





REPORT
ON,
THE OLD RECORDS
OF THE
INDIA OFFICE,

WITH
SUPPLEMENTARY NOTE AND APPENDICES,

BY
SIR GEORGE BIRDWOOD, M.D.,
K.C.I.E., C.S.I., LL.D.

*Ω φίλοι, Ἀργείων ὅς τ' ἐξόχος, ὅς τε μεσήεις,
ὅς τε χερειότερος,
· · · · · νῦν ἐπλετο ἔργον ἅπασιν.
Iliad, xii. 269-71.



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TO THE VENERABLE
SETT FRAMJEE NUSSERWANJEE PATEL, J.P.,

"THE NESTOR OF THE PARSEES,"

This Volume is Dedicated

IN ADMIRATION OF THE VIRTUES FOR WHICH HE HAS
BEEN HELD IN THE HIGHEST HONOUR
FOR THREE GENERATIONS OF CONTEMPORARIES
IN WESTERN INDIA,
AND IN AFFECTIONATE REMEMBRANCE OF ALL THE
KINDNESSES I RECEIVED
FROM HIM AND OTHER DEAR *SETTLA* FRIENDS, OUR ASSOCIATES
IN THE LOYAL CIVIC LIFE OF
"OLD BOMBAY."

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PREFACE TO THE PRESENT REPRINT.

THE present reprint of my *REPORT ON THE **Old Records** OF THE INDIA OFFICE* having been undertaken as a business speculation by Messrs. W. H. Allen & Co., Ltd., I thought at first of giving it a more attractive character by the addition of a series of particularly interesting extracts from the documents to which it really is nothing more than a curtly descriptive Index. But the Report having come into demand, not as an entertaining Calendar, but as a comprehensive working Index, I resolved, on second thoughts, to reproduce it exactly as originally printed in 1879, and again in the autumn of last year. One little alteration I have indeed introduced, and that is the relegation of occasional illustrative remarks from the body of the Report to foot-notes. I have also added as foot-notes, both to the Report and the Supplementary Note, some of the Departmental Memoranda on special subjects elucidated by the India Office records, prepared by me subsequent to 1879. Such are the note on Buonaparte at Longwood, at pp. 93-98, and the note on La Bourdonnais at pp. 242-248. The Report is now, therefore, more strictly than ever a bare and, so to speak, short-hand Index to the Supplementary Miscellaneous **Old Records** enumerated in the Statistic and Commerce Departmental List, No. 2,397, and the Lists furnished to me in 1879 by the other Departments of the India Office; and I have been the readier to reduce it to this complexion from a natural desire to avoid using the official facilities I enjoy for the exploration of these **Old Records** to the detriment of less-favoured students of English history, whose researches in them I have in no way forestalled.

The Supplementary Note was originally written merely for my own information and guidance, and was only

printed with the Report because the late Sir Henry Yule thought it would be useful to others beside myself. It is nothing but a compilation, copied bodily out of my common-place books on the history of Indian commerce and art, and very imperfect; being disproportionately lengthy where it treats of subjects in which I am interested, and far too brief where they happen to be uninteresting to me. I wished therefore very much to recast it altogether, in the hope of better adapting it for general reading. However, Mr. Quaritch, a very partial friend of mine, and Messrs. Allen & Co. as the responsible publishers of the book, both insisted on the Supplementary Note standing as it first appeared; and so it now reappears, a frequent footnote indicating to the inexperienced where it is particularly defective.

The opportunity has been taken in the present Reprint to correct certain errors, for the most part comparatively trifling, that had crept into both the Report and Supplementary Note; and in a few cases the foot-notes have been amplified and fresh matter introduced. While making these corrections and additions, however, I have been careful to preserve throughout the identical paging of the first reprint; and the two may, therefore, for all practical purposes, be regarded as earlier and later issues of the same edition.

It is a true pleasure to me to here testify to the wonderful improvement that has been effected since 1879 in the order and condition of the India Office records. The credit of this is altogether due to Mr. F. C. Danvers, who in 1884 commenced the first effective attempt to systematically conserve and classify them, and render them promptly and safely accessible to the public. The first step was to procure more space for them than was formerly allowed; and this having been obtained, the many thousands of loose papers that had hitherto been simply tied up in vaguely-assorted bundles were carefully collated with the documents in the better preserved regular series of the records, and bound up with them in chronological order; the volumes comprising each series being consecutively

numbered, and placed in distinct ranges of cases.* The royal charters, and other parchment records still in existence, have been unfolded, cleaned, flattened, and, after careful examination, put away in large shallow boxes, shelved on a specially constructed locking skeleton cupboard, standing in the centre of the muniment, provided entirely for these "Parchment Records," as they are now designated, and other special relics of the late Honourable East India Company. The bulk of the documents in the general Record Rooms are distributed in such a way as, in the first place, to best subserve the purposes of the Departments requiring constant access to them. But the convenience of the public has also been considered in the arrangements adopted, and, when they are completed and in full operation, it will be possible for anyone provided with the proper authority to obtain, within a few minutes, any volume that may be wanted from any of the India Office Record Rooms.

The systematic custody of the state records is also being simultaneously provided for in India, in accordance with a parallel and almost identical plan initiated by Professor G. W. Forrest, B.A.; and thus in that country as well as here an immense mass of materials is being rapidly brought within the reach of all those whose duty it is to be fully and correctly informed on the history of the rise and progress of the Indian Empire.

The Government authorities, both at home and in India, have, moreover, long been in the practice of compiling for Departmental or Parliamentary use occasional volumes of "Selections" from Despatches, Letters, Minutes, and other Papers, showing the principles and procedure of various branches of the British Administration in India, and also volumes of "Memoirs," detailing the history and organization of different Departments of the Government. The *Memoir on the Indian Surveys*, prepared by Mr. Clements Markham, C.B., in 1871, is a remarkable example of the latter kind of publications, and a model to which they

* For particulars see Mr. Danvers' interesting "Report on the Records of the India Office," published in 1887 as a Parliamentary Paper [C. 5055].

should in future be always conformed ; while of the former class we have a brilliant illustration in Professor Forrest's recently-issued *Selections from the Records of the Foreign Department of the Government of India* [Warren Hastings], 1772-85.

In future the Government might still further promote the diffusion of a thorough knowledge of India by encouraging private enterprise, firstly, in the fac-simile reproduction of such graphic documents in their possession as those photo-lithographed by Mr. William Griggs, of Peckham, in the *Journal of Indian Art* for July last ; secondly, in the publication, *verbatim et literatim*, of selected series of the **Old Records**, such as the COURT BOOKS, and ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE, after the manner of the publication, in 1886, by Mr. Henry Stevens, of Vermont, of the first volume of the COURT BOOKS [see Appendix B.] ; and, finally, by extending the utmost possible assistance and patronage to trained scholars of recognized literary capacity, who would be found willing to re-write the history of British India, or well-determined portions of it, direct from the stored archives of Bombay, Madras, and Calcutta, and the India Office. Only when this is done will the **Old Records** of the India Office have been put to their worthiest and most fruitful service.

I am myself greatly indebted for the help rendered me by Mr. F. C. Danvers, in revising the present volume ; and my thanks are also due to Mr. William Foster, B.A., of the Registry and Record Department, for his assistance in seeing it through the press. In this trying work Mr. Foster has served me with the most perfect patience, efficiency, and loyalty, and I cannot too strongly express my obligations to him for his invaluable co-operation.

To those of my readers ignorant of the symbolism of India, it may, perhaps, be as well that I should in conclusion explain the meaning of the ritualistic ornamentation in which I have indulged on the blank leaves at the beginning and end of this volume, and on its binding. The "right-hand *svastika*," stamped in red on the blank leaf facing the title-page, is, among modern Hindus, a

symbol of Ganisa or Ganapati, and is commonly placed by them, instead of the image of Ganisa, at the head of invoices and other papers.* It is also the symbol of the male principle in nature, and of the sun of the upper world, that is, in his diurnal course from "East to Occident;" and of the day, and summer, and light, and life, and glory; and it is coloured dominical red, the proper tincture of the East. To the Hindu it is an abbreviated form of the salutation :

OM!
Hail to Ganisa!
Lord of the Hosts of Heaven!
Of Whom are all Beginnings!
Hail!

The "left-handed *svastika*," or *sauvastika*,† stamped in blue on the blank leaf opposite the last printed page of the book is the symbol of Kali, the Indian Mania. It is also the symbol of the female principle in nature; and of the sun of the underground world, that is, in his nocturnal course from "the utmost corner of the West" back to "the fiery portal of the East;" and of the night, and winter, and darkness, death, and destruction; and it is deeply dyed in "nadder blue," the conventional Hindu colouration of the West.‡

Where it is placed it is a graphic reduction of the invocation :

OM!
Wail to Kali!
Leader of the Hordes of Hell!
Of whom is all Consummation!
The Dark Mother of Ganisa!
Wail!

On the cover the little ships placed in alternation between reversely revolving *svastikas* represent the 17th century fleets of the "Old" East India Company, sailing

* Compare our ancient use of the phrase "Laus Deo" in the same manner [see p. 72].

† See Professor Max Müller in Schliemann's *Ilios* [J. Murray, 1880], pp. 346-349.

‡ The Hindu colour for the South is yellow, and for the North white; and these four colours—red, yellow, blue, and white—correctly represent, according to the ritualism of India, the East, South, West, and North, on the ensign of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company.

in their golden progress from the waste "Water of oblivion" of the West into the light and life of the rich and gorgeous Kingdoms of the ever illustrious East.

In antiquity, of which India is the last living reservation, blue was everywhere regarded as the colour of the sea, and of the West, and red of the land, and of the East; and in accordance with this ritualistic chromatism the *Odyssey* was, it is said, always wrapped up in blue cloth, and the *Iliad* in red. I cannot therefore help noting in this connection that the change of arms, and particularly in the dominant colours of the arms of the East India Company, as shown in Plates I. and II., foreshadowed its transformation from a mercantile corporation into a great military power. The change of mottoes is still more striking; and there were at the time those who clearly read its inauspicious significance:

"For the *Wise*
"Have a *divining* Soul that never lyes."*

GEORGE BIRDWOOD.

30th November 1890.

* These lines, and the phrase, previously quoted, "Water of oblivion" [of the West], are from Sir Richard Fanshawe's rugged, and often obscure, but most fascinating version, in "ottava rima," of *The Luciad or Portugals Historical Poem* [1655]. The stanza in which Da Gama thanks the Almighty for his miraculous deliverance from the treachery of "the Moors" at one of the East African ports, concludes with the feeling lines:

What Care, what Wisdom is of suffisance,
The stroake of Secret mischief to prevent,
Unless the SOV'RAIGN GUARDIAN from on high
Supply the strength of frail Humanity?

Da Gama's confession, to the Moormen, of his Christian faith is quaintly rendered:

We worship HIM, who is by every Nature
(Invisible and visible) obay'd,
HIM who the Hemispheres, and every Creature
(Insensible and sensible) hath made:
Who gave Us his, and took on HIM our feature,
Whom to a shameful death his own betrayed;
And who from HEAVEN to Earth came down in fine,
That Men, by HIM, from Earth to HEAVEN might climbe.

There is true poetry in the description of an altar-piece representing the Blessed Virgin Mary:

On It, the picture of that *Shape* he plac'd,
In which the HOLY SPIRIT did alight:
The picture of the *Dove*, so white, so chaste,
On the BLEST VIRGIN'S head, so chaste, so white.

And there is no suggestion in Camoens of the magic of the antiphonal repetition: "so white, so chaste,—so chaste, so white."

Another happy touch is the line:

The Waters of the *Consecrated DEEP*.

APPENDICES.

APPENDIX A.

REPORT by DR. BIRDWOOD on certain documents relating to the East India Company discovered in 1875.

On my appointment to the Curatorship of the India Museum, Colonel Burne, C.S.I., sent me a box received by him from Sir John Kaye, on the retirement of the latter from office, with the statement that it had been lying in his room [Sir J. K.'s] from beyond the memory of anyone in the Political Department, and was said to contain very important documents. I found in it 51 tally-sticks,—a bag marked “fifteen pagodas,” but which on being opened, I found to contain only two lumps of iron,—and forty parchments mixed up together in the greatest confusion.

The parchments all relate to the East India Company, and with two or three exceptions are under the Great Seal.

Several of the documents bear in the left-hand corner a vignette portrait, beautifully executed, of the sovereign reigning at the time of their engrossment. But in two or three instances they have been disgracefully mutilated by the cutting out of the vignette portraits. As a rule the Great Seal belonging to them is either missing or much damaged. There are, however, two or three fair specimens of it, and notably of that of the Lord Protector Cromwell, by Simon.

Finding these documents of such interest in relation to the East India Company, and that it was impossible for me to decipher many parts of them, I wrote and asked Sir Duffus Hardy if he would be good enough to allow a Calendar of them to be prepared by an expert in the Rolls Office. The Calendar thus prepared, by Mr. W. Noel Sainsbury, is attached.

I venture to suggest that the parchments should be carefully restored, and exhibited in this Office. I would not have them sent to the Museum. They are not idle curiosities to be toyed about in museums, but State Archives to be reverently kept in the India Office itself; and after restoration they should be

rolled up, and put away in a glass cabinet in the Council Room. The [? draft] roll of the Original Subscribers of the 2,000,000*l.* stock, which contains the names of nearly the whole of the well-to-do middle class people of England a century ago, should never again pass out of sight.

The tally-sticks are mere curiosities, unless indeed, the fact of their not having been burnt is a proof of money still owing to the Indian Government by the Treasury. Tallies were, I believe, always kept until a debt was paid, and were then burnt.

(Signed) GEORGE BIRDWOOD,
Curator of the India Museum.

17th April 1875.

Calendar of the aforesaid Documents prepared by
Mr. W. NOEL SAINSBURY, C.B.

1. 9th August 1606 (4 Jac. I.).—The king's License to the Governor and Company of Merchants of London trading into the East Indies to utter, sell (and put to sale) spices, drugs, wares, and merchandises brought from the East Indies in whole packs or sacks unbroken, and to transport the same beyond the seas without loss, forfeiture, or penalty. *A fragment difficult to decipher, of which a transcript has been made. The Great Seal in fair condition is preserved.*

N.B. A Minute only of this License is in the Public Record Office. (*Grant Book, Jac. I., p. 28.*)

2. 22nd May 1609 (7 Jac. I.). Westminster.—The King's License to the Governor and Company of Merchants of London trading into the East Indies to sell any quantities of spices, wares, merchandises, and commodities in whole packs, sacks, or casks, ungarbled, to any merchant or other person, to be transported out of the realm, without incurring forfeiture for not garbling or cleansing them, upon payment of customs, notwithstanding any prohibition to the contrary. *With the Great Seal mutilated.*

N.B. There is a Minute only of this License, dated 11th May 1609, in the Public Record Office.

(*Docquet and Grant Book, Jac. I., p. 15.*)

3. 17th March 1610 (7 Jac. I.). Westminster.—The King's Commission to Sir Henry Middleton, appointing him principal Governor or General of all merchants, mariners, and others shipped in these ships to the East Indies (*the sixth voyage*). *With the Great Seal mutilated.*

4. 17th March 1610 (7 Jac. I.).—A duplicate of the preceding Commission. *With the Great Seal mutilated.*

5. 4th February 1623 (20 Jac. I.).—The King's Commission to the Governor and Company of Merchants trading into the East Indies, reciting a former Commission of 14th December, 13 Jac. I. (1615), giving them power and authority for punishing offences at sea, and granting, at the humble suit and intercession of said Governor and Company, power and authority to "make forth Commissions, Instructions, and Directions" to their President and Council of Defence in the East Indies to chastise, correct, and punish his Majesty's subjects employed on land by fine, imprisonment, or any other punishment, capital or not capital, as the laws of this Kingdom and martial law doth permit and require. *Injured by damp. With the Great Seal mutilated.*

N.B. There is a Minute only in the Public Record Office of a Grant of the date above recited, viz., 14th December, 13 Jac. I. (1615), but it has reference to transporting foreign bullion and other things.

6. 18th February 1628 (3 Car. I.).—Letters Patent to the Governor and Company of Merchants trading into the East Indies, reciting former Letters Patent of 16th January, 15 Jac. I., to transport

foreign coin, not to exceed 100,000*l.* yearly, without payment of custom or subsidy; also reciting further Letters Patent of 22nd March, 2 Car. I., to transport 20,000*l.* in gold or silver in English specie, on condition of their bringing into the Mint 25,000*l.* of foreign coin within three months; granting to said Governor and Company license to transport 60,000*l.* in foreign gold in their next intended voyage, and, if they cannot supply themselves with foreign gold to that amount, to transport 40,000*l.* in English gold, on condition of their bringing into the Mint 40,000*l.* in foreign gold within six months. *Injured by damp. With Great Seal mutilated.*

It appears by the endorsements that there were shipped upon these Letters Patent:—8th March 1627/8, in the *Expedition*, in foreign coin, to the value of 5,900*l.*; in the *Jonas*, in foreign coin, to the value of 18,050*l.* 24th March 1627/8, in the *Jonas*, in foreign gold, 4,780*l.*; in English gold, 15,000*l.* In all, 43,720*l.*

N.B. The License of 20th March, 2 Car. I., to transport 20,000*l.* above recited, and a License of 15th February, 3 Car. I., to transport 60,000*l.*, the foundation of the above Letters Patent, both under the King's Sign Manual, are in the Public Record Office.

7. 14th October 1627 (3 Car. I.).—The King's Commission to Robert Ducy, Ralph Freeman, Christopher Clitherowe, Sir Morris Abbott,* Henry Garway, Jeffrey Kirby, Robert Jeffreys, Humfrey Browne, Clement Harby, Job Harby, Henry Lee, William Cokaine, Robert Draper, George Strode, Thomas Mustard, and William Lee, of London, merchants, and John Barker, of Bristol, Abraham Jennynges, of Plymouth, Gyles Green, of Weymouth, and Peter Taylor, of Exeter, merchants, Robert Samon and William Case, Masters of the Trinity House, to inquire, search, discover, and find out what hath been disbursed, and in whose hands any part thereof remaineth undisturbed of the moneys collected by 1½ per cent. on tonnage of shipping towards the expedition for suppressing the pirates of Algiers. *In parts illegible. With Great Seal mutilated.*

N.B. There is another Commission on this subject in the Public Record Office (Sign Manuals, Car. I., Vol. 5, No. 12), dated 16th February 1628, with this memorandum:—"The like Commission did lately pass the Great Seal, but it is now again prepared, with addition of some Commissioners, and such further additions and explanations as your Majesty under your Sign Manual hath been pleased to direct."

8. 24th March 1629 (4 Car. I.).—Letters Patent to the Governor and Company of Merchants trading into the East Indies, reciting former Letters Patent of 16th January, 15 Jac. I., for transporting foreign coin, not exceeding the sum of 100,000*l.* yearly, without payment of custom or subsidy, and petition of said Company showing they have raised a stock of above 120,000*l.*, which is intended to be employed in a particular voyage this year for Persia, in cloth, tin, kerseys, and other native commodities and manufactures of this Kingdom, and that said Company have made a contract with the King of Persia to bring a fourth part of the value of their commodities in ready money, either gold or silver, granting to said Company license to transport the sum of 60,000*l.*, whereby to enable them to make good their contract with the said King of Persia. *Injured by damp. Without the Great Seal.*

* This is "the Honourable and Worthy Knight Sr. Maurice Abbot," to whom, with others, Henry Lord dedicates his *Discoverie of the Sect of the Banians, and Religion of the Parsees*, 1630.—GEO. B.

It appears by the endorsement that there were shipped upon these Letters Patents:—

In the *Discovery*, in foreign gold, 8,800*l.* ;

In the *Charles*, in foreign gold, 20,000*l.* ;

And in English gold, 16,900*l.*

9. 10th March 1630 (5 Car. I.).—Letters Patent to the Governor and Company of Merchants trading into the East Indies, reciting former Letters Patent of 16th January, 15 Jac. I., for transporting foreign coin, which “only extends to foreign silver and bullion of silver,” and granting to said Company license to buy and take up in England the sum of 8,000*l.* in foreign gold, and to transport the same into the East Indies or Persia, without incurring any penalty, forfeiture, or other punishment, and without payment of custom or subsidy. *With the Great Seal Mutilated.*

10. 17th October 1629 (5 Car. I.).—Letters Patent to the Governor and Company of Merchants trading into the East Indies, reciting former Letters Patent of 16th January, 15 Jac. I., and petition of said Company that they have now enlarged their trade into Persia, where they shall have opportunity to vent yearly great quantities of cloth, kerseys, and tin, the commodities and manufactures of this Kingdom, and therefore shall have use of a greater proportion of gold, silver, and bullion than 100,000*l.* mentioned in said former Letters Patent, granting them license to transport 120,000*l.* yearly, whereof 40,000*l.* to be in foreign gold or bullion of gold. *The Great Seal to this Patent is wanting.*

11. 9th November 1630 (6 Car. I.).—Letters Patent to the Governor and Company of Merchants trading into the East Indies, reciting former Letters Patent of 16th January, 15 Jac. I., and granting to said Governor and Company license to buy and take up in England the sum of 30,000*l.* in foreign gold, and to transport the same in six ships which they intend to furnish and send from hence before the end of March next to the East Indies or Persia, without payment of custom or subsidy. *The Great Seal to this Patent is wanting.*

N.B. The License under the King's Sign Manual is dated 6th November 1630, and is in the Public Record Office.

12. 21st November 1631 (7 Car. I.).—Letters Patent to the Governor and Company of Merchants trading into the East Indies, granting them license to buy and take up in England the sum of 30,000*l.* in foreign gold, and to transport the same in their next intended voyage with seven good ships into Persia and the East Indies, without payment of custom or subsidy. *Without the Great Seal.*

It appears by the endorsement that there were shipped upon these Letters Patent:—

In the *Pearl*, one chest of foreign gold *ad valorem* 8,863*l.*

In the *Charles*, ditto, ditto, containing 8,000*l.*

N.B. The above License under the King's Sign Manual, dated 19th November, is in the Public Record Office (Vol. 13, No. 69).

13. 3rd March 1632 (7 Car. I.).—Letters Patent to the Governor and Company of Merchants trading to the East Indies, granting them license to buy, take up, and transport the sum of 20,000*l.* of foreign gold into the East Indies or Persia without incurring any penalty.

forfeiture, or other punishment, and without payment of custom or subsidy; and in case said Company cannot supply themselves with said sum in foreign gold, then it shall be lawful for them to buy and take up and transport what shall be wanting in English gold. *Injured by damp. Without the Great Seal.*

14. 8th October 1633 (9 Car. I.).—Letters Patent to the Governor and Company of Merchants trading to the East Indies, granting them license, in regard by their Charter they have power only to transport foreign silver, to buy and take up, and to transport without payment of custom or subsidy in five good ships laden with tin, cloth, lead, and other native commodities of this Kingdom the sum of 40,000*l.* in foreign gold, and in case they cannot furnish themselves with so much in foreign gold, then to supply themselves with English gold, being no more than what hath formerly been granted them on the like occasions. *Injured by damp. Without the Great Seal.*

15. 30th November 1635 (11. Car. I.).—Letters Patent to the Governor and Company of Merchants trading into the East Indies, reciting former Letters of 16th January (15 Jac. I.), granting them license to transport a sum not exceeding 100,000*l.* per annum in foreign silver or bullion of silver, and granting them license on their petition to buy and take up and transport in their intended voyage to the East Indies and Persia the sum of 30,000*l.* in foreign gold, and what is wanting of said sum in English gold, without payment of custom or subsidy, in the *Mary, Hart, and Swan*. *Injured by damp, and without the Great Seal.*

16. 7th August 1655.—Warrant of the Lord Protector to the Commissioners of the Treasury and other Officers of the Exchequer to pay to the Governor and Company of Merchants trading to the East Indies the sum of 50,000*l.* in three equal portions, viz., one third part in one year's time from the date of these presents, a second third part six months after the termination of said year, and the third part, the full residue and remainder of said sum, at the end of one year to be reckoned from the termination of aforesaid year. *With the Great Seal, with the inscription "In the third yeare of freedome by God's blessing restored."*

17. 18th December 1660 (12 Car. II.).—Letters Patent to the Governor and Company of Merchants trading to the East Indies, granting them license to buy and transport the sum of 60,000*l.* in foreign coin and bullion in this their intended voyage to the East Indies or Persia. *With the Great Seal mutilated.*

N.B. A Petition of the East India Company to the King is in the Public Record Office, dated 8th October 1660, for a warrant to permit them to export 60,000*l.* in coin and bullion. Also the order for said warrant, dated 1st December 1661.

18. 14th November 1665.—Mandate of James, Duke of York, Lord High Admiral of England, to the Commissioners for Reprizals to sell the contents of the ship *Golden Phoenix* lately adjudged lawful prize by the Court of Admiralty. *Latin.*

N.B. There is a Warrant in the Public Record Office of the same date as the above confirming a contract between the Duke of Albermarle and the East India Company for purchase by the latter of two prize ships of the Dutch East India Company *Slothany* and *Golden Phoenix*. The contract itself is also among the State Papers.

19. 6th February 1668 (20 Car. II.).—Acquittance under the Great Seal to the Governor and Company of Merchants trading to the East Indies; recites the Articles of Agreement of 7th November 1665, between the Duke of Albemarle on the King's behalf, and Sir John Robinson, Lieutenant of the Tower, and others on behalf of said Governor and Company, touching goods taken from two Dutch East India Ships the *Slothany* and the *Golden Phoenix*, sold and disposed of for His Majesty's use for the sum of 154,969*l.* 13*s.* 5*d.*, the account thereof being examined and approved by the Commissioners for Prizes, and that the King doth by these presents remise, release, and for ever quit claim unto said Governor and Company and their successors the above said sum, and all actions, suits, accounts, processes, claims, and demands whatsoever of or concerning the same.
The vignette portrait of Charles II. has been cut out of this document, and the Great Seal is mutilated.

20. 7th October 1672 (24 Car. II.).—Letters Patent to the East India Company, who having promised to lend the King 20,000*l.* "for the supply of our occasions," and having been at great charge in fitting forth and keeping out at sea four ships to cruize to the westward for the security of trade, towards which the King has thought fit to allow them 2,000*l.*, and said Company having agreed to furnish the King with saltpetre to the value of 30,000*l.*, and saltpetre to the value of 40,000*l.* having been bought of said Company for satisfaction, of which an order was registered upon the King's revenue arising by fire hearths and stores, bearing date 13th November 1669, and said Company having made request that said 40,000*l.* may be satisfied out of customs for goods and commodities imported by said Company from 1st December next, the Commissioners of the Treasury are required to pay to said Company out of the receipt of the Exchequer said sum of 20,000*l.*, with interest at 6*l.* per cent. per annum from the time the same shall be paid into the Exchequer until the time of repayment, also said sums of 2,000*l.*, with interest at 6*l.* per cent. per annum from 29th September last, and of 30,000*l.*, with 6 per cent. per annum from 10th October instant, and 40,000*l.*, with interest at 6 per cent. per annum from 29th September last past. And for the better security of said Company to direct tallies to be levied upon the Receiver and Cashier General of Customs and new imposts upon wines and vinegar for said sums of 20,000*l.*, 2,000*l.*, 30,000*l.*, and 40,000*l.*, and interest as aforesaid, such Receiver General to discharge and satisfy said tallies for said sums of 20,000*l.*, 2,000*l.*, and 30,000*l.*, with interest as aforesaid, by six-and-twenty weekly payments of 2,000*l.* per week from 1st December next, and to discharge said tallies for said 40,000*l.*, with interest as aforesaid, out of the customs of such East India commodities as shall be imported by said Company after 1st December next according to their request.

With vignette portrait of Charles II., but without the Great Seal.

21. 7th October 1672 (24 Car. II.).—Acquittance under the Great Seal to the East India Company; recites articles of agreement between the Navy Commissioners and the East India Company, touching the setting forth His Majesty's ships *Dunkirk*, *Leopard*, *Mary Rose*, and *Convertine* to the East Indies at the King's charge to be freighted home by said Company, the return of said ships from the East Indies, and differences arising between said Company and Navy Commissioners occasioned by the return of the *Leopard* with

much dead freight, the receipt by said Company of 1,000*l.*, for which they were to pay 4,153 $\frac{3}{4}$ pieces of eight to Sir Gervase Lucas, the King's Governor of Bombay, but who died before they were paid to him, the misfortunes which befel the *Leopard* from the obstructions of the Dutch in India, who admitting the said Company's just demands for satisfaction, said Company were in a way of obtaining satisfaction when the Treaty of Breda was concluded, petition of said Company to be released from aforesaid articles of agreement, and from payment of said 4,153 $\frac{3}{4}$ pieces of eight, said Company's present of 2,000*l.* money to the King, and bills of 282*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* and 1,572 18*s.* due from the King to said Company for freight of the ship *London*. The King by these presents doth remise, release, and for ever quit claim unto said Governor and Company and their successors said articles of agreement and said pieces of eight, and all actions, suits, accounts, processes, claims, and demands in respect thereof.

With vignette portrait of the King and the Great Seal attached.

N.B. The King's letter to the Duke of York to order the Navy Commissioners to make above agreement is in the Public Record Office.

(Dom. Entry Book, Vol. 3, p. 11.)

22. 27th October 1673 (25 Car. II.).—Letters Patent ratifying an agreement between Prince Rupert, Duke of Cumberland, and others, His Majesty's Principal Commissioners of Prizes, and the East India Company, by which the Company are to sell the goods taken from the Dutch ships *Papenburgh*, *Alphen*, *Arms of Trewere*, alias *Camphire*, and *Europa*, on His Majesty's behalf, and pay the proceeds to Richard Mounteney, His Majesty's Receiver General of Prizes, after deducting customs, tare and tret, and charges of house room, management, &c. The Company undertake that the goods when sold shall amount to 33,700*l.* more than the above said rates (which are prescribed at length), and for the accommodation of His Majesty's occasions said Company will advance on account to said Richard Mounteney 50,000*l.* on 30th October instant, 50,000*l.* on 6th November following, and the remainder, whatsoever the sum may amount unto at the rates aforesaid, and the 33,700*l.* custom and charges provided for in these articles, and 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. which they allow to their buyers, first deducted, on 18th of said November.

Injured by damp, with the vignette portrait of Charles II., but without the Great Seal.

23. 6th March 1674 (26 Car. II.).—Release from Prince Rupert, Duke of Cumberland, and others, His Majesty's Principal Commissioners of Prizes, to the East India Company. Whereas the said Company (in accordance with the articles of agreement under the Great Seal of 27th October 1673) have sold the goods taken in the Dutch ships *Papenburgh*, *Alphen*, *Arms of Trewere*, alias *Camphire*, and *Europa*, for 174,741*l.* 9*s.* 8*d.*, and paid thereof to Richard Mounteney, Receiver General of Prizes, 140,000*l.*, and have given an account of the expenditure of the residue in customs, expenses, and charges of management, &c., said Commissioners by these presents allow said account, and on His Majesty's behalf release and quit claim said Company from all demands on account of said goods or moneys. *Signed by* Rupert, Latimer, Ormonde, Craven, Henry Coventry, and (Sir John) Duncomb. *Much injured by damp.*

24. 13th March 1674 (26 Car. II.).—Acquittance under the Great Seal to the East India Company. That whereas in pursuance of

articles of agreement under the Great Seal of 27th October 1673, between Prince Rupert, Duke of Cumberland, and others, His Majesty's Commissioners of Prizes, and the East India Company, touching East India goods lately taken from the Dutch in the four ships *Papenburgh*, *Alphen*, *Arms of Teweer*, alias *Campfire*, and *Europa*, which were put in the Company's hands to be disposed of to His Majesty's most advantage, said Company have disposed of said goods for the sum of 174,741*l.* 9*s.* 8*d.*, and have paid the same for His Majesty's use, or expended it in customs and charges, &c., His Majesty by these presents doth remise, release, and for ever quit claim unto said East India Company and their successors all suits, claims, and demands against said Company concerning said sum of money and goods.

With vignette portrait of Charles II.

Enrolled on the Patent Roll in the Public Record Office, Pat. 26, Car. II., Pt. 4, No. 4, 3159.

25. 21st October 1676 (28 Car. II.)—Warrant under the Great Seal to the Commissioners and Officers of the Treasury and Exchequer. Whereas the said East India Company have agreed to lend His Majesty the sum of 40,000*l.* on the credit of the customs payable by them for East India commodities imported, after satisfying the sum of 37,000*l.* and interest still unpaid for 700 tons of saltpetre by them formerly sold to His Majesty, His Majesty doth by these presents authorize and direct said Commissioners and Officers of the Treasury to cause payment to be made to said Company of said sum, with interest at 6 per cent., out of said customs aforesaid, and tallies to be levied accordingly upon the Receiver General and Farmers of Customs.

With vignette portrait of Charles II. and the Great Seal mutilated.

Enrolled on Patent Roll in the Public Record Office, Pat. 28, Car. II., Pt. 1, No. 4, 3180.

26. 24th January 1678 (29 Car. II.)—Warrant under the Great Seal to the Commissioners and Officers of the Treasury and Exchequer. Whereas the East India Company have agreed to lend His Majesty the sum of 20,000*l.*, and to furnish His Majesty's stores with 754 $\frac{3}{4}$ tons of saltpetre, which at the price agreed on amounts to 40,000*l.*, or 60,000*l.* in all, His Majesty by these presents authorizes and requires said Commissioners and Officers of the Treasury to cause payment to be made to said Company of said sum, with interest at 6 per cent., out of the customs payable by them for East India commodities imported after the 1st November last past.

With vignette portrait of Charles II., but the Great Seal is missing.

27. 22nd November 1678 (30 Car. II.)—Warrant under the Great Seal to the Commissioners and Officers of the Treasury and Exchequer. Whereas the East India Company have agreed to lend His Majesty 30,000*l.*, and furnish His Majesty's stores with 363 tons 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwts. 25 lbs. of saltpetre, of the value of 20,000*l.*, making together 50,000*l.*, His Majesty by these presents authorizes and directs said Commissioners and Officers of the Treasury to cause payment of said sum, with interest at 6 per cent., to be made to said Company out of the customs on East India commodities by them imported, after the satisfaction of the sum of 60,000*l.* and interest mentioned in His Majesty's Letters Patent of 24th January last.

The vignette portrait of Charles II. has been cut out, and but a fragment remains of the Great Seal.

28. 18th September 1682 (34 Car. II).—Warrant under the Great Seal to the Commissioners and Officers of the Treasury and Exchequer. Whereas the East India Company have furnished His Majesty's stores with 400 tons of saltpetre at the price of 15,372*l.*, His Majesty by these presents authorizes and requires said Commissioners and Officers of the Treasury to cause issue of said sum to be made to the Paymaster of the Ordnance, to be by him applied to satisfy said Company, payment to be made by tallies on the Receiver General and Farmers of the Customs of East India commodities imported after the 25th March next, with interest at 6 per cent.

With vignette portrait of Charles II., and a fragment of the Great Seal.

29. 5th July 1683 (35 Car. II).—Warrant under the Great Seal to the Commissioners and Officers of the Treasury and Exchequer. Whereas the East India Company have agreed to furnish His Majesty's stores with 1,051 tons of saltpetre, which, at 38*s.* 6*d.* per cwt., amounts to 40,463*l.* 10*s.*, His Majesty by these presents authorizes and requires said Commissioners and Officers of the Treasury to cause issue of said sum to be made to the Paymaster of the Ordnance, to be by him applied to satisfy said Company, payment to be made by tallies on the Receiver General and Farmers of the Customs of East India commodities imported after the 29th September next, with interest at 6 per cent.

With vignette portrait of Charles II., and the Great Seal mutilated.

30. 12th November 1684 (36 Car. II).—The King to John Petit, George Bourcher, Simon Cracroft, and Edward Littleton. Whereas His Majesty is informed by petition of the East India Company that they, being said Company's servants, under oath and security for their truth and fidelity, have notwithstanding for several years past manifestly injured said Company in their trade in those parts, by endeavouring to lessen their reputation with the Native Kings and Governors, and to break contracts with some of them, making others for the protection of interlopers, and labouring to promote their trade and interest and lessen the Company's, and that said John Petit is notoriously suspected to have been an encourager and adviser of the late rebellion at Bombay, His Majesty requires and strictly commands said Petit, Bourcher, Cracroft, and Littleton, within 14 days after His pleasure shall have been signified to them, to come for England to answer the premises and such other matters as by the said Company shall be objected against them.

31. 31st January 1688 (3 Jac. II).—Acquittance under the Privy Seal to the East India Company and to the owners of the ship *Andaluzia*. Whereas the ship *Andaluzia*, John Jacob master, found trading between the Cape de Bona Speranza and the Straits of Magellan without license of said Company, was, on the 7th of April last past, condemned, and sentence passed that said ship and goods were forfeited, one half to his Majesty and the other to said Company, according to the Letters Patent of said Company of 3rd April 1661; and whereas His Majesty, at the instance of said Company, has consented that said ship be restored to the owners, and said goods sold, and the proceeds paid, one fifth to His Majesty and to said Company, and four fifths to the owners, which has been done

accordingly, and the sum of 3,161*l.* 0*s.* 2*d.* paid into His Majesty's Exchequer; His Majesty is pleased to accept said sum, and by these presents doth exonerate, release, and discharge said Company and said owners from all claims and demands concerning the said ship and goods. *Injured by damp, and the Seal is wanting.*

32. 3rd October 1689 (1 Will. and Mary).—Warrant under the Great Seal to the Commissioners of the Treasury and Officers of the Exchequer. Whereas the East India Company on the 30th August last furnished Their Majesties' stores with 500 tons of brown saltpetre, which at 45*l.* per ton amounts to 22,500*l.*, and Their Majesties have agreed that said sum shall be paid out of the customs and duties of East India commodities since the 1st August last imported or to be imported, except the duties lately by Act of Parliament appropriated to the satisfaction of moneys due to the States General, and arrears due to the servants of the late King Charles the Second, Their Majesties hereby authorize and direct said Commissioners and Officers of the Treasury and Exchequer to cause payment to be made of said sum to the Paymaster of the Ordnance, to be by him paid to said Company as aforesaid, with interest at 6 per cent. per annum.

With vignette portrait of the King, but without the Great Seal.

33. 14th July 1698.—Roll of subscribers for raising a sum not exceeding two millions upon a fund for payment of annuities after the rate of 8*l.* per cent. per annum, and for settling the trade to the East Indies according to an Act made in the last Session of the last Parliament. Said subscribers undertake to unite their several shares and interests, and to be incorporated as a Company, and to trade in a joint stock to the East Indies.

The amounts of the several subscriptions vary from 20,000*l.*, the highest, to 100*l.*, the lowest. Henry Furnese, 15,000*l.*, is the first name on this roll, Jas. Courthop, 100*l.*, the last name. Among the subscribers are the following, viz:—

	£
John Smith, for Lord Portland	10,000
Sam Shepheard	20,000
Thos. Vernon	15,000
John Lloyd	4,000
Jas. Vernon, for Duke of Shrewsbury	4,000
Jas. Vernon, for himself	2,000
Theod. Janssen	15,000
Gilbert Heathcote	15,000
Ditto, for his brother John	3,000
Ditto, for his brother William	3,000
The Lord Chancellor	2,000
Henry Cornish	10,000
For His Majesty:—	
Chas. Montague	}
Ste. Fox	}
J. Smith	} 10,000
Tho. Littleton	}
Montagu	5,000
Ranelagh	3,000
Cha. Montague	5,000
Ste. Fox	4,000
J. Smith	2,000
Tho. Littleton	2,000

	£
Wm. Blathwayt - - -	2,000
The Earl of Orford - - -	6,000
Cha. Montagu - - -	4,000
Thos. Clarke, for Jno. Bromley - - -	7,000
John Chadwicke - - -	3,000
John, Lord Culpeper - - -	500
Duke of Devonshire - - -	6,000
Gilbert Heathcote - - -	2,000

This roll consists of fifteen skins of parchment.

34. 8th December 1703 (2 Anne).—Warrant under the Great Seal from George, Prince of Denmark, Lord High Admiral of England and Generalissimo of the Forces, granting letters of marque to Samuel Goodman in the ship *Martha* against ships, vessels, and goods belonging to France and Spain, their vassals, subjects, &c., Her Majesty having on 14th May 1702 declared war against France and Spain.

This document has suffered from damp, and only a fragment of the Seal remains.

35. 20th August 1705 (4 Anne).—Grant of pardon under the Great Seal to the Governor and Company of Merchants of London trading into the East Indies. Recites the substance of an Act of Parliament of 9 Will. III., intituled “An Act for raising a sum, not exceeding two millions, upon a fund for payment of annuities after “the rate of eight pounds per centum per annum, and for settling the “trade to the East Indies,” the incorporation of a Company by the name of the “English Company trading to the East Indies,” the said Governor and Company being on 22nd July 1702 possessed of 315,000*l.* of said subscriptions, and an indenture tripartite made on said 22nd July 1702, between Her Majesty, the said Governor and Company, and the said English Company, for settling all disputes between the two Companies, whereby the said English Company doth covenant to assist said Governor and Company in bringing home their effects from the Indies, &c., and to pay to them so much of the additional duty of five per cent. payable by said Act of Parliament on goods brought from the Indies as shall be paid to such English Company for the goods, &c., of said Governor and Company, their agents and servants, and Her Majesty covenants to pardon both said Companies for all crimes, misdemeanours, &c., by either committed “from the beginning of the world” to the date of said indenture, except certain customs, duties, and saltpetre not yet paid or delivered. And whereas the said English Company, by deed of the 20th of July last past, have declared that certain informations in the Court of Exchequer in the name of Alexander Gawu and others, claiming that the ships *Regard*, *Howland*, and *Chambers* frigate (being the only ships of Governor and Company now abroad) were forfeited for certain seizures, were made without their direction or privity, and have released and quit claimed to said Governor and Company all causes of forfeitures and penalties which might arise by reason of said seizures or informations: Her Majesty by these presents pardons and quit claims to the said Governor and Company, their agents and servants, for all offences and crimes done on the 22nd of July 1702 and since, contrary to said Act of Parliament, except duties, customs, breaches of bond, &c.

Very much injured by damp, with the vignette portrait of Queen Anne, and the Great Seal, which is mutilated.

36. 20th October 1732 (6 Geo. II.).—Commission under the Great Seal to Robert Jenkins, commander of the ship *Harrington*, carrying thirty-four guns and ninety-eight men, empowering him to apprehend, seize, and secure all pirates, freebooters, and sea rovers, being His Majesty's subjects, or of other nations associated with them, with their ships, moneys, and goods, as he shall meet with on the coasts and in the seas of India (whither he is going), or in any other seas, and bring them to trial to the end they may be proceeded against with the utmost severity of the law, and enjoining him to keep a journal of said pirates' ships, goods, moneys, arms, &c., and to take care of the bills of lading and all other papers found in them.

This Commission bears the King's signature, but the Great Seal has been sadly mutilated.

37. 22nd August 1737 (11 Geo. II.).—Similar Commission under the Great Seal to William Jobson, commander of the *Royal George*, carrying thirty guns and ninety-eight men.

This Commission also bears the King's signature, but the Great Seal is mutilated.

38. 18th November 1745 (19 Geo. II.).—Letters of marque under the Great Seal to Harry Kent, commander of the ship *Dragon*, carrying twenty guns and ninety-nine men, against all ships and goods of France and Spain, their vassals and inhabitants.

There is a vignette portrait of George II., but the Great Seal is wanting.

39. 2nd July 1747 (21 Geo. II.).—Similar letters of marque under the Great Seal to Norton Hutchinson, commander of the *Swallow*, carrying fourteen guns and thirty-five men.

With vignette portrait of George II. The Great Seal is missing.

40. 16th October 1758 (32 Geo. II.).—Commission under the Great Seal to George Beamish, commander of the ship *Royal George*, carrying twenty-four guns and eighty men, to seize pirates.

This Commission is in similar terms to No. 36; it has the King's signature, but the Great Seal is wanting.

W. NOEL SAINSBURY.

P.S., 2nd Reprint.—The whole of the above 40 documents are now included in the new *Catalogue of Parchment Records* prepared under the direction of Mr. F. C. Dauvers since the first reprint of the present Report was issued last year [1889]. See Appendix D.

Geo. B.

APPENDIX B.

Reprint of the Introduction to
**THE DAWN OF BRITISH TRADE TO THE
 EAST INDIES,**

As recorded in the Court Minutes of the East India Company,

1599—1603,

Printed from the Original Manuscript

BY

HENRY STEVENS OF VERMONT,

And published by

HENRY STEVENS AND SON,

115, Saint Martin's Lane

[Now (1890) 39, Great Russell Street].

LONDON :

1886.

INTRODUCTION.

“Qui mare teneat, eum necesse rerum potiri.”—CICERO, *Ep. ad Att.*, x.

The History of the East India Company is a work that has still to be written, although from its rise, at the close of the sixteenth century, to its disappearance thirty years ago, the Company was careful to provide all the necessary material for the task, and to place on formal record the simplest acts of its administration, and the reasons which prompted all its decisions. The value of these contemporary annals—for the Court Books, Factory Diaries, Consultations, and general correspondence, really constitute a continuous narrative—has been only in a small degree impaired by the ravages of time, and by the neglect of less careful custodians than the men who originally determined that their successors in office should gain by their example and experience, and that the Company itself should not suffer in the eyes of posterity from any ambiguity as to its proceedings. The present volume, printed as a labour of love under the direction and at the

charge of the late Mr. Henry Stevens, is, so far as print can be made a facsimile of manuscript, identical with the first Court Book kept by the adventurers trading to the East Indies, who received from Queen Elizabeth in the last year of the sixteenth century a patent, or charter, recognizing them as the East India Company, with a monopoly of trade and specified privileges for a given term of years.

The first entry is of the names of those persons who subscribed on 22nd September, 1599, to "the pretended voiage to the Easte Indias, the whiche it maie please the Lorde to pspere;" and the last is the report of a committee meeting on 28th June, 1603. Within those four years is contained the germ of every triumph subsequently achieved in the seas and lands of the East. The committees to which the adventurers entrusted the guidance of their affairs not merely laid down the countries with which it was desirable to trade, and the English commodities for which their markets might provide a vent, but they dwelt upon the inconveniences of the long sea route by the Cape of Good Hope to India, and listened with approval to any project, however visionary, for bringing London nearer to the wealthy kingdoms of Asia. As will be seen, their hopes centred in the North-West passage, which Robert Thorne had been the first to advocate in Henry VIII.'s reign as furnishing a road to Cathay and India, and which long continued to dangle before the eyes of the Company as a glorious possibility, never realizing its promise until in our time the discovery had been made, and the feat accomplished, not by naval skill and daring, but by the connection of the two great oceans of the world by a line of railway. The early references to America contained in this volume will be of peculiar interest to the descendants of the Pilgrim Fathers of the *May Flower*,* who have so rapidly spread themselves over that mighty continent, and who have so brilliantly carried on the commercial traditions of the Mother Country of us all.

The present volume, the first Court Book, furnishes irrefragable evidence that the managers of the East India Company began their undertaking in a thoroughly practical and businesslike manner. They encountered a rebuff, however, on the very threshold of their enterprise, for after three meetings they were obliged to postpone their first voyage until the following year in consequence of the negotiations then in progress with Spain for the conclusion of a peace. The active life of the Company, therefore, did not commence until the meeting at Founders' Hall, on 23rd September, 1600, whereat it was announced that "it was Her Ma^{ty}s pleasure that they shuld proceade in ther purpose." The first steps taken were the appointment of committees to select and purchase suitable vessels for the voyage, as well as the necessary stores and equipment. The *Susan*, or more strictly the *Great Susan*, the *Hector*, and the *Assention*, were the first three vessels purchased, and then, after protracted bargaining with its owner, the Earl of Cumberland, the *Mare Scurge*, afterwards renamed the *Red Dragon*, was procured as the Admiral's ship. These four vessels constituted what is termed "the First Voyage," but a

* The East India Company possessed in 1659 a ship called the *May Flower*, which I believe subsequently foundered in the Bay of Bengal. In my *Report on the Miscellaneous Old Records of the India Office* [H.M.'s Stationery Office, 1879], I ask whether it could have been the same ship as the *May Flower* which landed the Dutch, Scotch, and English emigrants from Delft Haven, Southampton, and Plymouth, in New England, 25 Dec., 1620. See pp. 74-5.

fifth, and much smaller vessel, named the *Guift*,* was added to them for the conveyance of some of the indispensable supplies of the squadron, and it was to be cast adrift at the discretion of the commander. The committees had to report to the Court every particular of their transactions with the owners of the ships, and these form the substance of the first half of the present volume. The inventories of the four ships named, given at pp. 15-20, pp. 22-4, pp. 42-4, are exceedingly curious, and mention everything on board from culverins and masts to "1 pease pott & 2 gridirons." The *Mare Scurge*, of 600 tons burden, and twice the size of the next largest vessel of the fleet, the *Hector*, cost 3,700*l.* The *Susan* was purchased for 1,600*l.*; but the prices given for the others are not stated. The *Guift* cost 300*l.* These sums included everything on board, as well as the vessels themselves, and with regard to two of them it was stipulated that the seller should take back his ship at half price on its safe return.

The ships having been procured, the next thing was to make them ready for sea, and this was done with all dispatch; the workmen on the *Mare Scurge* being allowed a barrel of beer a day to prevent their running to the ale-house. They were then provided with their proper companies, the *Mare Scurge* having 200 men, the *Hector* 100 men, the *Susan* 80 men, and the *Assention* 80 men. The sailors received two months' wages in advance, and the officers were treated in an equally liberal manner. Great care was shown in the selection of the latter, and when the Lord Treasurer made a special appeal for Sir Edward Michelborne to be employed in the voyage the Court firmly refused "to imploy anie gent," and requested "leave to sort ther busines wth men of ther owne quality." Captain James Lancaster was appointed Captain of the *Mare Scurge*, and Admiral of the Squadron. Captain John Middleton commanded the *Hector*, with the succession to the chief command in the event of Lancaster's death. Both these officers were also appointed principal factors. The Master of the *Susan* was Samuel Spencer, and of the *Assention*, Roger Hankiu.

The Company had difficulties of its own. Some of the adventurers were not prompt in paying up their instalments, and in April, 1601, the Company was 7,000*l.* in default, and had to appeal to the Lords of the Privy Council for special powers to deal with those that "shewe themselves remisse & vnwillinge to furnyshe there promysed contribucons," and this request was granted. The order is a characteristic one, and will be found at pp. 165-6. The Company issued warrants against the defaulters in accordance with this order, and we may assume that this summary mode of dealing was attended with satisfactory results as the subject gradually disappears from the Court Minutes.

On 1st May 1601, the Court sanctioned the payment of "twentie merkes" to the King of Heralds for assigning Corporate Arms to the Company, but these were not the same Insignia† of Community, with the motto "Auspicio Regis et Senatus Angliæ," which, at a later date, became renowned throughout the East. Very stringent rules were also passed for the maintenance of order in the Court, and some of them would not be without their value in a more august assembly at the present day, as, for instance, the regulation providing that no

* The received names of the ships here called *Mare Scurge*, and *Guift*, are *Malice Scourge* and *Guest*. The name of the *Assention* is usually spelled *Ascension*.

† See pp. 21, note, and 222-3, note.

brother of the Company should speak to any one matter "above three sundry tymes." The penalty of doing so was 3s. 4d., a considerable amount in those days. Penalties of different amounts were inflicted for uncivil or intemperate speeches and behaviour, for interruptions, such as private whisperings, &c., for breaking silence when enjoined by the Governour, for leaving the Court without permission, and the refusal to pay these fines or penalties entailed a term of imprisonment. For further information on these points the reader must be referred to pp. 201-4.

It was in June, 1603, that news was received through a Frenchman that left the English fleet at sea of its safe return to European waters, but the first Court Book contains only special reference to the arrival of the *Assention*, from the officers of which vessel several letters were read in the General Court held on 6th June, 1603. Ten days later the reward of five pounds was assigned to Mr. Middleton of Plymouth "for his paines ryding hether wth the first report of the coming of the "*Assention* out of the East Indies." Special orders were sent down to Plymouth that the ship was not to break bulk until anchored in the Thames. Warehouses suitable for the reception of its cargo were taken, tithes were paid to the Lord High Admiral for a prize captured at sea, and on the 16th June the entrance of the vessel into the river was publicly announced. Six pounds had then to be paid for pilotage and 917l. for customs to the King [for James I. had succeeded "Good Queen Bess"], before the adventurers were in a position to know how their first journey had prospered. The Court Book says modestly that it afforded encouragement for a second venture, but for more exact and detailed information concerning the return of the East India Company's first squadron from Asia the reader will refer to the passages themselves.

Very soon after the sailing of the first fleet for India by the Cape of Bona Speransa, the project of discovering a route to the East Indies by the North-West Passage was brought before the Court by "one George Waymoth* a navigator." The subject was considered in a dual form; first, whether the Company would take it up and be at the charge of fitting out two or three pinnaces, and secondly, if it would not accept this direct responsibility, would it leave the matter to private men, and reward their discovery by the surrender of the trade by this route for certain years? Whether from fear of losing any of the privileges and advantages of the monopoly of trade with China and the East Indies, or from pure public spirit, it was determined that "the findinge out of the Northwest passage" shall be "consented unto for a voyage." The readiness of the Court to undertake this quest, and to seriously take up George Waymouth's idea, can only be understood by realizing the state of geographical knowledge at the time, and the hopes of the commercial classes of the discovery of new and short routes to the Indies as well as of new countries.

The discovery of the North-West Passage had been the first ambition of English navigators. Henry VII.'s letters patent to John Cabot and his three sons in 1496 were for the discovery of this very route.† In the next reign Robert Thorne advocated the same project, which Sebastian Cabot revived under Edward VI. and Mary, and the expedition of Sir Hugh Willoughby and Richard Chancellor to the White

* His name is afterwards spelt Waymouth and Waymouthe.

† See pp. 193-5.

Sea, partly a failure and partly a success, was really another attempt to solve the same problem. The voyages of Martin Frobisher, in 1576-8, were the first to give any tangible ground of hope in the discovery of an inlet on the coast of Labrador running westward, and he was "highly commended of all men for the great hope he brought of a passage to Cathaia." These different attempts made in the course of a century were so many endeavours to realize the predictions of Seneca* and Pulci.† The latter clearly prophesied that across the Atlantic would be discovered not only a new world, but a new route to the East.

Political considerations confirmed the traditions kept alive by the bolder geographers and men of science of antiquity, and also of the Renaissance. Da Gama's discovery of the Cape route to the Indies had been to the benefit of a Portuguese monopoly, not of the commercial interests of Europe at large. For a century the Portuguese enjoyed as undisturbed a supremacy east of the Cape as the Spaniards had for three-fourths that period on the Spanish Main. When the English navy was in its infancy that of Portugal had reached its prime, and was, indeed, squandering the magnificent inheritance of Da Gama and Albuquerque. It seemed to English navigators and merchants that the only practical way of coping with the Portuguese in the Eastern seas was by the discovery of a new route thither of which England might claim and possess the sole right of usage. In the sixteenth century English naval enterprise found its chief impulse in this consideration, and when the next century was marked by the beginning of an East India Company whose programme was to compete with the Portuguese and Dutch—for the latter had also, and before us, embarked on the same undertaking—in a trade by the Cape route, there were many who turned with unconcealed longing to the earlier scheme, as holding forth the promise of easier and more complete success. It was in this banking feeling after a monopoly and a sway not to be disputed that men like George Waymouth and other advocates of the North-West Passage found their best opportunity and argument.

Such were the prevalent views when Captain Waymouth proposed a fresh search for the North-West Passage, and obtained the sanction of the Court to his design. Although a fleet had sailed only a few months before by the Cape route, then new to Englishmen, the generality of the Company showed every disposition to patronise another attempt to open a route peculiarly dear to the English, and identified with their name. Yet even in this matter, an unexpected obstacle presented itself in the alleged prior rights of the "Muskovia Company," the parent of the Russia Company of our time. Delays and objections

* See his *Medea*, II., 376-80:—

"Venient annis secula seris
Quibus Oceana vincula rerum
Laxet, et ingens pateat tellus,
Tethysque novos detegat orbes,
Nec sit terris ultima Thule."

And again, his *Questionum Naturalium Libri Septem*:—"Curiosus spectator contemnit domi-
cillii angustias. Quantum enim est quod ab ultimis litoribus Hispaniæ usque ad Indos
"jacet? paucissimorum dierum spatium, si navem suam ventus implevit." See pp. 257-8.

† Luigi Pulci, 1431-1487, "sire of the half-serious rhyme":—

"But see, the sun speeds in his western path
To glad the nations with unexpected light."

ensued as to the respective privileges of the two Companies, and the deliberations of chosen delegates did not greatly further any practical or definite conclusion. The discussion might have continued indefinitely had not the East India Company taken legal opinion as to their rights, and finding them ample for the purpose in hand, sanctioned the scheme as their "Second Voyage" to the Indies. Finding them so firm, the Muskovia Company waived their loftier pretensions, and proceeded to associate themselves in the enterprise. For the purposes of this voyage, a special levy of one shilling for each pound deposited by the adventurers for the Cape experiment was ordered, and special terms, mainly dependent, however, on the result of his voyage, were made with Captain Waymouth. The objects of the journey itself are well expressed on pp. 198-9, whereat are recited some of the chief passages of Elizabeth's patent, as well as the reasons which swayed the decision of the Court. The formal agreement between the Company and George Waymouth sets forth that the Governor and Company had deliberated on "the longe and tedious course w^{ch} hath benne "hitherto houlden by all such as do trade or sayle from these parts "of the world in to y^e East Indies alonge the coast of Europe and "Africa by y^e Cape of Bona Esperansa and of the great adventures "w^{ch} are borne in soe longe a viage by many kinds of daungers offered "therein, and beinge moved wth great hope that ther is a possibility "of discovery of a neerer Passage into y^e said East Indies by seas by "y^e way of the North-west yf the same were vnderaken by a man of "knowledge in Navigaçon, &c., &c.," and had in consequence entrusted the task to Captain Waymouth. In a subsequent passage further details are supplied as to how it was thought this would be effected, and these constituted what would now be termed Captain Waymouth's sailing orders. He was to "sayle toward the coast of "Groynland into that part of the open seas w^{ch} is described in sundry "generall mapps by y^e name of fretum Dauias and shall passe on "forward in those seas by y^e northwest or as he shall fynd the Passage "best to lye towards the parts or kingedomes of Cataya or China, or "y^e backside of America." Queen Elizabeth attached sufficient importance to the undertaking to write a special letter to the Emperor of China and "Kathai," the use of the double names for the one country implying rather the excess, or cautious completeness, of diplomatic courtesy than geographical ignorance.

Considering the great expense to which the Company went in the matter, the many hopes that were based on the enterprise, and the confidence of the commander himself, the speedy, not to say the ignominious, return of the expedition was extremely disheartening. The Court Book throws no further light on the cause of the failure of this well equipped expedition to achieve what was not then known to be impossible, than to attribute it to the intrigues of the minister or preacher, Mr. Cartwright. But Captain Waymouth endeavoured, and not unsuccessfully, to induce the Court to overlook his failure, and to take up new schemes for the discovery of another route, not by the North-west, but by the South-west, or round Cape Horn. There is little doubt that he would have carried his purpose had he not allowed himself to be drawn into litigation with the Company about what he considered his just claims in the matter of the abortive voyage. These were firmly resisted, with the consequence that he failed not only to obtain his damages, but also to induce the Company to employ him on a fresh voyage, as had been intended.

The opposition of the Court to Captain Waymouth's demands and propositions was made the more inflexible by the safe return of the ships that had sailed by way of the Cape of Good Hope. The arrival of the *Assention* showed where the practically useful route to the Indies lay. It had its difficulties, delays, and dangers, but in comparison with a mythical North-West passage it acquired greater substantiality as one prosperous voyage regularly succeeded another. Hudson, Button, and Baffin followed at short intervals, and with more favourable results, in the footsteps of Waymouth; but even their successes went to demonstrate the impracticability of the main purpose of their voyages, the opening of a North-West Passage. The first Court Book, characteristic in every particular and important in most, is historically curious as officially marking the first indication of the waning hopes of the school of Cabot and Frobisher, and the rising expectations, soon to be confirmed by facts, of that of Lancaster and Middleton, of Saris and Marlowe. The North-West Passage was a great idea based on an error of fact. The long and tedious route by the Cape was a magnificent certainty which supplied English naval skill and daring with their most profitable and glorious field of enterprise; for the pretensions of the Portuguese to a monopoly being steadfastly repelled, the opulent trade with the Indies became the prize in a fair and open competition of merit and energy. The present volume is evidence, not of the triumph of the English Company, but of the way in which they made up their minds to deserve and win it. The fruits of the victory they ultimately, after a contest of two centuries, secured over all rivals by the open ocean round the Cape of Good Hope, have been retained unimpaired now that the narrow seas from Gibraltar to Aden have become, since the piercing of the Suez Isthmus, the general thoroughfare to the Indies; and if the North-West Canadian Pacific Railway should realize the anticipations of its projectors, the practical solution of the old North-West Passage problem would leave the English-speaking races victors still in the secular and mortal struggle of the leading countries of the civilized world for commercial ascendancy and political existence. The states which, through degenerate weariness and faint-heartedness in well-doing, failed in this implacable competition are foredoomed to wrested greatness and enforced decay.

Undying then should be our gratitude to the founders of the East India Company, for they were indeed the pioneers of the unparalleled colonial and mercantile prosperity of modern England: and we may be sure that wherever

"The strong hearts of her sons"

are not borne down, as they have been, for well nigh a whole generation among ourselves, by the miserable sense of constantly reiterated public shame, but are kept up by the high hopes on which they are perennially nourished in the invincible Republic of the West, and in the proud dominions of the British Crown in the great South Sea, there the names of these middle class Elizabethan merchant adventurers, who so well understood, when occasion called, how by transgressing, most truly to keep the moral law, will be for ever cherished and revered, as of "brave men, and worthy patriots, dear to God, and famous to all ages."

Our own destruction, as a beneficent power among the nations, may be as inevitable, as our peril, arising mainly from the weakness

of the historical instinct in the English democracy, at the present moment seems imminent; but in the worst case we shall have bequeathed the secret of empire, in the New World and the Old, to more resolute inheritors of our common traditions and splendour.

GEORGE BIRDWOOD.

India Office, Westminster,
 "Queen Elizabeth's Day" [17th November*], 1886.

* The anniversary of the accession of "the Most Mightie and Magnificent Empresse Elizabeth" continued to be kept as a public holiday in England even within the last century, and it should still be so observed, at least in the India Office and in British India, and the State of Virginia, in praise perennial of Her imperious Majesty's heroic memory.

"Cynthia prima fuit, Cynthia finis erit."

" Her deeds were like great glusters of ripe grapes
 Which load the branches of the fruitfull vine,
 Offering to fall into each mouth that gapes,
 And fill the same with store of timely wine.

* * * * *

Her thoughts are like the fume of Frankincence,
 Which from a golden Censer forth doth rise,
 And throwing forth sweet odours mounts fro thence
 In rolling globes up to the vaulted skies."

APPENDIX C.

List of the East India Company's Charters found in the Accountant General's Department after the first reprint of my Report on the Old Records had nearly all passed through the press.

1. 3rd April 1661.—Charter to the Governor and Company of Merchants of London trading to the East Indies, dated 13th of Charles II. A copy also exists:—See No. 23 of *Catalogue of the Parchment Records* [Appendix D].
2. 27th March 1669.—Grant of the Island of Bombay, dated 20th of Charles II.
3. 16th December 1674.—Grant of the Island of St. Helena, dated 25th of Charles II.
4. 5th October 1677.—Charter confirming privileges and granting power to coin money at Bombay, dated 28th Charles II.
5. 7th October 1693.—Charter confirming privileges, dated 5th of William III. and Mary. A copy also exists:—See No. 47 of *Catalogue of Parchment Records* [Appendix D].
6. 11th November 1693.—Charter prescribing orders and directions, dated 5th of William III. and Mary. See also No. 49 of *Catalogue of Parchment Records* [Appendix D].
7. 3rd September 1698.—Charter of the "General Society" trading to the East Indies, dated 10th of William III.
8. 5th September 1698.—Charter of the "English Company" trading to the East Indies.
9. 14th July 1698.—Charter appointing Hugh Boscawen and others to take subscriptions for the General Society (English Company).
10. 22nd July 1702.—Indenture tripartite between Her Majesty Queen Anne, the Company of Merchants of London, and the English Company, dated 1st of Queen Anne.
11. Duplicate.
12. 29th September 1708.—Decree of Chancery on Lord Godolphin's award between the two Companies.
13. 24th September 1726.—Charter to the United Company for establishing Mayors' Courts at Madras, Bombay, and Calcutta, dated 13th of George I.
14. 8th January 1753.—Charter for erecting and holding Courts of Justice, dated 26th of George II.

15. 14th January 1758.—Constitutional grant of plunder taken since 19th September 1757, dated 31st of George II.

16. Duplicate.

17. 20th December 1760.—Charter to establish Courts of Judicature at Fort Marlborough, dated 1st of George III.

18. 2nd October, 1812.—Charter regarding property captured in war, dated 52nd George III.

GEO. B.

P.S., Second Reprint.—All the above 18 documents are now included in the new *Catalogue of Parchment Records*, prepared under the direction of Mr. F. C. Danvers since the publication of the first reprint of this Report in 1889. See Appendix D.

GEO. B.

APPENDIX D.

Catalogue of the Parchment Records,* prepared under
the direction of MR. F. C. DANVERS, 23rd June 1890.

1. 1498, 1st Sept. . Deed relating to property in Lime Street Ward.
2. 1600, 31st Dec. . Queen Elizabeth's Charter. [Copy only.]
3. 1606, 9th Aug. . Royal License to sell spices, &c., in bulk, and to export the same. [Seal.]
4. 1609, 22nd May . Royal Licence to sell spices, &c., for export in bulk, ungarbled. [Seal.]
5. 1609, 31st May . James I.'s Charter. [Copy only.]
6. 1610, 17th March. Royal Commission to Sir H. Middleton for the 6th voyage. [Seal.]
7. 1610, 17th March. Duplicate of No. 6. [Seal.]
8. 1623, 4th Feb. . Royal Commission granting judicial powers to the Company's servants in India. [Seal.]
9. 1627, 14th Oct. . Royal Commission to Robert Ducy and others to enquire into the disposal of the monies collected for the purposes of an expedition against the Algerian pirates. [Seal.]
10. 1628, 18th Feb. . Letters Patent for shipment of bullion. [Seal.]
11. 1629, 24th March. Letters Patent for shipment of bullion.
12. 1629, 17th Oct. . Letters Patent for shipment of bullion.
13. 1630, 10th March. Letters Patent for shipment of bullion. [Seal.]
14. 1630, 9th Nov. . Letters Patent for shipment of bullion.
15. 1631, 19th Feb. . Counterpart of lease of a house in Bishopsgate Street.
16. 1631, 21st Nov. . Letters Patent for shipment of bullion.
17. 1632, 3rd March. Letters Patent for shipment of bullion.
18. 1633, 8th Oct. . Letters Patent for shipment of bullion.
19. 1635, 30th Nov. . Letters Patent for shipment of bullion.
20. 1655, 7th Aug. . Cromwell's Warrant to the Commissioners of the Treasury for payment of 50,000*l.* to the Company. [Seal.]
21. 1660, 18th Dec. . Letters Patent for shipment of bullion. [Seal.]
22. 1661, 3rd April . Charter of Charles II., confirming and extending former charters. [Seal.]

* This Catalogue includes all the documents enumerated in the text and foot-notes of the present Report, pp. 18, 19, and 20, with the exceptions noted on page 18; and all the documents enumerated in Mr. Noel Sainsbury's Calendar [Appendix A, pp. 263-73]; and in the List of Documents found in the Accountant-General's Department [Appendix C, pp. 282-3]. And it further includes five documents, namely, Numbers 40, 41, 46, 50, and 51, not entered in my Report, Mr. Sainsbury's Calendar, or the Accountant-General's List.—GEO. B.

23. 1661, 3rd April . Copy of No. 22.
24. 1665, 14th Nov. . Mandate of James, Duke of York, Lord High Admiral, to the Commissioners for Reprizals to sell the contents of the prize *Golden Phoenix*.
25. 1668, 6th Feb. . Acquittance under the Great Seal to the E. I. Co., with reference to the sum realized by the sale of the contents of two Dutch prizes, the *Slothany* and the *Golden Phoenix*.
26. 1669, 27th March. Letters Patent granting the island of Bombay to the E. I. Co. [Seal.]
27. 1672, 7th Oct. . Letters Patent for the payment, by instalments, of 92,000*l.* due to the E. I. Co.
28. 1672, 7th Oct. . Acquittance under the Great Seal to the E. I. Co., remitting certain monies due from them. [Seal.]
29. 1673, 27th Oct. . Letters Patent ratifying an agreement between Prince Rupert and others and the E. I. Co., for the sale of goods taken from certain Dutch prizes.
30. 1674, 6th March. Release from Prince Rupert and others of any further sums due on account of the sale of the above goods. [Seal.]
31. 1674, 13th March. Acquittance under the Great Seal to the E. I. Co., releasing them from all further claims on the same subject.
32. 1674, 16th Dec. . Letters Patent granting the island of St. Helena to the E. I. Co. [Seal.]
33. 1676, 21st Oct. . Warrant under the Great Seal to the Commissioners, &c. of the Treasury and Exchequer, for the repayment of 40,000*l.* to the E. I. Co. [Seal.]
34. 1677, 5th Oct. . Letters Patent confirming former privileges and giving power to coin money at Bombay. [Seal.]
35. 1678, 24th Jan. . Warrant to the Commissioners, &c. of the Treasury and Exchequer for the payment of 60,000*l.* to the E. I. Co.
36. 1678, 22nd Nov. . Warrant to the Commissioners, &c. of the Treasury and Exchequer for payment to the E. I. Co. of 50,000*l.* [Seal.]
37. 1682, 18th Sept. . A similar warrant for payment of 15,372*l.* [Seal.]
38. 1683, 5th July . A similar warrant for payment of 40,463*l.* 10*s.* 0*d.* [Seal.]
39. 1684, 12th Nov. . The King to John Petit, George Bourcher, Simon Cracroft, and Edward Littleton, requiring them to return to England to answer certain charges against them.
40. 1686, 12th April. Letters Patent confirming former charters and authorizing the Company to establish Courts of Justice, to raise military and naval forces, and coin money in India. [Copy only.]

41. 1687, 30th Dec. . Charter establishing a municipality and Mayor's Court at Madras. [Copy only.]
42. 1688, 31st Jan. . Acquittance under the Privy Seal to the E. I. Co., and to the owners of the ship *Andalusia*.
43. 1689, 5th Sept. . Hall and Wife *versus* Leigh and E. I. Co. Two decrees in Chancery. [Seal.]
44. 1689, 3rd Oct. . Warrant under the Great Seal to the Commissioners of the Treasury and Exchequer, for payment to the E. I. Co. of the sum of 22,500*l.*, for saltpetre purchased of them.
45. 1691, 19th Dec. . Atwood, Halford, and others *versus* Warr and the E. I. Co. Decree in Chancery. [Seal.]
46. 1693, 7th Oct. . Letters Patent confirming the E. I. Co. in their powers and privileges. [Seal.]
47. 1693, 7th Oct. . Copy of No. 46.
48. 1693, 11th Nov. . Letters Patent prescribing regulations for the conduct of the Company's business. [Seal.]
49. 1694, 28th Sept. . Letters Patent establishing further regulations, &c. [Copy only.]
50. 1695, 17th Jan. . Bye Laws. Approved by a General Court.
51. 1697-8. . Act 44, 9 and 10 William III., for raising a sum not exceeding 2,000,000*l.*, &c.
52. 1698, 14th July. . Letters Patent appointing Commissioners to receive subscriptions for the "General Society"; with Schedule A., Draft Charter of General Society, and Schedule B., Draft of "the Charter for the Company to trade under a joint stock, which is to pass under the Great Seal" if the 2,000,000*l.* be subscribed. [Seal.]
53. 1698, 14th July. . Roll of subscribers to the 2,000,000*l.*
54. 1698, 14th-16th July. . Two books of original subscriptions to the 2,000,000*l.*
55. 1698, 3rd Sept. . Charter of incorporation of the "General Society." [See Shaw's "Charters," Preface, p. 13.] [Seal.]
56. 1698, 5th Sept. . Charter of incorporation of the English Company trading to the East Indies. [Seal.]
57. 1698, 5th Sept. . Copy of No. 56.
58. 1698, 13th Oct. . Grant of Arms to the English Company trading to the East Indies.
59. 1702, 22nd July . Indenture Tripartite between Queen Anne and the two East India Companies, for uniting the said Companies. [Seal.]
60. 1702, 22nd July . Duplicate of No. 59. [Seal.]
61. 1703, 8th Dec. . Letters of Marque to ship *Martha*. [Seal.]
62. 1705, 20th Aug. . Grant of pardon under the Great Seal to the London E. I. Co. for all crimes, misdemeanours, &c., committed by them since "the beginning of the world." [Seal.]

63. 1708, 29th Sept. . The Earl of Godolphin's award between the Old and New E. I. Cos.
64. 1709, 21st March. Grant by the London E. I. Co. of their debts in Great Britain to Queen Anne for re-grant to Trustees.
65. 1709, 21st March. Declaration of Trust of the London E. I. Co. as to bonds for 70,000*l.* which by Lord Godolphin's award were deposited in the hands of trustees appointed by the New E. I. Co.
66. 1709, 22nd April. Grant to the United Co. of all foreign debts of the Old Company. [Seal.]
67. 1709, 7th May . Queen Anne's acceptance of the surrender of the Charter of the London Co. [Seal.]
68. 1709, 15th Aug. . Letters Patent re-assigning to Sir J. Andrews and others the debts in Great Britain due to the London Co. [Seal.]
69. 1720, 8th Oct. . Apparently a record in an ejectment case.
70. 1726, 24th Sept. . Letters Patent establishing Municipalities and Mayors' Courts at Madras, Bombay, and Calcutta. [Seal.]
71. 1727, 17th Nov. . Letters Patent granting to the Company all fines imposed by the Mayors' Courts and Justices in India. [Seal.]
72. 1730, 26th Oct. . Letters of Administration of the estate of Cæsar Burton, late a factor at Angengo, granted to J. Spencer, Senior.
73. 1731, 10th Dec. . Similar letters of Administration granted to J. Spencer, Junior, on the decease of his father.
74. 1732, 20th Oct. . Commission to ship *Harrington* to seize pirates, &c. [Seal.]
75. 1737, 22nd Aug. . Similar Commission to ship *Royal George*. [Seal.]
76. 1745, 18th Nov. . Letters of Marque for ship *Dragon*.
77. 1747, 2nd July . Letters of Marque for ship *Swallow*.
78. 1753, 8th Jan. . Amended Charter of Mayors' Courts at Madras, Bombay, and Calcutta. [Seal.]
79. 1757, 19th Sept. . Letters Patent granting to the Company a moiety of the plunder taken from the Nawab Nazim of Bengal. [Seal.]
80. 1758, 14th Jan. . Grant to the Company of all booty or plunder taken by their ships or forces alone. [Seal.]
81. 1758, 14th Jan. . Duplicate of No. 80. [Seal.]
82. 1758, 16th Oct. . Commission of ship *Royal George* to seize pirates, &c.
83. 1760, 20th Dec. . Letters Patent establishing Courts of Judicature, &c., at Fort Marlborough. [Seal.]
84. 1793, 25th March. Grant to the E. I. Co. of the booty, &c., taken in the late war with Tippoo Sahib. [Seal.]
85. 1793, 5th Nov. . Address to Lord Cornwallis on his leaving Calcutta.

86. 1796, 7th April . Grant of an annuity to Warren Hastings of 4,000*l.* per annum for 18 years, commencing 25th Dec., 1795. [Seal.]
87. 1796, 8th April . Assignment of the said annuity as security for the repayment of 36,000*l.* [Seal.]
88. 1796, 8th April . Duplicate of No. 87.
89. 1800, 22nd Nov. Grant to the E. I. Co. of booty taken from Tippoo Sultaun. [Seal.]
90. 1807, 21st March. Grant of arms to Haileybury College. [Seals.]
91. 1812, 2nd Oct. . Grant to the E. I. Co. of booty taken at Serhampore. [Seal.]
92. Date indecipherable [? 5th June 1747]. (?) Commission to ship *Delawarr* to seize pirates, &c. [Seal.]

NOTE.—Besides the above there are a number of parchments (some of ancient date) in the custody of the Legal Adviser. These are, however, as far as is known, of no public interest, being merely title deeds and leases of properties held at different times by the East India Company.

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Page 26, *note*, line 5, for 13*d.* read 18*d.*

