

G. M. Pitt

Rich. Benyon

J. W. K. N.

# MADRAS IN THE OLDEN TIME:

BEING A

HISTORY OF THE PRESIDENCY

FROM

THE FIRST FOUNDATION OF FORT ST. GEORGE

TO THE FRENCH OCCUPATION OF MADRAS.

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COMPILED FROM OFFICIAL RECORDS,

BY

J. TALBOYS WHEELER,

Author of the "Geography of Herodotus," &c. &c. and Professor of Moral  
Philosophy and Logic at the Madras Presidency College.

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VOL. III.

1727—1748.

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## PREFACE.

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In issuing the third and concluding volume of the annals of Madras in the Olden Time, the compiler has to do little more than express his gratification at having completed his original design of illustrating the history of the Presidency by means of the Government Records, from the period of the first foundation of Fort St. George in 1639, down to the occupation of Madras by the French in 1746-48. The facilities afforded him by the Madras Government, have thus enabled him to fill up a blank in the history of India, and to supply authentic illustrations of that century of which there had been previously no published record worthy of the name; and he sincerely trusts that the labour of love upon which he has been engaged will afford some pleasure to his readers, as well as add to their knowledge of the doings in the Presidency in the days long gone by.

The present volume, which is somewhat thicker than either of its predecessors, possesses some peculiarities to which attention

may be specially drawn. Besides a complete alphabetical index of names to all the three volumes, a curious collection of quaint old rules and regulations has been added in the shape of an appendix. Above all the writer has been able to present his readers with a copy of a valuable map of "Madras and its Environs in the year 1733," representing the actual condition of the Presidency as it was about a hundred and thirty years ago. This map was originally drawn during the administration of Governor George Morton Pitt, and has been preserved in the department of the Chief Engineer. Moreover, in order to illustrate the changes which have taken place since that period, a corresponding map has been drawn on the same sheet of "Madras and its Environs in the present year of grace 1861." At the same time two plans of the Fort St. George at corresponding dates are exhibited on the same sheet. For this map, which so exactly illustrates the outward appearance of Madras in the Olden Time, the compiler and his readers are equally indebted to the Madras Government.

In thus announcing the completion of the first series of "Madras in the Olden Time," the compiler by no means wishes

it to be inferred that his labours on the Records of this Presidency have been brought to a close. A glorious half century yet remains, which commences with the conquest of the Carnatic, and ends with the fall of Seringapatam, and final triumph of the British arms from sea to sea. But this period requires a different treatment from that which has been adopted in dealing with the history of the preceding century. The political and military transactions of the period have already perhaps been sufficiently narrated by Orme, Wilks, Duff, and other writers, whose names and works are alike generally known. Accordingly it has been deemed expedient to commence an entirely new work, which shall be altogether independent of the present annals. But this proposed plan is not yet sufficiently matured, and indeed, the engagements of the compiler demand a brief breathing time. However, in thus presenting the public with the completion of his first work on the history of this Presidency, he may be permitted to express a hope that but a short time will elapse before he may be able to resume his historical illustrations of Madras in the Olden Time.

MADRAS, }  
18th December 1861. }





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