

THE
RISE PROGRESS,
AND
PRESENT CONDITION
OF
BANKING IN INDIA,

BY

CHAS. NORTHGOTE COOKE, ESQ.,

DEPUTY SECRETARY AND TREASURER,

BANK OF BENGAL,

AUTHOR OF A POPULAR TREATISE ON BOOK-KEEPING.

*Amongst all Commercial Professions, that of Banker already holds the first rank,
and every day increases its importance.—OPERATIONS DE BANQUE, page vi.*

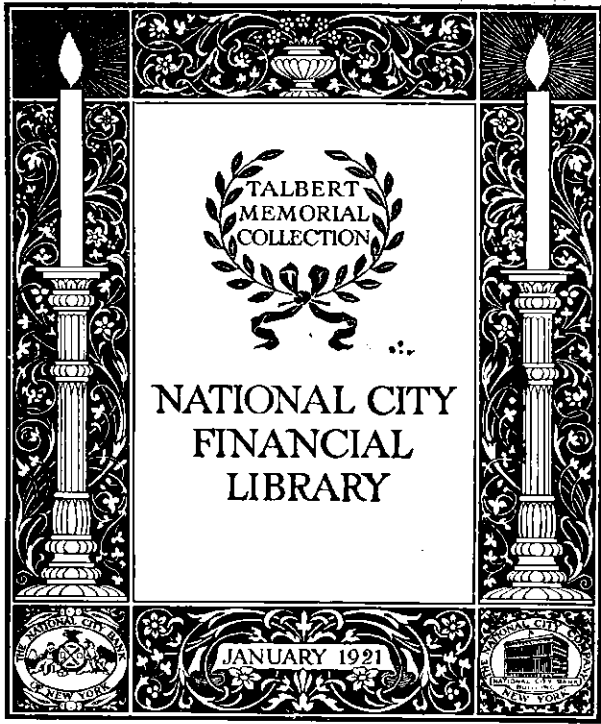
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JANUARY 1921



TO
GEORGE DICKSON, Esq.,
(LATE OF INVERNESS)

Secretary and Treasurer, Bank of Bengal,

UNDER WHOSE ABLE ADMINISTRATION THE BANK OF BENGAL HAS
EXTENDED ITS OPERATIONS, AND ATTAINED TO AN
UNPRECEDENTED DEGREE OF SUCCESS.

THIS WORK

(THE FIRST OF THE KIND IN INDIA)

IS DEDICATED

AS AN APPROPRIATE MODE OF PRESERVING

A RECOLLECTION OF AN AGREEABLE AND FRIENDLY
OFFICIAL INTERCOURSE,

BY

THE AUTHOR.

PRESENT STAFF OF THE BANK OF BENGAL.

Head Office.

<i>Secretary and Treasurer</i>	...	GEORGE DICKSON.
<i>Deputy Secretary and Treasurer</i>	...	CHAS. NORTHCOTE COOKE.
<i>Chief Accountant and Additional</i>	} ...	DAVID WOODS.
<i>Deputy Secretary</i>		
<i>1st Passing Officer (Cheques)</i>	...	JOHN CRUICKSHANK.
<i>2nd ditto (ditto)</i>	...	F. HALSEY.
<i>Assistants to Accountant</i>	...	{ W. CLARK, A. MACBEAN, AND J. NICOL.
<i>Superintendent, Depositors' or</i>	} ...	J. GORDON.
<i>Agency Department</i>		
<i>Accountant, ditto</i>	...	A. T. CASSAIGNE.
<i>Superintendent, General Treasury</i>	} ...	ROBERT OER SAWERS.
<i>Department, and Inspector of</i>		
<i>Branches</i>		
<i>Deputy Superintendent, General</i>	} ...	CHARLES JAMES COOKE.
<i>Treasury Department</i>		
<i>General Assistants</i>	...	{ C. SMITH, G. WYATT, F. SEYMOUR, and— GRANT.
<i>Khazanchee</i>	...	MADUB CHUNDEE SEN.
<i>Deputy ditto</i>	...	GOCPOOL KISSEN DEB.

Branches.

ALLAHABAD	...	Agent, THOS. S. JONES.
BENARES	...	Agent, W. E. CARBERRY (<i>on dep.</i>)
DACCA	...	Agent, D. KENNEDY.
LUCKNOW	...	Agent, W. E. CARBERRY (<i>Interim</i>).
MIRZAPORE	} ...	Agent, GEORGE W. MOULTRE.
		Accountant, W. MACFARLANE (<i>Acting Agent, Benares</i>).
NAGPORE	...	Agent, H. B. STENDALE.
PATNA	...	Agent, THOMAS DYSON.
RANGOON	} ...	Agent, ALEXANDER WATSON.
		Accountant, THOS. WATSON.

P R E F A C E.

IN submitting this work to the Banking and Commercial Community of India, I desire to claim for it no other merit than that of being the *first* of its kind in this Country. I could have wished to have made it more complete than it is, but the refusal, in some quarters, to give me the most trifling information, has foiled my best endeavors. Though too late to be remedied, I shall still be happy to receive any suggestions, as they may be useful in the event of the work ever reaching to a second edition. I am sensible of its manifold imperfections: but, with this acknowledgment, and, with the assurance that it has been put forth simply to supply a want, I trust to disarm severe criticism. Some useful hints have been afforded me about Ceylon, by a well-penned and unpretending little brochure by Mr. H. D. Andree, Accountant of the Chartered Mercantile Bank at Colombo, to whom I am under obligations for his courtesy in forwarding it to me. In writing the history of some of the Banks, I have availed myself freely of the information to be found in the *Banker's Magazine*, when my own notes have proved insufficient for the purpose. The articles about the Union Bank of Calcutta, the Benares Bank, the North-Western Bank, and the London and Eastern Banking Corporation have been

carried, it may be supposed, to too great lengths ; but I have been anxious to place on record, as fully as possible, the dangerous and unprincipled course of action which engulfed these several Institutions. I have to thank Mr. A. L. Agabeg for permitting me to insert his Tables of value of 4 per cent paper, and to acknowledge the ready attention my requests have met with from the Secretaries to the Banks of Bombay and Madras, Mr. W. S. Fitzwilliam, and Mr. R. Campbell of the Chartered Mercantile Bank, Mr. D. B. Clinker of the Commercial Bank, Mr. M. MacIver of the Central Bank of Western India, Mr. Pietsch of the Comptoir D'Escompte (who kindly sent me the necessary French documents from which I made my translations), Mr. Wilkinson of the People's Bank, and, though last, not least, my worthy senior, Mr. G. Dickson.

CHAS. NORTHCOTE COOKE.

CALCUTTA,
No. 2, Royd Street, }
 28th May 1863. }

ERRATA.

Page 12, line 4, for "periods of *our* history" read "periods of history."

Page 296, lines 21 and 22, for "Royal and British Bank in Scotland" read "Royal British Bank."