

TO THE
CIVIL AND MILITARY SERVICES
OF
THE EAST INDIA COMPANY
THIS VOLUME,
RIFE WITH RECORDS OF THEIR GOOD DEEDS,
IS
RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED.

London, April 25, 1853.

THE
ADMINISTRATION

OF

THE EAST INDIA COMPANY;

A HISTORY OF INDIAN PROGRESS.

BY

JOHN WILLIAM KAYE,

AUTHOR OF "THE HISTORY OF THE WAR IN AFGHANISTAN."

"THERE ARE MANY KINDS OF WAR AND MANY DEGREES OF HEROIC RENOWN,
BUT THE HIGHEST PRAISE IS DUE TO THOSE WHO, BY THEIR VICTORIOUS ARMS,
HAVE OPENED NEW SCENES FOR THE CIVILISATION OF MANKIND, AND OVER-
COME BARRABISM IN SOME IMPORTANT PORTION OF THE WORLD."

HANKE'S "Civil Wars and Monarchy in France."

LONDON:

RICHARD BENTLEY, NEW BURLINGTON STREET.

Publisher in Ordinary to Her Majesty.

MDCCCLIII.

[The right of publishing a French Translation of this work is reserved.]

P R E F A C E.

I OFFER this volume to the public as a contribution to the general stock of information relating to India and her affairs—information which, in the present juncture, it is very desirable to possess. It contains much that is scattered over a great number of printed books, and much besides that is not to be found in any printed books. It will be seen that it is written almost entirely in a narrative form—that there is little of the disquisitional and controversial in it—and that I have not attempted to elucidate the great question of the future government of India, except by throwing on it such light as is derived from illustrations of the past.

Perhaps, indeed, the volume may best be described as a series of historical illustrations of Indian government, arranged with some regard to completeness and uniformity of design, but not at all pretending to the dignity either of a perfect history of the internal administration of India, or a finished picture of Indian Institutions. The exigencies of time and space have compelled me to pass hastily over the consideration of many matters, of the interest and importance of which I am fully sensible, and in one or two instances I have been necessitated to throw into an Appendix papers illustrative of certain topics of inquiry of which I had intended to treat in the body of the work. The subject of Indian Administration, indeed, is so vast; it branches out into so many different channels; and the materials at my disposal for its illustration have been so ample, that the

more I have drawn upon them the further off I have seemed from their exhaustion.

In dealing with a subject of such magnitude, the writer has the choice of two courses which lie before him. He may either so compress his materials into a narrow compass as to divest his fasciculus of facts of all living interest and external grace. Or he may select certain prominent topics of discourse, and illustrate them with that copiousness of detail which, by limiting its range of inquiry, necessarily subtracts from the encyclopædic value of the work, but imparts a vitality to it which I cannot help thinking extends its utility by increasing its attractions. I have followed the latter course. I believe that the reading public is less instructed than it should be on Indian subjects, because it has been less interested than it might have been, if writers had taken more pains to appeal to the common sympathies of mankind. I am not insensible of the value of statistics, and, indeed, I have dealt somewhat largely in them; but it is principally by representing men in action that the writer on Indian affairs must hope to fix the attention of the public.

It is mainly to anticipate any objections which may be raised on the score of omissions, that I make these remarks regarding what may be called the machinery of my work. Of the purpose and tendency of the work itself I have spoken elsewhere; and shall now only add the expression of a hope that, in consideration of what I have done, I shall be forgiven for what I have necessarily left undone in such a volume as this.

CONTENTS.

PART I.

✓CHAPTER I.

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS.

PAGE

The Claims of the Governed on the Governing—How they have been discharged—England's Opportunities in India—Impediments to Domestic Improvement—Administrative Difficulties in England and India—Crime and Poverty in the two Countries—Encouragements to Exertion . . .	1
---	---

CHAPTER II.

INDIA UNDER THE MOGULS.

India under the Moguls—The Arab and Tartar Conquests—The House of Toghlaq—Feroz Shah—The First Indian Canal—The House of Timour—The Emperor Akbar—His Internal Administration—Shah Jehan—Public Works—Decline of the Mogul Empire—Comparison of Mogul and British Rule—Their General Effects on the Happiness of the People . . .	17
---	----

CHAPTER III.

PROGRESS OF ADMINISTRATION.

Our European Predecessors—The Portuguese in India—The Dutch—Discouragements at the Outset—Progress of Empire—Our First Administrative Efforts—The Conquest of Bengal—Efforts of Clive and Hastings—The Regulating Act—Cornwallis and the Regulations—Subsequent Administrative Advances	57
---	----

✓CHAPTER IV.

THE HOME GOVERNMENT.

establishment of the East India Company—Early Management of its Affairs—Becomes a Joint-Stock Company—Its successive Charters—Progress of the Interlopers—The English Company—Union of the Two Companies—Territorial Rights—The Regulating Act—Pitt's India Bill—The Charter Acts of 1793, 1813, and 1833—Present State of the Company	109
--	-----

PART II.

✓CHAPTER I.

THE REVENUES OF INDIA.

PAGE

The Revenue System of the East India Company—English and Indian Systems of Taxation—The Land Revenue—The Salt Tax—The Opium Revenue—The Customs—The Abkarree—State of the East India Company's Finances—Evils of War-making	139
---	-----

CHAPTER II.

THE PERMANENT SETTLEMENT OF BENGAL.

First Possession of the Dewance—Primal Efforts at Revenue Collection—Instructions to the Supervisors—Quinquennial Settlements—Hastings, Francis, and Shore—Arrival of Lord Cornwallis—The Decennial Settlement—The Permanent Zemindarce Settlement—Its Results	162
--	-----

✓CHAPTER III.

THE LAND REVENUES OF MADRAS.

Our First Territory in Madras—The Northern Circars—Old Revenue System—The Committee of Circuit—Permanent Assessment—The Baramahl—Read and Munro—The Ceded Districts—The Ryotwar System—Village Settlements—Their Discontinuance—Return to the Ryotwar System—Its Results	202
--	-----

✓CHAPTER IV.

SETTLEMENT OF THE NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES.

The Settlement of the North-West Provinces—First Acquisition of the Country—Primal Measures of our Revenue Officers—Their Insufficiency—Injustice to the Old Proprietors—Frauds of Native Officials—Government Measures—Commissioners Appointed—Partial Remedies—Further Enactments—Mr. R. Bird—The New Settlement—Its Agents—Its Character—Its Results	234
---	-----

CHAPTER V.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Famines in Upper India—Importance of Irrigation—Early Mahomedan Works—Our first Canal Efforts—The Western Jumna Canal—The Eastern Jumna Canal—The Great Ganges Canal—The Barce Doab Canal—The Great Trunk Road—Other Public Works—Their Cost—General Financial Results	275
--	-----

PART III.

✓CHAPTER I.

JUDICIAL SYSTEMS.

The first Judicial Tribunals—The Mayor's Courts—Efforts of Warren Hastings—The Supreme Court of Calcutta—Cornwallis and the Regulations—The Provincial Courts—Reforms of Lord William Bentinck—Increase of Native Agency—Present State of the Company's Courts	318
--	-----

CHAPTER II.

THUGGEE.

PAGE

Thuggee—Increased Knowledge of the Habits of the People—Its Results— Antiquity of Thuggee—Its Progress—Manners and Customs of the Thugs —Thuggee Expeditions—Efforts for the Suppression of Thuggee—The Thuggee Department—Colonel Sleeman and his Associates—Complicity of the Zemindars—Success of our Efforts—Decrease of the Crime	354
--	-----

CHAPTER III.

DAKOITEE.

Dakoitee—Its Antiquity—Measures of Warren Hastings—Hereditary Rob- ber Castes—Their Customs—Local Dakoitee—Complicity of the Zemin- dars and Moostajirs—Efforts for the Suppression of Dakoitee—Appoint- ment of a Special Commissioner for Lower Bengal—New Act—General Remarks	380
--	-----

✓ CHAPTER IV.

JUDICIAL AGENCIES.

The Company's Civil Service—Its Rise and Progress—The Cornwallis Sys- tem—Causes of its exclusiveness—Native Agency—Present State of the Service	417
--	-----

P A R T IV.

✓ CHAPTER I.

THE NON-REGULATION PROVINCES.

The Non-Regulation Provinces—Civil and Military Administrators—Evils of Exclusiveness—Sindh—Defects of the purely Military System—Sir Charles Napier's Government—Arracan—Improvement of the Province —The Punjab—The Board of Administration—The Lawrences—Mr. Mansell—The Subordinate Administrative Machinery—Settlement of the Revenue—Financial and General Results	433
---	-----

CHAPTER II.

THE CIVILISATION OF SAVAGE TRIBES.

Progress of Civilisation—Humanising Efforts of British Officers—Mair- warra—Dixon and the Mairs—Candeish—The Bheels—Outram and the Bheel Corps—Ovans and the Bheel Colonies—Reclamation of Savage Tribes—Augustus Cleveland—General Results	463
--	-----

CHAPTER III.

HUMAN SACRIFICE.

Operations in Goomsur—The Hill Tribes of Orissa—Religion of the Khonds —Prevalence of Human Sacrifice—Efforts for its Suppression—Captain Macpherson—His Measures and Success—Subsequent Efforts—General Results	493
---	-----

CHAPTER IV.

SUTTEE.

PAGE

Suttee—Its Antiquity—Its Origin—General Features of the Practice—Its outward Manifestations—Suttee under the Moguls—Its frequency under British Rule—First Idea of its Suppression—Lord Amherst—Lord William Bentinck—Opinions and Instructions of the Court of Directors—Views of the Company's Servants—Suppression of Suttee in the British Provinces—Our Efforts in the Native States	522
---	-----

CHAPTER V.

INFANTICIDE.

Infanticide—Varieties of the Crime—Love of Offspring among the Hindoos—Rajpoot Honor—Its Excesses—Causes of the prevalence of the Evil—Our First Remedial Efforts—Jonathan Duncan—Colonel Walker—Failure of our First Endeavours—Disparity of the Sexes—Renewed Attempts—Mr. Willoughby—Major Ludlow—Increased Success—Present State of Infanticide in India	545
--	-----

PART V.

✓CHAPTER I.

NATIVE EDUCATION.

Native Education—Parliamentary Enactments—Encouragement of Oriental Literature—Rise and Progress of the Hindoo College—Substitution of the English System—Lord William Bentinck's Measures—Native Agency—Education in the North-Western Provinces—In Bombay—The Jubbulpore School of Industry—The Roorkee College—Missionary Efforts—Statistics of Education	587
--	-----

✓CHAPTER II.

CHRISTIANITY IN INDIA.

The Past and the Present—The First Indian Chaplains—Rise and Progress of the Church Establishment—Charles Grant—The Charter of 1813—The First Indian Bishop—Increase of the Church Establishment—Missionary Efforts—Progress of Christianity—Concluding Remarks	625
---	-----

APPENDIX.

The Salt Duties—The Opium Monopoly—Cotton Cultivation—The Revenue Survey—The Baree Doab Canal—The proposed Sutlej Canal—The Jubbulpore Schools of Industry	665
--	-----