

in this respect -

The conduct of the Police has excited
my approbation - There are not many thefts and
there has not been one robbery for this last three
months - Two or three of the thefts only have not
been discovered. The Runoossee have behaved
with exemplary fidelity - The permanent arrange-
ments now in progress for them may well be
noticed in my Revenue Reports - The annual
fair at Pacham on Sheroot usually affords the
Runoossee an opportunity of displaying their
skill in robbery - They kept up the Custom House
I was not till after the robbery occurred some of
the year but as usual they have been obliged to
make good the ^{value} amount of the articles stolen
and they are ^{still} endeavoring to find out the robbers -

I have the honor to be with the greatest respect
Sir, Your Most Obedient & Humble Servant,
H. D. Robertson
Collector

Facsimile of the hand-writing of Captain H. D. Robertson,
the first Collector of Poona.

THE AFTERMATH

(Based on original records)

1818-1826.

With select Documents from the Deccan Commissioner's
Files, Peshwa Daftar, on the administrative
and judicial organisation of Maharashtra
by the British.

By

R. D. CHOKSEY, M.A., Ph.D.

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By the same author

**The Economic History of the
Bombay Deccan & Karnatak
(1818-1868)**

**The Period of Transition
(1818-1826)**

**The Last Phase
(1815-1818)**

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PREFACE.

It is now more than a decade since I undertook research in Anglo-Maratha history. My earliest inspiration for the study of the subject was the immense manuscript material on Anglo-Maratha history at the Peshwa Daftar. A part of this voluminous material at the Daftar is entitled the Deccan Commissioner's Files, a study of the manuscripts in these Files opens a virgin forest to any patient worker in this particular field. I began my work in the Daftar in the November of 1940. Now nearly at the end of a decade, having ploughed through the vast manuscript evidence on this period of transition in Anglo-Maratha history, I have the satisfaction to see my labour housed in three volumes. The first is entitled *The Period of Transition* and is a collection of all the documentary data on the economic conditions prevalent on the British occupation of Maharashtra. The second is called *The Last Phase* and relates with the aid of all the documentary evidence available among the papers a story of the last four years of British diplomacy and intrigues at the Peshwa's Court. The present volume seeks to complete that picture by giving the reader an account of the administrative and judicial reorganisation of the Peshwa's dominions on British conquest.

I need not dwell on the importance and the wealth of information this vast correspondence offers a student of this subject. The select documents in this volume will speak for the pains, efficiency and administrative genius of the early British rulers of Maharashtra. These documents are not only important from the point of view of the study of British administration of the newly acquired territories of the Peshwa, but they throw a flood of light on the former Maratha administration in nearly all its aspects. I may venture to state that cannot sufficiently exaggerate the importance of the study of these documents from the point of view of the students of British as well as Maratha administration. The value of these documents does not only lie in what they reveal of the British

(ii)

settlement of the Peshwa's dominions but also Pages
account they give of conditions prevailing in o train
Fadnis and the last of the Peshwas. These intern
Maratha history enrich our knowledge onop
personalities. They are unique in their v
reader of these documents will discern how, er the
reveal the conditions prevailing ere British phits,
how great was the task that beset the foreigne village
ablist-

At no time could we profit more than a and
careful study of the methods of administrati
body of statesmen the like of whom are rare
history. We have, I fear, much to learn, and we can
very profitably by keeping as our model especially in th
the early founders of the British rule in Mahara
Elphinstone and his co-workers were a body of unique a
trators rarely found even in the pages of Anglo-Indian
Let this humble work bear a testimony to their un
toil and honest endeavour to work for the interest and well
of the governed. Let their spirit continue to guide us
today.

To my dear friend Mr. Edul Jhangir Bisney, B.A.,
very grateful for the interest he has shown in m
his efforts to bring about its publication. I am thankful
Mr. P. F. Tareporewala for having undertaken the publicat
of this work. I am greatly indebted to the Commissioner C.
for the permission given for the study of the English
at the Peshwa Daftar. For the prompt attention and contin
kindness of the office staff of the Daftar I can hardly expre
my gratitude.

18th June 1950.

R. D. CHOKSEY

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