief manufactures of the country, which are carried on principally in the eastern states, are cotton and woollen goods, carving in wood and ivory, and workings in metals.

The people of Rajputana are mostly Rajputs ("sons of kings"), a tall, athletic, and vigorous race, of warlike habits, and the professed descendants of an ancient warrior Hindu caste. They are attached to their chiefs, to whom they yield a sort of feudal obedience.

The internal communication of the territory is very imperfect; there are few good roads, and neither railroads nor canals. Ajmir is connected by a good road with Agra, and the telegraph is also open to the same place.

LESSON LXXII.

NATIVE STATES OF NORTH-WESTERN
INDIA.

RAJPUTANA (*continued*).—The following are the native states of Rajputana, alphabetically arranged:—Banswarra, Bikanir, Bundi, Burtpur, Dolepur, Dungurpur, Jallawar, Jessulmir, Jeypur, Jodpur or Marwa, Kerowli, Kishengur, Kota, Oudeypur or Meywa, Pertabgur, Serohi, Tonk, and Ulwur.

CHIEF TOWNS.—Oudeypur, the capital of the large native state of Meywa or Oudeypur, is situated in an elevated valley near the source of the *Bunass* river, a tributary of the *Chumbul*, and contains the palace of the Raja, a noble granite pile of building a hundred feet high.

Jodpur is the capital of the state of Marwa, the most extensive of the principalities of Rajputana. It is the residence of the Maharaja, and is a beautiful city, filled with temples and palaces, and enclosed by a wall five miles in circuit.

Jeypur, one of the finest cities in India, is situated in a sandy plain, and is surrounded by barren, stony hills; it is a handsome, well-built town, with a fine citadel on a hill overlooking the place.

Jessulmir, the capital of the state of the same name, to the eastward of Sind, is a town of 25,000 inhabitants; it is surrounded by stone ramparts, within which is a citadel of a most commanding and magnificent appearance, containing the palace of the Raja and several fine temples.

Other towns of importance are Abu, a sanitarium among the *Aravalli Mountains*, and the residence of the Governor-General's Agent; Banswarra, Bikanir, Burtpur, Dolepur, Dungurpur, Kerowli, Kishengur, Kota, a large and well-built town on the *Chumbul*; Machery, Pertabgur, Serohi, famous for the manufacture of sword blades; Tonk, and Ulwur.

Rampur.—This is a state situated within the British province of Rohilcund, having an area of about 1,200 square miles, and a population of 400,000. It is a well watered and fertile district. Its capital is Rampur, a town on the *Kosilla*, a tributary of the *Ramgunga*, in the midst of a well-cultivated district.

LESSON LXXIII.

3. THE NATIVE STATES OF CENTRAL INDIA.

1. **HYDERABAD**, called also the **Nizam's Dominions**, is the largest of the protected native states in India. It occupies the central portion of the table-land of the Deccan, between the Central Provinces and Madras, on the north and east, and Bombay, on the west. It covers an area of 80,000 square miles, and contains a population of about eleven millions. It is situated mainly in the valley of the river *Godavery*, and between this river and the *Kistna*, which forms its southern boundary.

A part of the territory, to the north of the *Payne Gunga*, an affluent of the *Godavery*, known as the **Assigned Districts of Hyderabad**, is directly under the administration of the Viceroy of India, and has already been described (see p. 91).

The whole territory is an elevated table-land, in some parts rising to upwards of 2,000 feet above the level of the sea. Much of it is covered with a low jungle, and is uncultivated; but, where irrigated, the country is fertile and produces large crops of cotton, wheat, and oil-seeds. The date-palm and palmyra are common everywhere.

The climate is temperate and not unhealthy, except in the neighbourhood of marshy jungles. The annual rainfall is not large. European fruits and vegetables are grown at all the military stations. Coal has been found in the Nizam's Dominions in the valley of the *Wurda*.

The district is drained by the *Godavery* and its tributaries, the *Payne Gunga*, *Pranhita*, and *Manjara*; and by the *Kistna* and its tributaries, the *Beema* and *Tungabudra*.

Hyderabad is under the rule of the Nizam, or "Regulator;" but during the minority of the present Nizam the government is administered by a Regency, at the head of which is Sir Salar Jung, who was for many years the chief minister of the late Nizam, and whose prudence and ability in the management of the affairs of the province have won for him the support and confidence of the British Government.

CHIEF TOWNS.—Hyderabad, the capital, is a fortified city situated on a small tributary of the *Kistna*, and containing a

dense population of 200,000, consisting of Moslems, Patans, and Hindus.

Aurungabad, a large city, now fallen into decay, but formerly possessed of great grandeur under the patronage of the great Mogul Emperor Aurungzebe, whose name it bears. Population, 60,000.

Beder, formerly the capital of a *soubah*, or principality of the Mogul Empire, situated near the river *Manjara*, has manufactures of bronze. Dowlatabad (the Hindu *Deogur*) is a remarkable fortress, 10 miles N.W. of Aurungabad; Jaulna, on a tributary of the *Godavery*, about 40 miles east of Aurungabad, has a population of 10,000, and was formerly famous for its silk manufactures.

Secunderabad, 6 miles north of Hyderabad, is one of the chief stations for the British troops in India,—near it is the large reservoir or tank called the Husain Sagur tank, three miles in length by two in breadth.

Golconda, the ruined capital of an ancient kingdom, is 6 miles distant from Hyderabad, and contains the tombs of the kings of Golconda, a dynasty who ruled over this part of India in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. The once celebrated diamond mines of Golconda were not in the neighbourhood of this town, but in a tract of country lying at the base of the *Neela Mulla Mountains*, between the *Kistna* and *Pennar* rivers.

LESSON LXXIV.

THE NATIVE STATES OF CENTRAL INDIA

(continued).

2. THE MALWA STATES.—These form a group of states lying mostly to the north of the *Vindya Mountains*, and covering an area of nearly 80,000 square miles. They are upon the whole well watered and fertile, and consist of a table-land of from 1,500 to 2,000 feet in elevation.

There are altogether not less than 71 separate principalities, but the majority of these are extremely small and unimportant.

Each is governed by its own chief, but all are under the political superintendence of the Viceroy's agent, who resides at Indore, the capital of the Holkar's Dominions, and whose duties are similar to those of the Governor-General's Agent in Rajputana.

The following are the most important of the Malwa States:—

BOPAL, an extensive territory, lying between the *Nerbudda* and the *Vindya Mountains*. It has an area of upwards of 8,300 square miles, and a population of about 815,000. The state is governed by a Nawab, who lives at Futtegur, to the south-west of Bopal, the capital.

BUNDELCUND, or the Bundela Country, an extensive district, partly British and partly ruled by native sovereigns, lying to the southward of the North-Western Provinces of India.

The British portion, including the districts of **Banda**, **Humirpur**, **Jaloun**, **Jansi**, and **Lullutpur**, has already been described (see pp. 51-54); the native states cover an area of nearly 8,400 square miles, and contain a population of 1,142,000. The territory is intersected by parallel ranges of hills, and is drained by numerous streams which flow into the *Jumna*. Coal and iron are found in the district, and diamonds in the state of **Punna**.

There are upwards of thirty native states in the Bundela country, of which the chief are **Ajygur**; **Chutterpur**; **Oorcha** or **Tehri**, the largest of the Bundelcund states, having an area of 2,160 square miles, and a population of 240,000—it is crossed by the river *Betwa*; **Punna**, south of Oorcha, famous in former times for its diamond mines; **Bijawur**; and **Churkari**.

BURWANI, a hilly district lying to the south of the *Nerbudda* river, and between it and the *Satpura* range. It is well watered, but remains in great measure uncultivated, and is very scantily peopled. Area, 1,380 square miles; population, 22,000.

DAR, a territory consisting of several detached portions, under a Raja. The country is fertile, and produces rice, wheat, maize, pulse, sugar-cane, opium, tobacco, ginger, cotton, hemp, etc. **Dar**, the capital, was once a large city containing 20,000 houses; but is now almost deserted.

LESSON LXXV.

THE NATIVE STATES OF CENTRAL INDIA

(continued).

The **GWALIOR TERRITORIES**, or *Sindia*, comprising an area of 33,000 square miles, with a population of 3½ millions, consist of a number of detached districts situated in the valleys of the *Chumbul*, *Betwa*, *Nerbudda*, and *Tapti* rivers.

Gwalior, or *Sindia*, was formerly one of the principal feudatory states of the great Mahratta Empire, and, at the close of the eighteenth century, under the son and successor of Ranoji *Sindia*, the founder of the Mahratta ruling family of Gwalior, this principality included *Candeish*, *Agra*, *Delhi*, and a large part of the *Doab*.

Since the total defeat of the Mahrattas at the battle of *Assaye*, in 1803, the country has been under British protection. In 1843, a British force was marched into Gwalior to put an end to the state of anarchy which had so long prevailed there. Since 1853, when the present Maharaja was entrusted with the administration, the country has been well governed. During the troubles of 1857, the Maharaja remained loyal to the English Government, in spite of the almost entire defection of the native troops, by whom alone the power of the Mahrattas in Gwalior was maintained.

Though Gwalior is a Mahratta principality, it is only in the small district to the south of the *Nerbudda* that the Mahrattas exist in any numbers; the majority of the people are Brahmins, of different tribes; and there are also Jats, Rajputs, Bats, and Charuns.

The chief towns are: Gwalior, the capital, with a population of 50,000; *Bilsa*, on the *Betwa*; and *Oojein*, on the *Sipra*,—one of the seven sacred cities of the Hindus, a place of very great antiquity, being described in the *Puranas*;—Hindu geographers and astronomers consider it their first meridian.

The **HOLKAR'S DOMINIONS**, or *Indore*.—Like Gwalior, this state consists of a number of widely-separated tracts of country, lying chiefly between the *Vindya* and *Satpura Mountains*, and traversed from east to west by the *Nerbudda*. These cover a total area of 8,320 square miles, and contain a population of 815,000.

The northern tracts are watered by the *Chumbul* and its tributaries. The country is fertile, and produces abundant crops of wheat, opium, sugar-cane, tobacco, and cotton.

The Mahrattas are the ruling people, Indore having been one of the chief provinces of the Mahratta Empire. Besides these, there are many classes of Hindus, a few Mahometans, and a great number of Gonds and Bheels. The last named were once among the most savage of the aboriginal tribes of India, but have been converted into excellent soldiers by the British.

The principal towns are : Indore (population 15,000), the capital of the Holkar's Dominions, and the chief town of Malwa, situated on the northern slope of the *Vindya Mountains* ; Mow, or Mhow, a little to the south-west of Indore, with a large cantonment of British troops ; Mundlaisir, on the *Nerbudda*, belonging to the English ; Mandu (Maundoo), the ancient capital of Malwa, twenty-seven miles south-west of Mow, now completely deserted ; Banpura (population 20,000), on the *Rewa*.

LESSON LXXVI.

THE NATIVE STATES OF CENTRAL INDIA

(continued).

REWA, or Bagelcund, is a mountainous tract, inhabited mostly by Rajputs, and situated between the North-Western and Central Provinces of India, on the northern slope of the plateau of the Deccan. It has an area of nearly 10,000 square miles, and a population of 1,200,000.

The northern portion is well watered by the *Sone* and its tributaries, and is fertile ; the southern and more elevated part is rocky and barren. Wheat, barley, pulse, and cotton are the productions. Coal and iron are abundant. The roads are good, and the main-line of railway between Calcutta and Bombay passes at no great distance. Rewa, the chief town, with a population of only 7,000, is a place of little importance.

Other states of Malwa are **AMJERRA**, a small but fertile tract among the *Vindya Mountains* to the west of Dar, yielding much

opium, cotton, and sugar; **ALI MOHUN**, or Rajpur Ali, between the *Vindya Mountains* and the *Nerbudda*, formerly in the possession of the Raja of Dar; **DEWAS**, a scattered territory, ruled by two Rajput chiefs; **KURWAI**, inhabited by Patans, and formerly of much greater importance,—the *Betwa* river flows through it; **MYHIR**; **OMUTWARRA**, in the centre of Malwa, watered by tributaries of the *Chumbul*, and divided into two states—Nursingur and Rajgur, each with its own chief; **RUTLAM**, a state situated between the upper courses of the *Myhi* and *Chumbul* rivers in the western part of Malwa, adjoining Rajputana; its chief town, Rutlam, is well built, and contains 10,000 inhabitants.

3. THE ORISSA STATES.—These are a number of states forming a part of the ancient kingdom of Orissa,* and situated between the Central Provinces, on the west, and the Northern Circars of the Madras Presidency and Cuttack, on the east. The region is wild and mountainous, the hills being a continuation of the *Eastern Ghats* to the northward. The inhabitants consist chiefly of barbarous tribes belonging to the aboriginal races of Oorias, Sanrias or Sanras, Konds, and Coles.

JEYPUR, the largest of the Orissa States, is a tract of country lying between the Northern Circars and the district of Bustar in Nagpur (Central Provinces), and including a number of small states termed the "Hill Zemindars." It is a wild district, inhabited by the Konds, a warlike, savage race, who wear very little clothing, and subsist chiefly by hunting. A Political Agent, appointed by the Viceroy, lives at Jeypur.

Besides Jeypur, there are many small states of little importance, being mostly wild and uncultivated, which may be grouped thus:—

(1) The States on the south-west frontier of Bengal, of which the chief are Bombra, Jushpur, Ryegur, and Sirguja.

* The ancient kingdom of Orissa included Cuttack, part of Midnapur and the non-regulation province of Chota Nagpur in the Bengal Presidency, as well as the mountainous region lying westward of Cuttack and the Northern Circars, and occupied by the group of native states referred to in the text. The climate of the region is generally unhealthy, and the country is infested with wild animals. Orissa has suffered much of late years from famines, that of the year 1868 being especially terrible in its consequences.

(2) The **CUTTACK MEHALS**, a small cluster of states lying to the west of the British district of Cuttack, and comprising an area of nearly 7,000 square miles, with a population of about 350,000.

LESSON LXXVII.

4. THE NATIVE STATES OF WESTERN INDIA.

The Native States connected with the Bombay Presidency may be conveniently divided into two groups:—

1. Those to the north of Bombay, comprising Cutch, the Guzerat States, Kyrpur, and the group of the Rewa Caunta States.
2. Those to the south of Bombay, including Jinjira, Kolapur, the group of Sattara Jaghires, Sawuntwarri, and the Southern Mahratta Jaghires.

NATIVE STATES NORTH OF BOMBAY.

CUTCH, or Kach, is a long narrow peninsula lying between the *Gulf and Runn of Cutch*, about 160 miles in length, by from 15 to 65 miles in width. It is intersected from east to west, in the direction of its length, by a range of hills, from one to eight miles in breadth, of volcanic formation, and destitute of wood, arable soil, and permanent supplies of water. Another range of similar formation runs parallel to this on the north. Between the two ranges are fertile tracts, and there is rich pasturage on the northern side of the hills, as well as in the almost detached part of the peninsula on the north, called **Bunnu**.

Cutch contains an area of 6,500 square miles, and a population of about 500,000. The inhabitants are partly Hindus, and partly Mahometans. The **JAREJAS** are the ruling class, all more or less connected with the Rao, or sovereign of Cutch, from whom they hold lands by military tenure.

The country is divided among upwards of 200 chieftains, who form a kind of brotherhood or council, and are the Rao's hereditary advisers. The **Jarejas** are a Rajput tribe, and are a singu-

larly fine race of men, naturally robust, and peculiarly warlike in dress and bearing, but dissipated, proud, and cruel in their habits.

The mariners of Cutch are a fearless and enterprising race, and for centuries past have traded with the coasts of the Red Sea, Africa, Ceylon, and even the Chinese Seas. Their moullims, or pilots, are very intelligent and well-informed.

The chief town of Cutch is Booj, a large town of 30,000 inhabitants, but with narrow dirty streets, rendered almost impassable by herds of sacred bulls; it contains the palace of the Rao. Mandavi is the principal seaport; it is situated on the south coast, and enjoys considerable trade.

KYRPUR.—An independent native state, situated in the valley of the *Indus*, in the northern part of Sind, bordering upon the native state of Bawalpur. It is governed by an Ameer. The district resembles Sind in climate and soil.

REWA CAUNTA.—A group of states in the eastern part of Guzerat, with an area of nearly 9,000 square miles, and a population of 350,000. The largest of the group is Rajpipla, a well watered and flourishing agricultural state.

LESSON LXXVIII.

THE NATIVE STATES OF WESTERN INDIA

(continued).

NORTH OF BOMBAY (continued).—**GUZERAT STATES.**—These include the peninsula of Katiwar and the other territories of the Guicowar and his feudatories, as well as a number of independent states. They cover an area of upwards of 50,000 square miles, and contain a population of 4½ millions.

The most important section of the territory is the peninsula of Katiwar, which projects into the *Arabian Sea*, between the *Gulfs of Cambay* and *Cutch*. The remaining portion of the district is shut out from the sea by the provinces of Broach and Surat, belonging to the Bombay Presidency. The peninsula is hilly in the interior, and, on the whole, scantily supplied with

water; but the mainland is watered by several rivers, of which the chief are the *Bunass*, *Sabur Mutti*, *Myhé*, *Nerbudda*, and *Tapti*.

The productions of the district include rice, wheat, and other grains, sugar, cotton, and fruits. The animals, both wild and domesticated, resemble those of the neighbouring territory of Rajputana. The ruling people are Mahrattas; but there are also Rajputs, Jains, and Brahmins. In the towns are Mahometans, Parsees, and Boras; in the interior, Coolies, Konds, Bheels, and Katties. There are few ordinary roads, but the railway is now open through a part of the territory to Baroda and Ahmedabad.

Most of the Guzerat states are small. The following are some of them:—

Balasinore; Bansda; Baroda, a large and important state, situated at the western extremity of the *Vindya Mountains*, between the rivers *Nerbudda* and *Myhé*. Area, 4,400 square miles; population, 1,700,000. It is the dominion of the Raja, or Guicowar, as he is termed. Baroda, the capital, contains a population of 140,000, and is connected by railway with Bombay.

Cambay, a small state (area, 500 square miles; population 37,000), at the head of the *Gulf of Cambay*, governed by a Nawab. Cambay, the capital, situated on the estuary of the *Myhé*, is an ancient and renowned city, but is now much reduced.

Chowra; Daung Rajas,—a cluster of small states, situated between Surat and Candeish, and tributary to the Raja of Daung. Forests of teak abound. Durrumpur; Jowar; Katiwar (area, 21,000 square miles; population, 1½ millions), including the peninsula of Guzerat and a large part of the Guicowar's dominions, and divided among a great number of Hindu chieftains, some of whom are tributary to the British Government, and some to the Guicowar.* Dwarka, in the western part of Katiwar,

* The Guicowar, or King of Baroda was one of the feudatories of the Peishwa of the Mahratta Empire. He is not the absolute sovereign of the peninsula of Katiwar, which is ruled by nearly 250 tributary chieftains. Of these more than half paid tribute to the Peishwa, while the remaining chiefs were tributary to the Guicowar. The Peishwa's share of the tribute was ceded to the English in 1818. The tribute of all the chiefs is now collected by the British authorities, who pay the Guicowar the share which belongs to him. The Guicowar is the descendant of Pilaji Guicowar, who assumed the sovereign power early in the 18th century.

near Juggut Point, contains the great temple of Kistna, one of the most celebrated of all the shrines to this deity throughout India.

Myhé Caunta, a state in the N.E. of Guzerat, with an area of 4,000 square miles, and a population of 310,000; Palimpur States (area, 6,000 square miles, population, 320,000), a group of small states in the north of Guzerat, watered by the *Bunass* and other streams flowing into the *Runn of Cutch*; Peint (including Hursul) between the Bombay Provinces of Northern Concan and Ahmednuggur; Radunpur, at the northern end of the *Runn of Cutch*, near the mouth of the *Bunass* river; Thurwarra; and others.

LESSON LXXIX.

THE NATIVE STATES OF WESTERN INDIA

(continued).

NATIVE STATES SOUTH OF BOMBAY.

JINJIRA, a small state on the sea coast, south of Bombay, between N. and S. Concan; area, 320 square miles; population, 71,000; separated by an estuary from British territory. The town of Rajapur is situated on the north side of a good natural harbour.

KOLAPUR, on the eastern slope of the *Western Ghats*, in the upper valley of the *Kistna* river, has an area of 3,445 square miles, and a population of 500,000, consisting of Mahrattas and Ramusis. The government is administered by a Raja, who has been subject to the British Government since 1844.

SATTARA JAGHIRES, a number of small and unimportant states adjoining the British province of Sattara.

SAWUNT WARRI, a small state (area, 900 square miles, population 150,000), situated between South Concan and the Portuguese territory of Goa, and governed by a Mahratta chief, who is subject to the British Government.

SOUTHERN MAHRATTA JAGHIRES, a cluster of small states to the south of Sattara. Total area, 3,700 square miles; population, about 400,000.

LESSON LXXX.

5. THE NATIVE STATES OF SOUTHERN INDIA.

COCHIN is a mountainous tract of country, situated between the British province of Malabar and the native state of Travancore, which it adjoins on the north. It consists of a succession of valleys, watered by small streams, which empty themselves into the lagoons on the Malabar Coast, called *backwaters* (see page 18). The mountainous parts of Cochin are covered with forests of teak, iron-wood, black-wood, and jack.

The chief exports of the district are pepper, cardamoms, teak and sandal woods, cocoa-nuts, coir, and cordage. Coffee, cotton, and the sugar-cane are also cultivated. The inhabitants are chiefly Brahmins of several castes, but there are also many Mahometans, Jews, and Christians.

Trichur, the capital, situated on the *backwater*, is a place of some importance. The area of Cochin is 1,131 square miles; its population, 400,000.

TRAVANCORE consists of a strip of land extending along the Malabar Coast northwards from *Cape Comorin* for a distance of 140 miles, and having a breadth of 40 miles. The whole territory is highly picturesque and beautiful, abounding in hills, valleys, and mountains, watered by numerous streams, and covered with magnificent forests.

The country is traversed by the *Western Ghats*, which rise in some places to the height of 7,000 feet above the level of the sea, and terminate in a lofty promontory a little to the northward of *Cape Comorin*. Between the mountains and the sea coast there is a considerable tract of low country intersected by rocky hills.

Owing to its great elevation Travancore enjoys a moderate temperature; but the excessive rainfall of the district renders it less healthy than it would otherwise be. Elephants, buffaloes, tigers, and monkeys, abound in the forests. The produce of the country consists of rice, pepper, betel, cocoa-nuts, tobacco, cassia, maize, nutmegs, and wild saffron.

The inhabitants of Travancore are an admixture of Brahmins, Mahometans, Christians, and Jews. The most numerous are the Brahmins, who include many of an aboriginal race, termed Namburis, as well as a great number of Nairs of the Sudra, or artisan and labouring, caste. The Mahometans include Moplays, Arabs, and Patans. The Christians, who amount to about an eighth of the entire population, are of three classes,—Syrian Christians, Roman Catholics, and Protestants.

The country is governed by a Raja, who is said to belong to the Namburi race, and under whose liberal rule the state is making great progress. Good roads exist across the mountains; police, hospitals, and schools have been established; and commerce is greatly encouraged. The great drawback, however, to the extension of trade, is the want of good harbours along the coast.

The chief towns of Travancore are Trivandrum, the capital, situated near the coast, about 40 miles north of Cape Comorin, containing the modern built palace of the Raja; and Aleppi (Aulaypolay, or Alipellay), the principal seaport, situated at the southern extremity of the Cochin backwater, and communicating by means of lagoons and canals with the sea and with the various towns of the interior. Quilon is another seaport, with much trade, and a population of 20,000. Travancore was the former capital, but is now deserted.

The state of Travancore has an area of 4,722 square miles, and a population of 1,100,000.

PUDUCOTTA (area, 1,037 square miles; population, 62,000), a small state south of Trichinopoly and under the supervision of the Collector of Madura. It is governed by a Raja, called the Tondiman.

BUNGAPILLY, a small state in the district of Cudappa, south of the *Kistna*. Area, 500 square miles; population, 35,200.

II. FOREIGN POSSESSIONS IN INDIA.

LESSON LXXXI.

1. FRENCH POSSESSIONS.

The French territory in India consists of several detached portions, forming the single government of Pondicherry, and comprising a total area of less than 300 square miles, with a population of nearly 230,000.

The several settlements are Pondicherry and Carical, in the Carnatic; Yanaon, in the Northern Circars; Chandernagore, in Bengal; and Mahe, in Malabar. All, except the two last named, are on the Coromandel Coast, and all, except Chandernagore, are within the Presidency of Madras.

PONDICHERRY, a town and district on the Coromandel Coast, at the mouth of a small river, about 86 miles south of Madras. The territory includes altogether about 100 villages, covers an area of 107 square miles, and contains a population of about 120,000.

The town of Pondicherry is the capital of the French possessions in India, and the seat of their supreme government. It is a pleasantly situated and healthy town. Population, 43,000. The first factories were established here by the French in the year 1672; the settlement was taken by the English in 1761, but was finally restored to the French upon the general pacification of Europe, after the battle of Waterloo (1815).

CARICAL, a small district, containing an area of about 63 square miles, and a population of 50,000, is situated at the mouth of one of the branches of the river *Cauvery*. It lies within the limits of the province of Tanjore, in the Madras Presidency.

CHANDERNAGORE, a small settlement about $3\frac{1}{2}$ square miles in extent, is situated on the banks of the *Hoogly*, a little above Calcutta. It has a population of 33,000, very few of whom are Europeans or of European descent. Chandernagore was first occupied by the French in 1700.

YANAON, a settlement with an area of about eleven square miles, and a population of nearly 7,000, is situated near the mouth

of the river *Godavery*, at the point where the stream divides itself into two main branches before entering the sea.

MAHE, on the Malabar Coast, to the north of *Beypur*, is a small territory containing an area of about two square miles, and a population of 3,000. The town of *Mahe* is well-built, and is healthily situated on a hill overlooking a small estuary, navigable only for boats.

LESSON LXXXII.

2. THE PORTUGUESE POSSESSIONS.

The only settlements now left to the Portuguese of all the vast territories which were once under their rule and influence in India, are those of *Goa*, *Daman*, and *Diu*, each with small adjacent districts, containing a total area of about 1,560 square miles, and a population of nearly 530,000.

GOA, the most important of the possessions remaining to the Portuguese in India, is situated on the west coast, between *Concan* and *Canara*. It is a narrow strip of territory about 40 miles in length, by from 15 to 20 miles in width, consisting of two provinces, *Salsette* and *Bardes*, with several neighbouring islands.

The chief town, *Goa*, the capital and seat of government of the Portuguese possessions, is situated about eight miles from the sea on an estuary, which forms a fine harbour, scarcely inferior to that of *Bombay*. It was once the splendid capital of all the widespread Portuguese possessions in Asia; but it is now deserted, and its public buildings, churches, and monasteries are in ruins.

The new town, *Panjim* or *Villa Nova de Goa*, is two miles nearer the sea, but is low and meanly built. The inhabitants, 20,000 in number, are chiefly of Portuguese descent. The district is well watered, fertile, and in most places well cultivated.

DAMAN is a small territory on the coast to the north of *Bombay*, intersected by the *Damangunga*, ten miles in length from north to south, and five in breadth. *Daman* is a seaport, and is noted for its docks and shipbuilding. Population, 6,000. It was taken by the Portuguese in 1531.

DIU is a small town and fort, now fallen into decay, situated on an island at the southern extremity of the peninsula of Katiwar. The island is seven miles in length and less than two in breadth.

* * Serampur, on the right bank of the *Hoogly*, near Calcutta, and Tranquebar, on the coast of the Carnatic in the delta of the *Cauvery*, formerly belonged to the Danish Government. Both became the property of the English by purchase, in 1845.

III.—CEYLON AND THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

LESSON LXXXIII.

CEYLON.

SITUATION, EXTENT, etc.—This large and beautiful island, “the jewel of the Eastern Seas,” lies to the south-east of the peninsula of Hindustan, between the parallels of $5^{\circ}55'$ and $9^{\circ}51'$ N. Lat., and the meridians of $79^{\circ}41'$ and $81^{\circ}54'$ E. Long. It is separated from the mainland by *Palk's Strait* and the *Gulf of Manaar*, which, at their narrowest part, along what is known as Adam's Bridge, are about 62 miles in width.* Its greatest length, from north to south, is about 270 miles, and its greatest width, from east to west, about 156 miles. Its area is about 24,454 square miles, or 15,650,560 acres.

Adam's Bridge, which almost connects Ceylon with the mainland of India, consists of a chain of low coral reefs and sandbanks stretching between the islands of Manaar and Ramisseram.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION.—The central part of the island is mountainous, consisting of a succession of mountain ridges with intervening valleys, many of them of considerable elevation. The highest peak is that of *Pedrotallagalla*, which overlooks the plain of Nuwara Eliya, and reaches an elevation of 8,260 feet. The plain itself is upwards of 6,200 feet above the sea level, and is

* The distance between the most northerly point of the peninsula of Jaffna and Point Calimere, on the coast of the Carnatic, is only about 40 miles.

resorted to as a sanitarium by the English residents of the low country.

Other important heights are *Kirrigal-pota* (7,810 feet), *Totapella* (7,720 feet), and *Adam's Peak*, an isolated mountain on the S.W. of the central mountain zone, formerly supposed to be the highest in Ceylon, but now ascertained to be only 7,420 feet in height. Between the mountainous district and the sea there is a broad belt of low country, extending around the coast, but narrower in the southern part of the island than in the northern.

Numerous rivers and streams take their rise among the mountains in the interior, and flow in all directions to the sea. The largest of these are the *Mahawila Ganga*, which rises in the neighbourhood of Nuwara Eliya, and flows into the Bay of Bengal near Trincomalie; the *Kalany Ganga*, which enters the sea a little to the north of Colombo, on the western coast; the *Kalu Ganga*, *Maha Oya*, etc.

Although few of its rivers are available to any great extent for navigation, no country in the world is perhaps so well watered as Ceylon; while the care of its former rulers and the ingenuity and labour of its earlier inhabitants,—as evidenced in the remains of immense tanks or reservoirs in the northern and eastern parts of the island,—rendered it independent of such seasons of drought as sometimes occur. An effort is being made by the British Government to restore some of the more important of these old irrigation works.

Excepting these artificial collections of water, there are no lakes, properly so called, in Ceylon; but along different parts of the eastern and western coasts there are extensive lagoons or backwaters, similar to those on the Malabar coast.

LESSON LXXXIV.

CEYLON (*continued*).

CLIMATE.—The climate of Ceylon is peculiarly under the influence of the monsoons. The north-east monsoon prevails from

November till March or April; and the south-western from May till October. Variable winds and considerable atmospheric disturbance mark the transition from one monsoon to the other.

The temperature is generally much less oppressive than in India. On the western coast it varies but slightly throughout the year, and the atmosphere in this part of the island, especially during the prevalence of the south-west monsoon is exceedingly moist. The eastern and northern parts are hotter and drier. The climate of the hill country is temperate and healthy. The most unhealthy districts are those situated at the foot of, and surrounding, the central mountain region.

The rainfall of Ceylon is considerable. The greatest quantity of rain falls about the setting in of the south-west monsoon; but heavy downpours occur at intervals throughout the year,—even the dry season being interrupted by refreshing showers. March and April are the hottest months of the year.

NATURAL PRODUCTIONS.—The chief production of the mineral kingdom is plumbago, which is largely exported. Ores of iron and manganese are pretty generally diffused; and nitre, alum, and salt are also obtained. The island yields also numerous gems, as amethysts, rubies, sapphires, cats'-eyes, garnets, etc.

The pearl fishery in the *Gulf of Manaar*, on the north-west coast of Ceylon, was formerly the most productive in the world; but for many years past no pearls have been obtained.

The manufacture of salt, which is a Government monopoly, is confined to particular localities; Hambantota on the south coast, and Putlam to the north of Colombo, are the chief salt-producing places.

The vegetation is rich and varied. All the plants and fruits of the mainland flourish freely, with others which are not so well known in India. The chief vegetable productions, besides paddy (rice), are the cocoa-nut, coffee, and cinnamon, which form the main source of wealth to the island. The cocoa-nut palm is found mostly in the maritime districts of the west and south. The cinnamon plant is cultivated extensively on the western coast, chiefly in the neighbourhood of Colombo.

The plantations of coffee are situated mostly upon the mountain slopes, and in the lofty valleys of the interior. A considerable amount of European energy, skill, and capital, have, of late

years, been brought to bear upon the production in Ceylon of this useful article of commerce. About 1,000,000 cwts. of coffee, the produce of the Ceylon plantations, are exported yearly to the European and other markets.

Rice is grown chiefly in the lowlands; but the quantity is insufficient for the support of the island population and the numerous Tamil coolie immigrants from the coast of India, who are employed in the cultivation of the coffee plant.

The forests contain valuable timber trees, as satinwood, jackwood, calamander, ebony, nadoon, sapan, etc. Cotton and sugar can be grown, but are not cultivated to any extent. Tobacco is cultivated in the northern province, where also the palmyra abounds. Potatoes and other European vegetables are grown in the Kandyan country.

LESSON LXXXV.

CEYLON (*continued*).

GOVERNMENT.—The government of Ceylon is entirely separate from that of India. Ceylon is a Crown Colony, and is administered by a Governor appointed by the Queen, assisted by an Executive Council of five members, and a Legislative Council of fifteen (including the Executive). Every measure and every question to be debated, relative to the revenue of the island, must first receive the licence of the Governor; and all ordinances of the Legislative Council have to be referred to the Secretary of State for the Colonies for sanction before they can be brought into operation.

DIVISIONS, etc.—For administrative purposes, the island is divided into six provinces, viz., the Western, Central, Southern, Eastern, North-Western, and Northern Provinces. Each is under the control of a Government Agent. The provinces are subdivided into districts, over each of which an Assistant Government Agent is appointed.

Ceylon possesses a Supreme Civil and Criminal Court, presided over by a Chief Justice and two Puisne Judges. There

are also District Courts at the chief stations in the several provinces, viz., at Colombo, Kandy, Galle, Batticaloa, Kurunegalla, and Jaffna, or Jaffnapatam.

The means of internal communication are good, the island being traversed in most parts by excellent roads. A railway connects Colombo with the mountain capital, Kandy, and is in course of further extension into the coffee-producing districts of the Central Province.

The revenue of Ceylon, derived mainly from customs, excise, stamps, land-tax, salt monopoly, railway receipts, land sales, etc., amounted, in 1871, to £1,121,679: the expenditure in the same year, amounted to £1,064,184.

The population of the island, according to a census taken in 1871, was 2,405,287. The inhabitants consist principally of native Sinhalese, in the Western, North-Western, Central, and Southern Provinces; and Tamils, in the Northern and Eastern. Besides these, there are in all the large towns numbers of mixed European and native origin, who are designated Burghers, or Eurasians.

In addition also to the Tamils, who are permanently resident in the country, there is a large floating population of immigrants from the coast of India, who are engaged in the coffee cultivation and other industrial pursuits in Ceylon. Mahometans of Arab descent are found scattered throughout the island, engaged chiefly as traders. The Weddas, an aboriginal and savage race, inhabit the remote jungles of the interior, and subsist mainly upon the products of the chase.

LESSON LXXXVI.

CEYLON (*continued*).

CHIEF TOWNS.—Colombo, the capital and seat of government, is situated on the western coast, near the mouth of the *Kalany Ganga*. It is a place of great trade, and has a population of nearly 100,000. Here are also large establishments for curing coffee, and preparing it for export.

Galle, or Point-de-Galle, is the chief town of the Southern Province, and the port of call for all the mail steamers proceeding to Calcutta, China, and Australia. Trincomalie, on the north-east coast, has a fine harbour, but little used, excepting by the ships of the royal navy; it was formerly the seat of the Government Agency of the Eastern Province. Jaffna, or Jaffnapatam, on a peninsula in the extreme north of Ceylon, is the capital of the Northern Province.

Kandy, the chief town of the Central Province, and the capital of the island at the time of its conquest by the British, is situated in a valley at an elevation of about 1,700 feet above the sea level; near it is Peradeniya, with its satinwood bridge over the *Mahawila Ganga* and its pretty botanical gardens.

Other places of some importance are Kalutara (Caltura), Negombo, and Putlam, on the western coast; Matara and Hambantota on the southern; and Batticaloa, the present residence of the Government Agent of the Eastern Province, on the east coast. In the interior are Nuwara Eliya, the sanitarium of the island situated on a plain 6,200 feet above the sea; Kurunegalla, the chief town of the North-Western Province; Gampolla, Mátalé, and Badulla.

The first settlement of Europeans in Ceylon was made by the Portuguese in the early part of the 16th century. In the following century the Portuguese were deprived of their possessions in the island by the Dutch, whose settlements fell into the hands of the English in 1796, when Ceylon was annexed to the Presidency of Madras. Shortly afterwards, in 1801, it was erected into a separate colony.

LESSON LXXXVII.

THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

These settlements, comprising a total area of 1,600 square miles, and containing a population of about 308,000, consist of the islands of Singapore and Penang, off the coast of the Malay peninsula, together with a considerable tract of country in the neighbourhood of Malacca, on the coast between Singapore and Penang, and a

tract of smaller area, known as the Wellesley Province, on the coast adjoining Penang.

They were formerly regarded as dependencies of the Bengal Government, but now form a Crown Colony, with an administration quite independent of that of India. The chief authority is vested in a Governor appointed by the Queen, as in the case of Ceylon, and assisted by an Executive Council of nine, and a Legislative Council of ten members. The several settlements are under the control of Lieutenant-Governors, who are also members of the Central Executive and Legislative Assemblies.

SINGAPORE.—An island situated off the southern extremity of the Malay peninsula, in the Strait of Malacca. It is separated from the mainland by a narrow channel not more than three-quarters of a mile in width; its length is about twenty-seven miles, and its breadth eleven miles, and it comprises an area of about 275 square miles.

The surface of the island is beautifully diversified with hills, valleys, and plains, the whole being covered with a luxuriant vegetation even to the water's edge. The climate is hot, but not unhealthy. The soil is fertile, and produces sugar, cotton, coffee, nutmegs, and pepper.

Singapore, the chief town, and the seat of government, is situated on the south side of the island, on both banks of a salt-water creek, navigable for lighters and other small craft. It is one of the great emporiums of trade in the East. The inhabitants are principally Malays and Chinese,—the latter being the most numerous, as well as the most industrious class of the population of Singapore.

Singapore was an ancient Malay settlement. It was taken by the English in 1818, and the sovereignty of Britain was confirmed by a convention with the Dutch, in 1825.

LESSON LXXXVIII.

THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS (*continued*).

PENANG, or Pulo-Penang (Betelnut Island), called also Prince of Wales Island, is an island situated off the western coast of the Malay peninsula at the entrance to the Strait of Malacca. It is

sixteen miles long, and from eight to twelve miles broad, and comprises an area of about 160 square miles.

Under the same government is included Wellesley Province, a strip of country on the adjacent coast, about thirty-five miles in length by four in breadth.

The chief town of the settlement is Georgetown. The channel between the island and the mainland forms a good natural harbour, with spacious and well-sheltered anchorage for shipping.

The interior of Penang rises into hills of a considerable elevation, and possessing a remarkably healthy climate. The soil is productive, and well adapted to the cultivation of spices, sugar-cane, cotton, rice, coffee, tobacco, etc.

Penang was ceded, in 1786, by the Raja of the adjacent territory of Quada. The East India Company obtained, in 1820, a further grant of the district on the opposite mainland. The territory remained under the control of the Company till it was subsequently incorporated with Malacca and Singapore under the Government of the Straits Settlements.

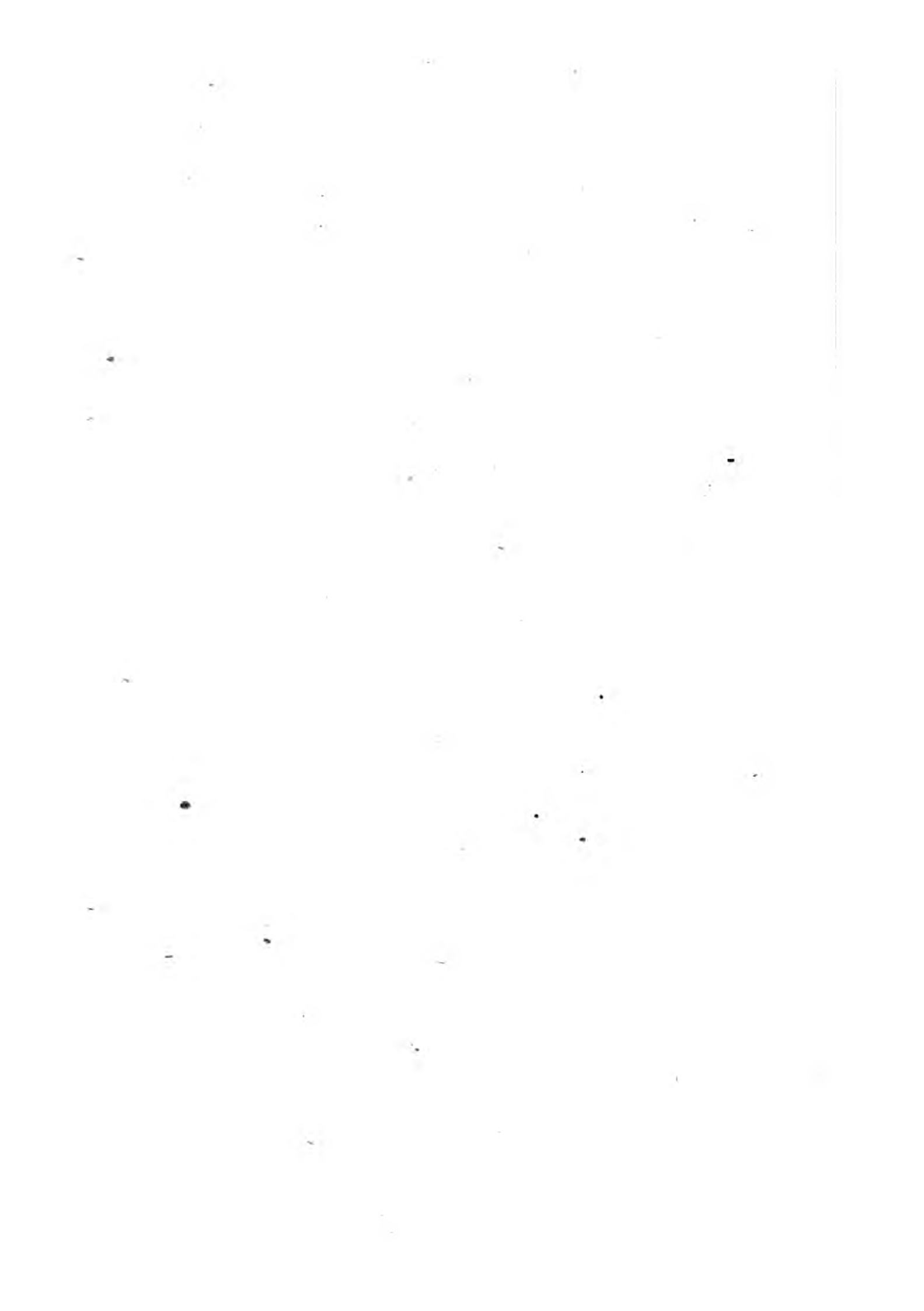
MALACCA.—An extensive district situated on the western coast of the Malay peninsula, between Singapore and Penang. It extends for about forty miles along the coast, and inland to a distance of twenty-five miles, and comprises an area of about 1,000 square miles. The coast is barren and rocky, and the interior mountainous, with picturesque valleys.

The vegetable productions of the country include rice, sago, pepper, fruits, etc. The forests contain valuable timber. Tin-mines are worked in various parts. The climate is salubrious—the temperature being equable, the thermometer ranging only from 72° to 85° throughout the year. Malacca, the chief town, is healthily and picturesquely situated at the entrance of a small river.

Malacca is one of the oldest European settlements in the East. It was founded by the Portuguese in 1511, and held by them till it was taken by the Dutch in 1641. The Dutch were dispossessed by the British in 1795, but were reinstated in their sovereignty over the territory in 1818. By a treaty, however, concluded with Holland in 1824, Malacca was finally ceded to the English.

PART IV.

A SKETCH OF INDIAN HISTORY.



PART IV.
A SKETCH OF INDIAN HISTORY.

LESSON I.
THE RISE AND FALL OF THE MOGUL
EMPIRE.

The early history of Hindustan is involved in much obscurity; the only event which can be determined with anything like certainty being the invasion of India by Alexander the Great, B.C. 330. From this time, until the incursion of the Mahometans in the 7th century, we have scarcely any authentic record in regard to the history of the country. During the period between the 7th and 14th centuries the followers of Mahomet gradually spread themselves over India, till almost the whole country became subject to their sway.

Mahmoud, the chief of a small Mahometan state which had been established at Guzni in the north-east of Affganistan towards the end of the 9th century, was the first to effect a permanent establishment of the Mahometan power in India. He made several expeditions into Hindustan during the years 1000–1025 A.D.; defeated with great slaughter the combined forces of all the principal native sovereigns of North-Western India; captured Peshawur, Lahore, Delhi, and other important cities; destroyed many Hindu temples; and carried off immense treasures to his capital at Guzni. In his last and greatest expedition, in 1024, he effected the conquest of Guzerat. He died A.D. 1030, at the age of 63.

The successors of Mahmoud, though retaining their sovereignty over the Indian conquests of the founder of their dynasty, were

deprived of their possessions westward of the *Suliman Mountains* by the Turks, who at this time poured forth in a tide of conquest from the regions of Central Asia, and established an empire, which eclipsed all the other Asiatic kingdoms of the time in power and extent.

The dynasty of Mahmoud continued altogether for nearly two centuries, when it was supplanted by that of Ghori, which rose and fell with the person of Mohammed Ghori, or Ghoor, who obtained the government of Guzni, in 1174, and reigned for 32 years over a sovereignty equal in extent to that of Mahmoud. Upon his assassination in 1206, his lieutenants, Ildecuz and Cuttub, established themselves as independent sovereigns: the former ruling over the mountainous territory to the west of the *Suliman Mountains*; the latter becoming the founder of what is known as the Patan or Affgan dynasty in India.

Under this dynasty the Mahometan rule in India was extended on every side. Bengal and Behar were made, first tributary, and afterwards subject, provinces; Gwalior, the principal stronghold of Hindu power, was reduced; Malwa conquered and annexed; and the whole of the Deccan and the Carnatic brought under the Mahometan yoke.

The rule of the Patan dynasty was, however, much disturbed from time to time by Tatar or Mongol invasions. Towards the close of the 14th century, a great incursion of Mongols (called by Indian historians, Moguls) took place, under the great conqueror Timur, or Tamerlane, who, in 1397, advanced upon and captured Delhi, and proclaimed himself Emperor of India. His rule over the country was but a nominal one, and it was left to his great-grandson, Baber, to establish the Tatar (or Mogul) Empire in Hindustan.

After making several expeditions into India, Baber succeeded in completely overthrowing the existing Mahometan dynasty, and, in 1526, he seated himself upon the throne of Delhi, the first of those sovereigns called Moguls. Baber died in 1530, his reign having been much disturbed by insurrections both in Cabul and India.

LESSON II.

THE MOGUL EMPIRE (*continued*).

In 1555 Akbar, the grandson of Baber, began his long and glorious reign of fifty-one years over India, during which period he proved himself perhaps the greatest and wisest of all the monarchs who ever swayed the sceptre of Hindustan.

During the reign of Akbar, the first European Christian mission, consisting of certain missionaries from the Portuguese settlement at Goa, was received at the Mogul court. This was in the year 1583. Other missions were also received by Akbar from Goa in 1591 and 1595; but, though honourably treated, they do not appear to have produced any great effect upon the mind of the emperor. Akbar died in 1605.

In the reign of his successor, Selim, who assumed the title Jehanghire, or "Conqueror of the World," two English embassies arrived at the court of the Mogul, one in 1608, and the other in 1615, sent out by the East India Company with the view of opening up commercial relations with the dominions of the Mogul.

Jehanghire died in November, 1627, after bequeathing his crown to his son Shariar. Shah Jehan, his other son, was, however, raised to the throne, in the possession of which he secured himself by the murder, not only of his brother, but of all his nephews. The sceptre which was obtained by the commital of so much crime, was nevertheless wielded by Shah Jehan with much firmness and justice. He led armies into the Deccan, and reduced the princes of that region to a more abject condition of vassalage than before; he also sent expeditions against Candahar in the north-west, and annexed to the empire the rude province of Assam.

To Shah Jehan India is likewise indebted for many of the most splendid of the magnificent monuments of architecture with which its cities are adorned. Among these may be mentioned his palace of red granite at Shahjehanpur; the mosque, called the Jumna Musjid, of the same city, and the celebrated Taj Mehal of Agra, generally esteemed as the finest edifice in the empire. Shah Jehan was deposed by his son Aurungzebe in 1658. He survived for eight years the loss of empire; being kept in strict confine-

ment indeed during that period, but being treated, at the same time, with honour and respect.

The power of the Mogul Empire reached its height of greatness and prosperity during the reign of the usurping Aurungzebe, who, after dethroning his father, and subduing the forces of his brothers, occupied for many years the throne of the Mogul dominions, which under him included the whole peninsula of Hindustan, with the neighbouring regions of Cabul and Assam, and which, in population and wealth, exceeded those of the Roman empire during its most flourishing period.

Aurungzebe was the first of the Mogul princes who adopted the faith of Mahomet in all its rigour,—the other princes of the House of Akbar having made scarcely any profession of the Mahometan religion, although their soldiers and chiefs were most zealous Moslems. This will account for the tolerance manifested by the earlier Mogul sovereigns towards the religion of the subject Hindus, as well as the hatred of the Mahometan rule, which the bigotry and intolerance of the Emperor Aurungzebe subsequently occasioned.

The later years of Aurungzebe, though not marked by any serious reverses, were yet greatly embittered by the failure of several important enterprises, and more especially by the disposition which his sons manifested to imitate the unnatural conduct of their father at the outset of his career.

LESSON III.

THE MOGUL EMPIRE (*continued*).

The reign of Aurungzebe was marked by the rise of the Mah-rattas, a native Hindu race, who, inhabiting a mountainous district in Western India, traversed by the *Ghats* and the *Vindya Mountains*, had never been reduced to complete subjection to the Mogul emperor. Under their chief, Sevaji, they made repeated descents upon the plains, and coasts of India, ravaging the country, and returning with their booty to their mountain fastnesses, Sevaji died in 1680, and was succeeded by his son Sambaji, who struggled for a time against the Mogul forces, but was at

length captured and put to death by the command of Aurungzebe.

The Mahratta power, though checked for a time, was by no means extinguished. Aurungzebe died in February, 1707, and his successor, Shah Alum, was obliged to concede to the Mahrattas extensive privileges, in order to deliver several of the finest provinces of his empire from their depredations.

It was during this period, also, of Indian history that the religious sect of the Sikhs rose into importance. The sect had made its first appearance in the reign of Baber. During the reigns of Akbar and his immediate successors they suffered no molestation; and, conducting themselves as peaceable citizens of the empire, their numbers rapidly increased. The persecuting intolerance of Aurungzebe, however, soon converted them into mortal enemies of the Mogul dynasty. While Aurungzebe reigned, they were held in subjection; but upon his death, they were encouraged to leave their places of refuge among the lower *Himalaya*, and again to approach the northern provinces of the Mogul territory. They were unable to cope successfully with the forces of the emperor; but, though checked, their power remained unbroken, and they were destined, at a later period, to play an important part in the history of India.

All these circumstances combined to bring about a rapid dissolution of the Mogul Empire, which, after the death of Aurungzebe, fell into decay. Shah Alum died in 1712, at Lahore, after a short reign of only five years; and immediately upon his death, his dominions became a prey to intestine commotion. The Affgans overran and conquered the provinces of Multan and Lahore; the Sikhs were augmented in numbers and strength; the Jats and Rohillas continued their predatory inroads; and the Mahrattas extended their incursions, even crossing the *Jumna*, and establishing themselves in Rohilcund; so that by the year 1760, the once mighty Mogul Empire had sunk to so low an ebb, that the title of Great Mogul was little more than an empty sound.

It was during this period of anarchy that the East India Company took those first steps which have resulted in the establishment of the English supremacy in Hindustan, and the foundation of an empire, under the rule of Queen Victoria, mightier than that upon whose ruins it has arisen.

LESSON IV.**EARLY EUROPEAN SETTLEMENTS IN
INDIA.**

Previous to the discovery, by Vasco di Gama, in 1498, of the passage to India round the Cape of Good Hope, most of the European trade with the East had been conducted by the Venetians by way of Egypt and the Red Sea. Numerous expeditions were sent out by the Portuguese under able, if not very scrupulous, commanders; and in a very short time the supremacy of this nation was established throughout all the Eastern seas.

The greatest of these naval commanders was perhaps Alphonso d'Albuquerque; and upon his death, in 1515, the Portuguese empire in the East had reached its utmost limits,—their dominion, according to the boast of their own contemporary historians, extending from the Cape of Good Hope to China, and comprehending a coast-line 12,000 miles in length. This sovereignty must, however, be regarded as only a nominal one, and could only have been exercised in the immediate neighbourhood of the limited number of factories, established for trading purposes, at distant intervals, along this immense line of coast.

The Portuguese retained their supremacy, together with the exclusive trade between Europe and India, for more than a century; and the history, during this period, is occupied chiefly with the relation of their conflicts with the natives, whom their bigotry and intolerance soon inspired with the bitterest enmity.

Towards the close of the sixteenth century, the Portuguese met with formidable rivals in the Dutch, who, in 1596, and again in 1599, fitted out squadrons, and despatched them round the Cape, to open up trade with the East. So successful were they that, by the year 1600, they had, by their diligence and punctuality, entirely supplanted the Portuguese in the spice trade; and, by the year 1605, they had deprived the latter of almost all their possessions in the Moluccas, Philippines, and other Eastern islands, and established their supremacy in the East.

In the same year they effected a settlement in Ceylon; but it was not till 1656, after a long and bloody struggle, that, with

the surrender of Colombo, the Portuguese were finally driven from that island. Malacca, the capital of the Portuguese possessions in that part of the Eastern seas, had been wrested from them in 1640. But though now the dominant power in the East, the Dutch remained content with their insular conquests, and made little or no attempt upon the continent of India itself.

While the Dutch were thus in conflict with the Portuguese in the eastern part of the Indian empire, the English were as successfully opposed to them in the western provinces. They were supplanted at Surat and other settlements on the western coast of India by their new rivals; they were deprived of Ormuz by the Shah of Persia, assisted by the English; and they were expelled from most of their possessions on the coast of Africa by the Imam of Muscat: so that "they were stripped of their vast dominions almost as rapidly as they had acquired them; and now Goa and Mozambique, in a very decayed condition, form nearly the sole remnant of that proud empire which formerly extended over so great a part of the Eastern world."

Reference has already been made to the presence of the English in India. It only remains now to describe briefly the steps by which the British power in Hindustan has gradually become supreme.

The success of the Portuguese and Dutch was not without its influence upon the adventurous spirits of the time in England. Attempts were made in the reign of Edward VI., and again in that of Queen Elizabeth, to open up a communication with India by some new path, as yet undiscovered by former adventurers; but all of these failed in their object. Sir Francis Drake, in his voyage round the world (1577-80), and Cavendish, who made the same voyage (1586-8), both visited the islands of the Eastern seas, and opened up those commercial relations which have since been developed to so immense an extent.

Another attempt was also made in 1583, by a body of English adventurers, to establish a trade with India, by way of the Mediterranean, Syria, and the Persian Gulf; but though the expedition was creditably conducted, and much useful information regarding the trade and productions of the country was collected, the opposition of the Spaniards and the Portuguese, and the difficult and circuitous nature of the route rendered the project

an impracticable one. An expedition round the Cape, which started from Plymouth in 1591, appears to have been disastrous to all concerned.

LESSON V.

THE EAST INDIA COMPANY.

An association was formed in 1599, and a subscription raised, for fitting out another trading expedition to India,—Queen Elizabeth giving it her sanction, and despatching an embassy to the court of the Great Mogul to obtain the necessary privileges. This association was merged, in the year following, into one on a larger scale, constituting what was termed the “Governor and Company of Merchants trading to the East Indies.” To this body a charter was granted by Elizabeth, which was renewed by her successor James I., in 1609, giving to the company the privilege of exclusive trade with the East Indies.

The first settlement of the English in Hindustan was made at Surat, by permission of the Mogul, in 1613. In 1653 the English settlement at Fort St. George, on the Coromandel Coast, the site of the present city of Madras, was established, and raised into a Presidency; and in 1668 the island of Bombay, which had been ceded by the Portuguese upon the marriage of Charles II. with the Infanta of Portugal, was transferred by the Crown to the East India Company.

A factory had been established previously to this, in 1656, on the river *Hoogly*, and a regular trade opened with Bengal. This settlement was for some time regarded as a dependency of the central government at Madras. It was here that the English first attempted to found a political and military ascendancy; an armed force being sent out in 1686 for the purpose of levying war against the Great Mogul and his Viceroy, the Nawab of Bengal, in order to redress the wrongs sustained by the company at the hands of the native rulers.

The expedition was not successful. The factory at Patna was taken, and the English compelled to evacuate Bengal. The

violent proceedings also of the Governor of Bombay so exasperated the Mogul, Aurungzebe, that he ordered a general attack upon all the East India Company's factories. Surat, Masulipatam and Vizagapatam, were reduced, and Bombay severely pressed.

The policy of Aurungzebe and the subsequent submission of the English, induced him, however, to restore their privileges and to permit the trade to resume its former channels. Nevertheless, from this time the company may be regarded as having commenced openly to aim at territorial possession and independent sovereignty in India. Their actual possessions were limited to the districts in the immediate neighbourhood of the settlements of Bombay and Madras; but in 1698 the company acquired by purchase, from the Viceroy of Bengal, the zemindarship of the town and district of Calcutta, which became, in 1707, the seat of a Presidency, and eventually the capital of the British possessions in India.

An additional grant of land in the vicinity of Madras was obtained from the Mogul Feroksere, in 1715, together with the privilege of free trade throughout the province of Bengal. Permission was also granted for the purchase of townships in the neighbourhood of Calcutta; but through the hostility of the Nawab the contract was not completed.

From this period the English trade went on gradually increasing, and nothing of importance occurred until the outbreak, in 1744, of the war between England and France, which was waged in India with even greater violence than in Europe itself, and which resulted in the complete supremacy of the English in the East.

Before concluding this portion of the history of India, it should be mentioned that a fresh charter had been granted to the East India Company by Charles II., in 1661, and that during his reign, and that of his brother James II., every encouragement was given to the company by the Crown.

In 1698 a charter was granted to a *new* East India Company, which, in 1702, after much wrangling, was, by Act of Parliament, merged into the old company. Regulations for the government of the company were at the same time framed, which continued in force till the dissolution of the corporation in 1858.

LESSON VI.

**THE STRUGGLE FOR SUPREMACY IN INDIA
BETWEEN THE ENGLISH AND FRENCH.**

Before proceeding to the relation of the events immediately connected with the advancement of the British cause in India, it is necessary to refer briefly to the position which the French had by this time attained in the East.

A company was formed at Rouen, in 1642, for the purpose of trading with the East, but chiefly with the view of effecting a settlement in the island of Madagascar. This enterprise proved unsuccessful; and it was not till 1664 that the French East India Company received its charter from Louis XIV., and endeavoured to found a French empire in India. The company were, however, by no means fortunate in the management of their affairs: they failed in their attempts upon Trincomalie, in Ceylon, and St. Thomas, on the Coromandel Coast; but they succeeded at length in establishing themselves at Pondicherry, where the French gained the attachment of the natives, and were enabled to open up a lucrative trade. This station, and the smaller factories of Mahé, Carical, and Chandernagore, were the only possessions of the French in India at the time of the outbreak of hostilities with England in 1744.

For some time it was hoped that the war between the two nations would not extend itself to their Indian settlements; but the jealousy which already existed there between the English and French rendered a collision inevitable, and a struggle commenced in the Carnatic, which, under one pretext or another, was continued for many years. Madras, which was then the capital of the English possessions in India, capitulated to the French forces in 1746, but was restored again to the English upon the conclusion of the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle in 1748.

Hostilities did not, however, cease in India. Dupleix, the French Governor of Pondicherry, had resolved upon the exclusion of the English from the Coromandel Coast, and the establishment of French ascendancy in Southern India. With this view he began to take an active interest in the dissensions which naturally

arose between the native princes of the Deccan and Carnatic upon the disruption of the Mogul Empire.

To describe all the intrigues of this period of Indian history would exceed the object of this sketch. It will be sufficient for our purpose to know that a struggle was going on at this time for the possession of the offices of Subahdar of the Deccan, and Nawab of the Carnatic,—both originally subordinate appointments under the Mogul emperor, but which had now become virtually independent sovereignties.

With the aid afforded by Dupleix, the rightful, or at least actual, possessors of these territories were dethroned and their rivals set up in their stead; and by the revolution thus brought about, the influence of the French was completely established in Southern India.

The English appear for a time to have regarded the aggrandizement of the French with indifference; but they were at length roused to a sense of the danger to their own interests which they incurred by allowing the ascendancy of the French to continue undisturbed. Adopting the policy of the French, they, too, began to interfere in native politics, and the contest with their ancient foe was soon renewed.

With the events of this stirring period the name of Clive is most intimately associated. At the outbreak of the war he was only a writer in the service of the Company at Madras, but, "abandoning his pen for the sword, he carved out for himself therewith the first and foremost name in that great muster-roll of British soldiers and statesmen who have thrown such lustre on the English occupation of India, and laid the foundation of his country's supremacy in the East." His memorable defence of Arcot, in 1752, and his subsequent victories over the French, entirely destroyed the influence which that nation had acquired in India.

LESSON VII.**PROGRESS OF THE BRITISH POWER IN INDIA.**

Upon the breaking out of war between France and Britain, in 1756 (The Seven Years' War), an attempt was made by the French to recover their lost position in India. An expedition sailed from Brest, in May, 1757, which did not, however, reach Pondicherry till April of the following year. Fort St. David was captured and demolished, and Madras was besieged. The latter, after a gallant defence, was relieved by a squadron from England, upon which the English took the field, reconquered their possessions in the Carnatic, reduced Carical, and other French strongholds, and laid siege to Pondicherry, which fell into their hands in January, 1761.

Important events were in the meantime occurring in Bengal. Calcutta had fallen into the hands of the Nawab Suraja Dowla, and the horrors of the "Black Hole" had been perpetrated, in 1756. The city was soon afterwards recovered by Colonel Clive, at the head of an armed force, fitted out at Madras, and despatched to avenge the deaths of their countrymen.

The Nawab being defeated in a second attempt upon Calcutta, came to terms with the English, and retired with his forces into the interior. The truce proved of short duration. News arrived in Bengal of war having been declared between England and France. Hostilities between the respective settlements of the two nations commenced, and the French factory at Chandernagore soon fell into the hands of the English.

This capture was followed by the defeat and total overthrow of Suraja Dowla at the battle of Plassy (June 23rd, 1757), an event which placed the whole of Bengal in the hands of Clive, and established the British rule in that part of India. Meer Jaffir, the vizier of Suraja Dowla, was placed on the throne of his master, but the real sovereignty over the provinces of Bengal, Behar, and Orissa remained with Clive. The Circars were shortly afterwards reduced to nominal submission to the English.

Clive resigned the government in 1760, and proceeded to Eng-

land, where he was rewarded for his services with an Irish peerage, as Lord Clive and Baron Plassy, and obtained a seat in Parliament.

After Clive's departure the greatest disorder prevailed in India : the native princes could no longer be kept in subjection ; the servants of the Company began to amass wealth by bribery and extortion ; while the affairs of the Company itself were reduced to the verge of bankruptcy.

This state of affairs lasted till 1765, when Lord Clive was despatched, with full powers, as governor and commander-in-chief in Bengal, to reform the mal-administration into which the country had fallen. He landed at Calcutta in May, and in a very short time succeeded in purging the Indian government of oppression, extortion, and corruption. Having placed the jurisdiction of the Company upon a satisfactory footing, and procured from the Emperor Shah Alum a deed conferring on them the sole administration of the provinces of Bengal, Orissa, and Behar, he returned finally to England in the early part of 1767.

From this time the history of India is little more than a record of that series of conquests and annexations which have given to the English the possession of more than three-fourths of the whole country, and the virtual sovereignty over all the rest. In the succeeding lessons a brief chronological outline of these events will be given.

LESSON VIII.

PROGRESS OF THE BRITISH POWER IN INDIA (*continued*).

After the final departure of Lord Clive, affairs again went wrong in India. Hyder Ali, the founder of the kingdom of Mysore, allied himself with the Mahratta chieftains, threatened Madras itself, and succeeded in extorting an advantageous peace from the English ; while a famine in Bengal, in 1770, is said to have carried off one-third of the inhabitants.

These disasters, and the attendant misrule in India, attracted

the attention of the English government, and occasioned the appointment, in 1772, of a committee of inquiry into the state of the Company's affairs. In the year following (1773) the celebrated Regulating Act was passed, by which very important reforms were made in the constitution of the Company, both with regard to the Court of Directors in England, and the administration in India. By this Act the Governor of Bengal was invested with authority over all the other presidencies, with the title of Governor-General of India.

Warren Hastings, who had been appointed Governor of Bengal in 1772, was the first to inherit the new dignity. This able administrator held the reins of government from 1773 till 1785, during which period, although his measures for replenishing the Company's treasury were not always of the most scrupulous nature, and though he was greatly impeded and embarrassed by his Council, he yet succeeded in averting the dangers which threatened at one time to annihilate the British supremacy in India. By his exertions the powerful confederacy of the Mahometan sovereigns of Mysore and the Deccan with the Mahratta chieftains, assisted by the French, was completely broken up,—Hyder Ali being totally defeated by the English, under Sir Eyre Coote, at Porto Novo (July 1, 1781), and again at Pollilore (Aug. 1781), and Arnee, in 1782.

Upon the death of Hyder Ali, in December, 1782, the struggle in Southern India was continued with his son and successor Tippu, with whom Hastings concluded a peace in the autumn of 1783.

Benares and the surrounding district had been annexed in 1775, having been ceded by the Vizier of Oude, in return for services rendered by Hastings to his father, Suja Dowla, in his war with the Rohillas. In the same year also the island of Salsette, near Bombay, had been taken from the Mahrattas.

In 1784 Mr. Pitt created the Board of Control to serve as a check upon the East India Company. Towards the close of this year, Warren Hastings announced his intention of retiring, and when he left for England, in the spring of 1785, peace prevailed throughout India.

Lord Cornwallis was appointed to the Governor-Generalship, in February, 1786; affairs in India having been administered in the interval by the senior member of the Council. His chief measures

were the reform of the judicial system and the settlement of the land-revenue throughout Bengal, upon what is known as the Zemindary System of land-tenure.

In 1790 an alliance was made with the Mahrattas, the Nizam, and the Raja of Coorg, for the purpose of making war upon Tippu Sultan, who had invaded Travancore, a province under British protection. On this occasion Tippu was compelled to purchase peace by the cession of half his kingdom. The districts of Malabar, Dindigul, and Salem, thus fell into the hands of the British (1792). The island of Penang was obtained by purchase, in 1786, from the Raja of the adjoining territory of Queda.

Lord Cornwallis was succeeded in the government of India by Sir John Shore (1793-1798). There is, however, little of any importance to be related of this period.

LESSON IX.

HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH IN INDIA.

Marquis Wellesley (1798-1805).—Under this administration the war was renewed with Tippu Sultan, who had broken faith by intriguing with the French as well as with other native princes. The war terminated in 1798 with the capture of Seringapatam, the death of Tippu, and the partition of his dominions.

The English obtained the sovereignty over Canara and Coimbatore, and the command of all the passes of the *Ghats*; to the Nizam was consigned a large tract of country adjoining his dominions in the Deccan; while the extensive district in the interior of Mysore was erected by the Marquis of Wellesley into a native kingdom under British protection,—the old Hindu dynasty, which had been displaced by Hyder Ali, being restored in the person of a young prince only five years of age; and the administration being most successfully carried on during his minority by Colonel Wellesley (afterwards the celebrated Duke of Wellington), the brother of the Governor-General.

In the same year (1799) the province of Tanjore was ceded to the English by its Raja in consideration of an annual pension; and in 1801 the whole of the Carnatic was annexed on similar terms.

Towards the close of this year also a considerable addition was made to the English territory by the cession of a large district between the *Gogra* and the *Ganges*, including Allahabad, Goruckpur, Jounpur, and Bareilly. This territory was acquired from the Vizier of Oude in commutation of the annual tribute due from him to the Company.

Shortly afterwards the three Mahratta chieftains, viz., the Holkar, Sindia, and the Raja of Berar, encouraged by French intrigues, revolted against their sovereign the Peishwa, who ruled at Poona. The Governor-General despatched two armies against the confederates,—one commanded by his brother, and the other by Lord Lake.

Wellesley invaded Berar, took Ahmednuggur, and totally routed the Raja and Sindia in the great battle of Assaye (September 24, 1803), a victory which “established the fame of the greatest commander of the age,” and secured the British dominion in India. The Mahrattas were again defeated at Argaum, and compelled to sue for peace.

Lord Lake was equally successful in Northern India. He stormed and took Alligur, defeated a large force under the French general Perron, and advanced against Delhi, where the cause of the Sindia was being supported by another French commander. After defeating him on the banks of the *Jumna*, Delhi, the capital of Hindustan and the residence of Shah Alum, the last of the Mogul emperors, fell an easy prey to the forces of Lake. Agra was next taken, and the power of the Sindia completely destroyed in that part of India.

By these victories the influence of the French in India was abolished, and a vast accession of territory accrued to the English, including the whole of the Doab, with the cities of Delhi and Agra, the fortresses of Ahmednuggur and Broach with their dependent territories, portions of Guzerat, and other districts. The Cuttack, on the Orissa Coast, was also annexed.

The English possessions in India were thus almost doubled in value and extent during the administration of the Marquis

Wellesley. His policy was, however, regarded as too aggressive by the East India Company, and he was therefore recalled in 1805, and superseded by Lord Cornwallis, who died shortly after his arrival in India, and was succeeded by Lord Minto, who administered the government of India from 1806 till 1813, during which time nothing worthy of note occurred.

LESSON X.

HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH IN INDIA

(continued).

Marquis Hastings (1813–1823).—Lord Minto was succeeded in 1813 by the Marquis of Hastings, under whose administration the Mahrattas and their allies, the Pindaris, were reduced to obedience. The incursions of the Goorkas of Nepal into the British territories of Northern India were also suppressed, and compensation obtained. The province of Kumaon and other districts being annexed in 1816.

At the close of the Pindari war (just alluded to), and the defeat of the Peishwa, a great extent of territory in Western India was formally taken possession of and annexed,—including the Saugor Territory, Darwa, Poona, North Concan, Candeish, and Ahmedabad, belonging to the Peishwa; the Nerbudda Territory, ceded by the Raja Berar; and Ajmir, which was surrendered by the Sindia.

Lord Hastings directed his attention to the amelioration of the moral condition of the people of Hindustan as much as to the consolidation of the English power, which, at the close of his brilliant administration in 1823, had become supreme throughout India.

From 1823 to 1835 two Governor-Generals ruled over India, viz., Earl Amherst and Lord William Bentinck. The administration of the former was chiefly signalized by the outbreak of the first Burmese war, at the close of which, in 1826, Assam, Aracan, and the Tenasserim Provinces were added to the British dominions.

Singapore, which had been taken from the Dutch in 1818, and Malacca, which had formerly been in the possession of the English, were both ceded about this time by a convention with Holland, in exchange for certain possessions in Sumatra.

Lord Auckland (1835–1842).—The name of this Governor-General is chiefly associated with the policy which was so discreditable and disastrous to the English government in India, and which terminated in the horrible massacre of the British troops in the *Kyber Pass*. Lord Auckland resigned in 1842, and was succeeded by

Lord Ellenborough (1842–1844), who adopted a more vigorous line of policy. Reliefs were sent under General Pollock to the assistance of General Sale, who, after the almost total destruction of his army, was still holding out at Jelalabad. The city of Cabul was captured, and the prestige of the British arms restored in that quarter of the Indian Empire.

The Affgan war was followed by the occupation and annexation of Sind after the battle of Meani, near Hyderabad, in 1843. This campaign was successfully conducted by Sir Charles Napier against a confederation of the Ameers or princes of the district, who had been encouraged by the English reverses in Affganistan to take up arms against the British power.

In the same year (1843) Gwalior was reduced by the English generals Gough and Grey.

LESSON XI.

HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH IN INDIA

(continued).

Lord Hardinge (1844–1847).—Lord Ellenborough having been recalled by the directors of the Company, through alarm at his warlike policy, Lord Hardinge was sent out to succeed him as Governor-General. At the end of the second year of his administration, the Sikhs of the Punjab—a district which had long been in a disorganized condition—declared war upon the English, crossed the *Sutlej*, and advanced upon Ferozepur.

The Sikhs were the most warlike enemies the British had yet encountered in Hindustan; and it was only after a series of most

obstinately contested engagements that the campaign against them was brought to a successful issue. The victories of Aliwal and Sobraon, in 1846, brought the first Sikh war to a conclusion and secured the possession of the territory between the *Sutlej* and *Beas*, known as the Julindur Doab.

Lord Dalhousie (1848–1856).—The administration of this nobleman is memorable for the commencement of great public works; the introduction of cheap uniform postage, railways and telegraphs; for improvements in the mode of government; and for great social progress generally.

His government was disturbed at the commencement by a revolt of the Sikhs at Multan, in 1848. This city held out for some time against the English forces, and gave encouragement to other Sikh princes to join in the rebellion. A second Sikh war followed, which was terminated by the crowning victory at Guzerat (Feb. 21, 1849) and the formal annexation of the Punjab.

The second Burmese war, in 1852, added the province of Pegu, at the mouth of the *Irawadi*, to the British possessions in India. The territory known as the Assigned Districts of Hyderabad also lapsed to the English in 1834 in payment of a debt, incurred by the Nizam Ali for military assistance during his wars with Hyder and Tippu.

The last great acquisition of territory was the annexation of Oude in 1856, owing to the misrule of its native tributary sovereigns, and their refusal to accept the direct interference of the British government in the management of affairs.

LESSON XII.

HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH IN INDIA

(continued).

Lord Canning (1856–1862).—When Viscount Canning began his administration, everything gave promise of a reign of peace and prosperity; but this treacherous calm was soon to be followed by a terrible tempest. Early in 1857 symptoms of disaffection began to appear among the native Sepoy regiments of the Bengal army; and in May, many were in open revolt. In the same month, Delhi.

the ancient capital of Hindustan, and still the residence of the representative of the Moguls, was seized by the insurgents with all its accumulation of military stores,—there being no European troops at hand for its protection.

The capture of Delhi was followed by a general revolt of all the Bengal regiments; the Bombay and Madras troops, with few exceptions, remained loyal. All Bengal was for a time lost to the English. Cawnpur was taken, and its inhabitants cruelly massacred. Lucknow was invested, but was relieved, first by the gallant Havelock, and finally by Sir Colin Campbell (afterwards Lord Clyde).

From this time the cause of the rebels declined. Central India was reduced by Generals Rose, Roberts, and Whitlock; the surrender of Gwalior followed; Bareilly in Rohilcund was taken in May; and in June, 1858, no place of any importance remained in the hands of the mutineers. Delhi had been retaken by General Wilson, in September of the previous year.

Much valuable assistance was rendered to the British Government by the native princes who remained loyal. Among these were Sindia, the Maharaja of Gwalior, Holkar, the Nizam, and many others, upon whom rewards and honours were, in consequence, bestowed.

The king of Delhi was tried as a traitor to the British Government, and the last great Mogul and heir of the house of Timur, was sentenced to be transported across the sea as a felon. He was accordingly banished to Tongu, in Pegu, where he died in 1862.

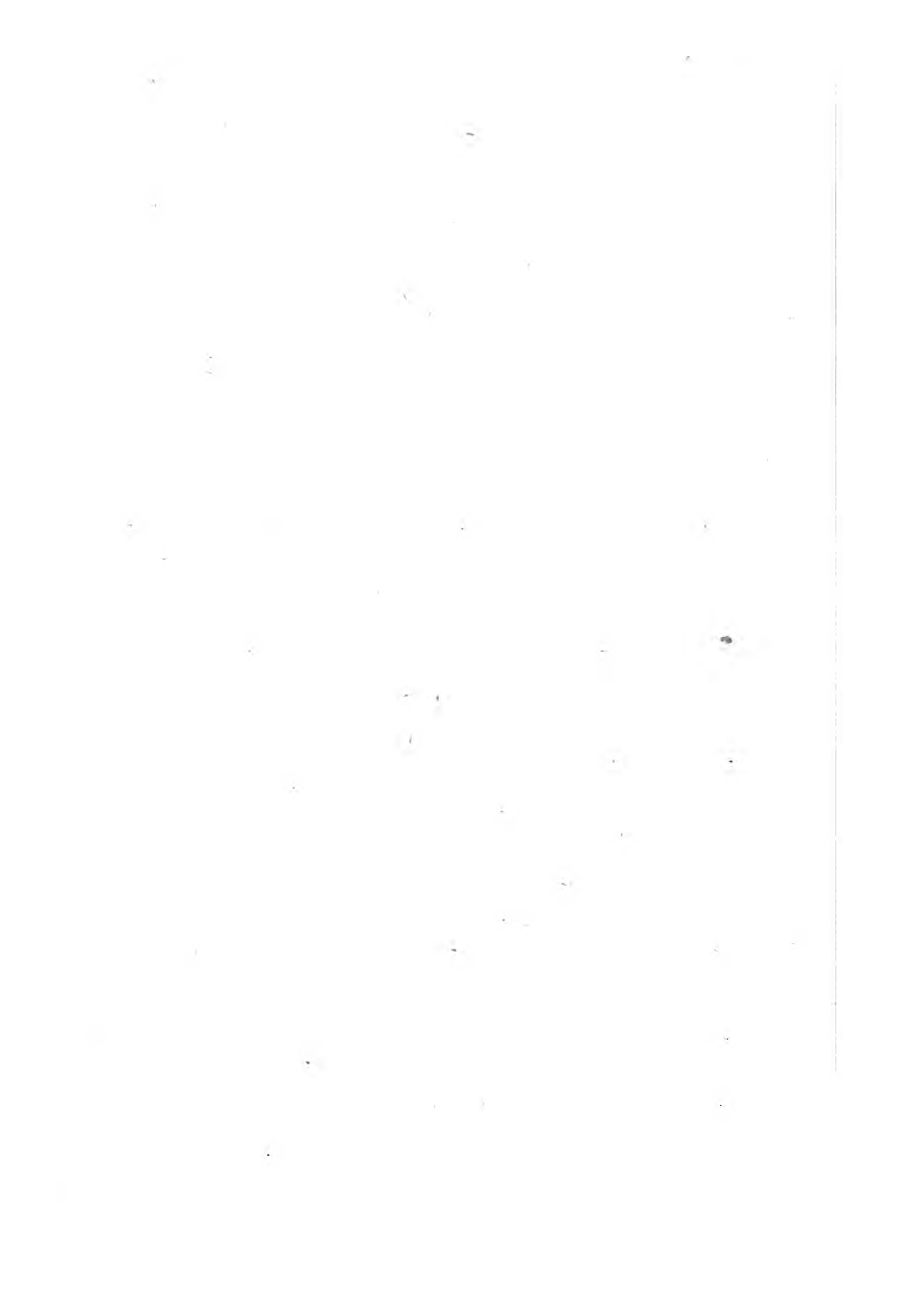
The mutiny of the Bengal army proved the deathblow to the East India Company. A bill was introduced into the English parliament abolishing the Company and transferring the government of India to the Crown; and on September 1st, 1858, by royal proclamation, the great East India Company ceased to exist.

Lord Canning was succeeded in 1862 by the Earl of Elgin, who continued the reforms which had been commenced under the preceding administration.

Upon his death, at the close of 1863, Sir John Lawrence, a man of great ability and of much and long-tryed experience in Indian affairs, was appointed Viceroy, and administered the government of this great territory with singular prudence and zeal, until his retirement from India in 1868.

The work of reform, so ably commenced by these eminent statesmen, was as vigorously continued by **Lord Mayo**, who succeeded Sir J. Lawrence, but whose career was cut short by his assassination at Port Blair, in the Andaman Islands (Feb. 8th, 1872), while on a visit of inspection to a convict settlement established at that place. The present Viceroy is **Lord Northbrooke**.





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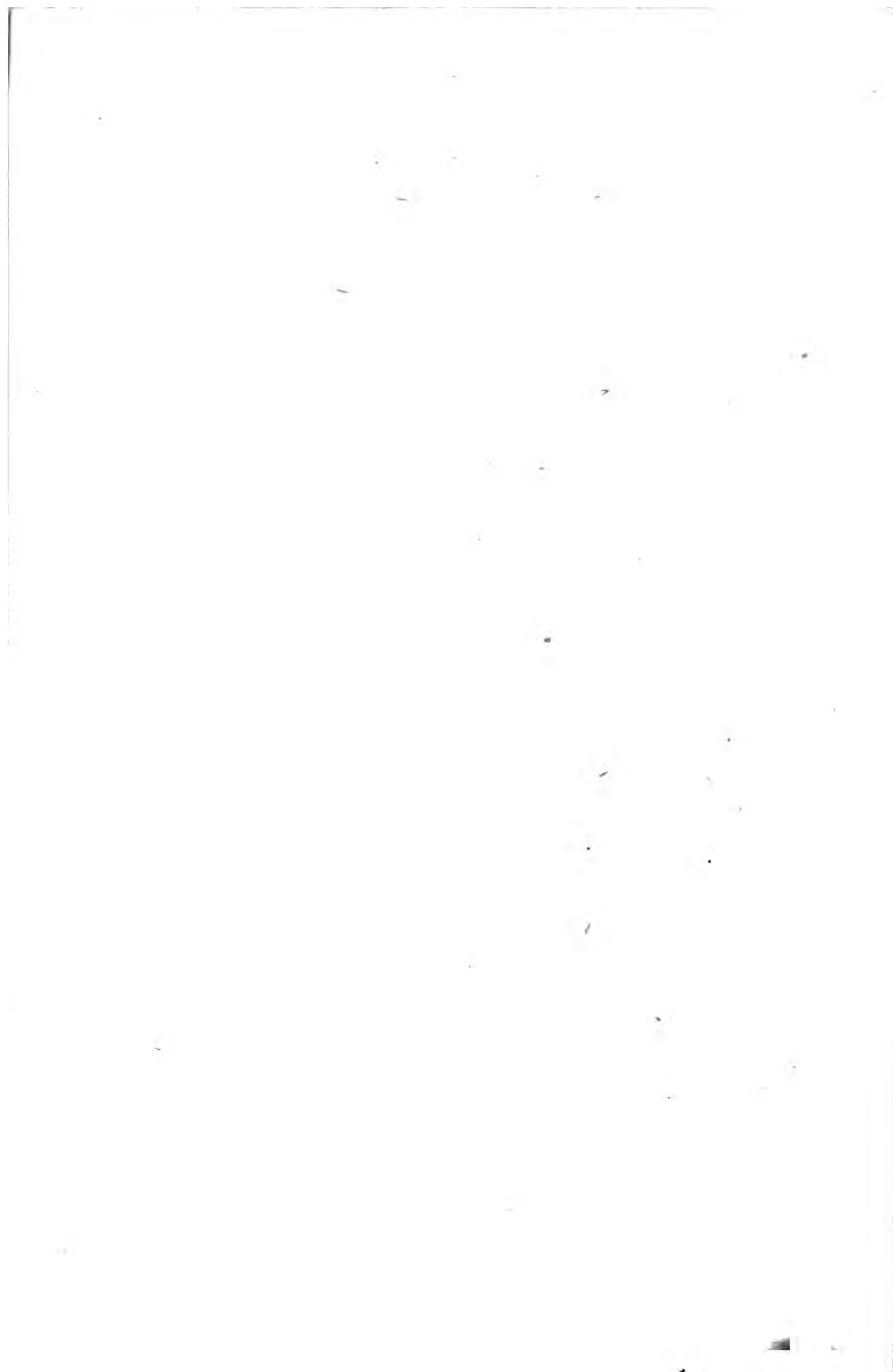
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