

NOTES
ON
KOLHAPUR

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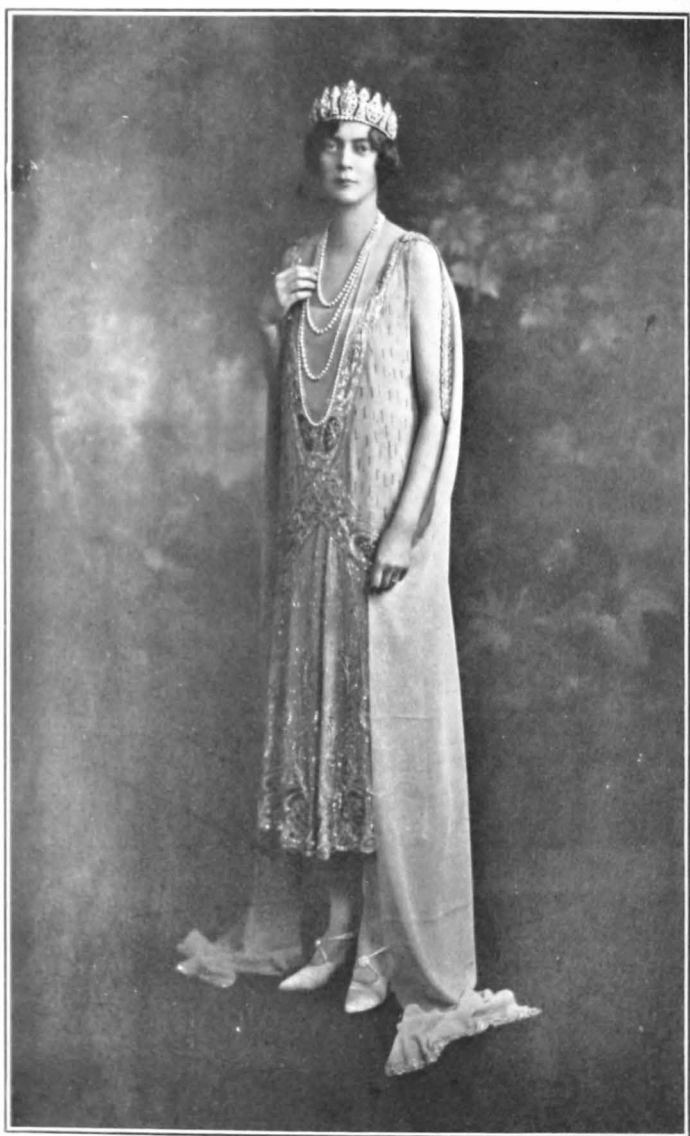
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R. V. SABNIS



His Excellency the Right Hon. Edward Frederick Lindley Wood, Baron Irwin of Kirby Underdale, G.M.S.I., G.M.I.E.,
Viceroy and Governor-General of India.

NOTES ON KOLHAPUR



Her Excellency Lady Irwin.

NOTES ON
KOLHAPUR

BY

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EX-DIWAN OF KOLHAPUR

BOMBAY
THE TIMES PRESS
1928

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PREFATORY NOTE

A **HANDY** volume giving a concise up-to-date account of Kolhapur and its chief institutions, temples and places of interest, has been a longfelt want. The following pages are written with a view to meet it. This short narrative of the Kolhapur State has been compiled mainly from the following sources:—

- (1) Kolhapur by Major Graham, Political Superintendent in the early fifties of the last century.
- (2) Campbell's Gazetteer of Kolhapur.
- (3) Administration Reports of Kolhapur.
- (4) Rao Bahadur Latthe's Memoirs of His Highness Shri Shahu Chhatrapati, Maharaja of Kolhapur.
- (5) Information kindly furnished by officers of the State and others.

To all these, I am greatly indebted. My acknowledgments are due also to Dr. K. N. Sitaram, M.A., Ph.D., Vice-Principal in the Rajaram College, who has furnished the

archæological portion both in the first as well as second part of the notes.

I owe a debt of gratitude to the Kolhapur Durbar, under whose kind patronage these notes are published.

KOLHAPUR,
28th November 1927.

R. V. S.



His Highness Sir Shri RAJARAM CHHATRAPATI, G.C.I.E.,
MAHARAJA OF KOLHAPUR.

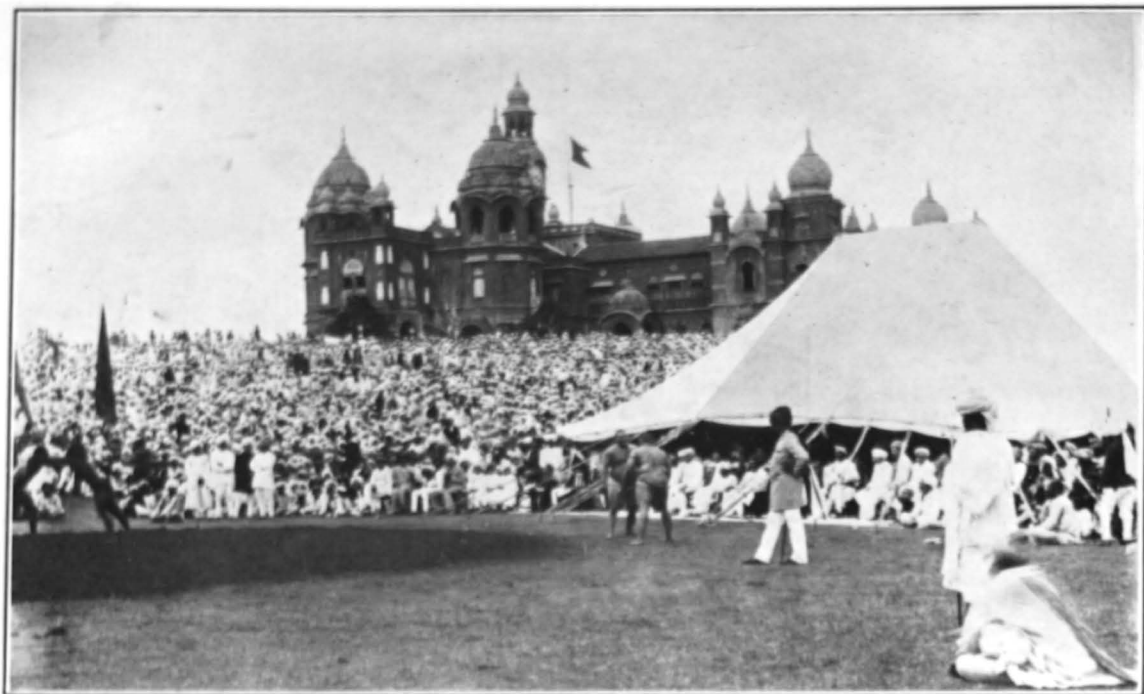
PART I.
KOLHAPUR—ITS HISTORY.

PART I.

KOLHAPUR.

KOLHAPUR STATE lies between East Longi-^{Situation &}tude $74^{\circ} 44' 11''$ and $73^{\circ} 43' 16''$ and North^{aspect.} Latitude $17^{\circ} 10' 45''$ and $15^{\circ} 50' 20''$. Its area is 3,217.1 square miles and population according to the census of 1921, 833,126 souls, and its approximate gross revenue was 91 lakhs in 1925-26. It enjoys a temperate climate throughout the year, not being subject to the extremes of cold or heat. It has an average rainfall of about 40 inches. The undulating country in which it is situated is about 2,000 feet above the sea level, and its proximity to the Eastern slopes of the Sahyadris renders the greater part of the State almost immune from famine and even from scarcity. It is irrigated by six tributaries of the Krishna river, that take their source in the range of the Sahya mountains forming its western boundary. With its rich variety of fauna and flora, its meandering silver streams with the ever green sugar plantations on their banks, the spurs of the Sahyadris, capped here and there with impregnable fortresses and

its sturdy warlike people, it may be called the Punjab of the Deccan, representing as it does a chapter of history illuminated with brilliant deeds of bravery and noble self-sacrifice in the country's cause.



WRESTLING MATCH

Before Their Highnesses, late Maharajas of Kolhapur and Bhavnagar.

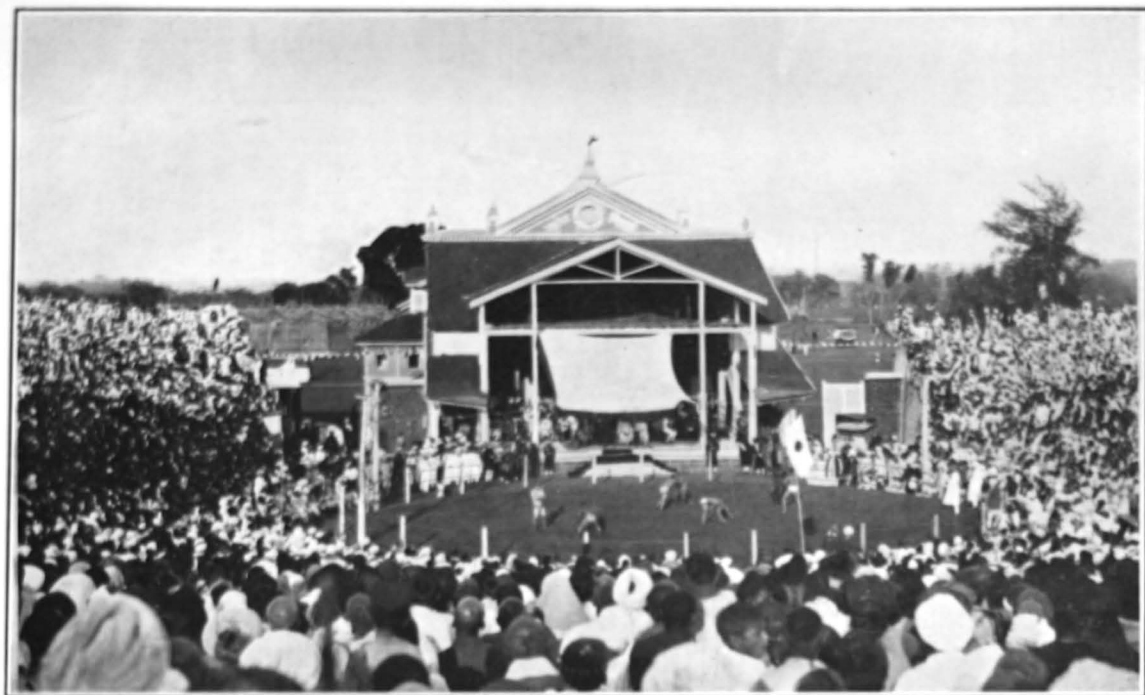
SHORT HISTORY OF KOLHAPUR.

The history of this very ancient city, sacred ^{Early History.} alike to the Hindu, the Jain and the Buddhist, can be divided into six well defined periods. The first period can be styled the MAURYA period, the second the ANDHRA, the third the CHALUKYA-RASHTRAKUTA, the fourth the SILHAR-YADAV, the fifth the BAHAMANI-BIJAPUR and the last the MARATHA. The first four periods cover the early years of Hindu supremacy up to 1347 A.D. The last two, Bahamani-Bijapur or Mahomedan period, lasted from 1347 A.D. to about 1700 A.D. and the 18th century ushered in the Maratha period.

Since archæology in the State is still in a very ^{Maurya.} primitive stage, and no excavations worth the name have as yet been made, the only monuments we can rely on for the history of the Maurya period are those which were uncovered by the excavations of 1877 A.D. Of these, the most important was a Stup (tope) constructed of burnt bricks, about 80 feet in diameter, and apparently only 8 feet in height, enclosing a stone box which contained a crystal casket, similar to those found

near Taxilla and Bhilsa. It is now preserved in the Prince of Wales Museum in Bombay. It contains an inscription in Brahmi characters of the 3rd century B.C., when the Mauryas ruled a large part of the country. The stream called Jitinala, that flows by the side of the Stup is marked by a sacred spot called Gaya by reasons, no doubt, of its proximity to the Budha Stup, like its prototype in Northern India. For the convenience of bathers in the holy stream, a stone flight of steps had been built. But the spot has now undergone considerable change owing to the diversion of current. In addition to the above find, the fact that several of the families in Kolhapur still bear the surname 'More' or 'Maurya' proves that this part of the country must have been under the domination of, and inhabited by members belonging to that Imperial Race.

During the glorious days of the Andhras, Kolhapur, or Hippocura as it was then called, was the western capital of the Andhras, just as Sri Kakulam or Dharanikota was their Eastern capital, and as such is mentioned by Ptolemy, the Egyptian geographer (A.D. 151). Besides, ample evidence is afforded of the rule of at least six kings of the Andhrabritya dynasty by the hundreds of coins, discovered in 1877 in the Brahmapuri Hill, along with various articles of domestic use and religious worship.



Wrestling Arena, Kolhapur.

Besides these discoveries from the Brahma-puri Hill which at one time may probably have housed a Buddhistic settlement, there are three sets of caves within the State limits of Kolhapur belonging to the same period, which were evidently used by the Bikkus for places of retreat. Of these the first, now converted for Hindu uses and occupied by the shrine of Ramling (Alta sub-division), seems to belong to the same date as the old caves at Pandava Darah (Panhala Division) and at Povala Darah (near the Jotiba Hill). Among these the best are now at Povala Darah, where besides a structural Chaitya or Stup shrine, there are also pillared assembly halls, habitation cells, etc., now sunk under the earth.

The Andhra period was succeeded by the **Chalukya** period, which after a time was followed by the Rashtrakuta period which ushered in again a later Chalukya period. This period is represented by a large number of inscriptions (e.g., that of Jagadekamalla Deva, Saka 948, etc.). It shades off into the period of the Silhara rulers of Kolhapur, who were mainly Jains by persuasion, although they patronised Hindu temples also. Under these rulers, who numbered about half a dozen, Panhala assumed considerable importance. The greatest of the dynasty was Bhoja II, who built the six reputed forts in Kolhapur, viz., Bavada, Bhudhargad, Khelna or

Vishalgad, Panhala, Pavangad and Samangad. The Amba Bai, the Vitoba and other temples in Kolhapur were renewed, several Jain Bustis, neary 1360, were built within the city, the famous Rankala and other tanks were dug and built and finally the Brahmपुरi Hill was abandoned as a living place. Their inscriptions, scattered in Kolhapur territory and hitherto discovered, number at least half a dozen, and new discoveries are being made.

Yadavas.

The period of the Silharas merges into that of the Yadavas, who erected a number of shrines at Bid and elsewhere in Kolhapur territory and whose coins are still to be found there. Several places in the State territory attest their presence by the names still borne by some families, and also by the evidence of archæological finds. Thus Singnapur, a few miles from Kolhapur, was probably one of the headquarters of Singhana II of this dynasty. The inscription stone bearing date shaka 1135 (1213-14 A.D.) fixed on the walls of the Khidrapore (Kopeshwar) temple, belongs to this king. Therein he grants the village of Kurundwad to the service of the said temple of Kopeshwar. In another inscription he is described as being "a very Garuda putting to flight the serpent, which was the mighty Bhoja, whose habitation was Panhala."

Bahamani.

This Yadava period witnessed the onslaught of the armies of the Bahamani Kings in Kolhapur

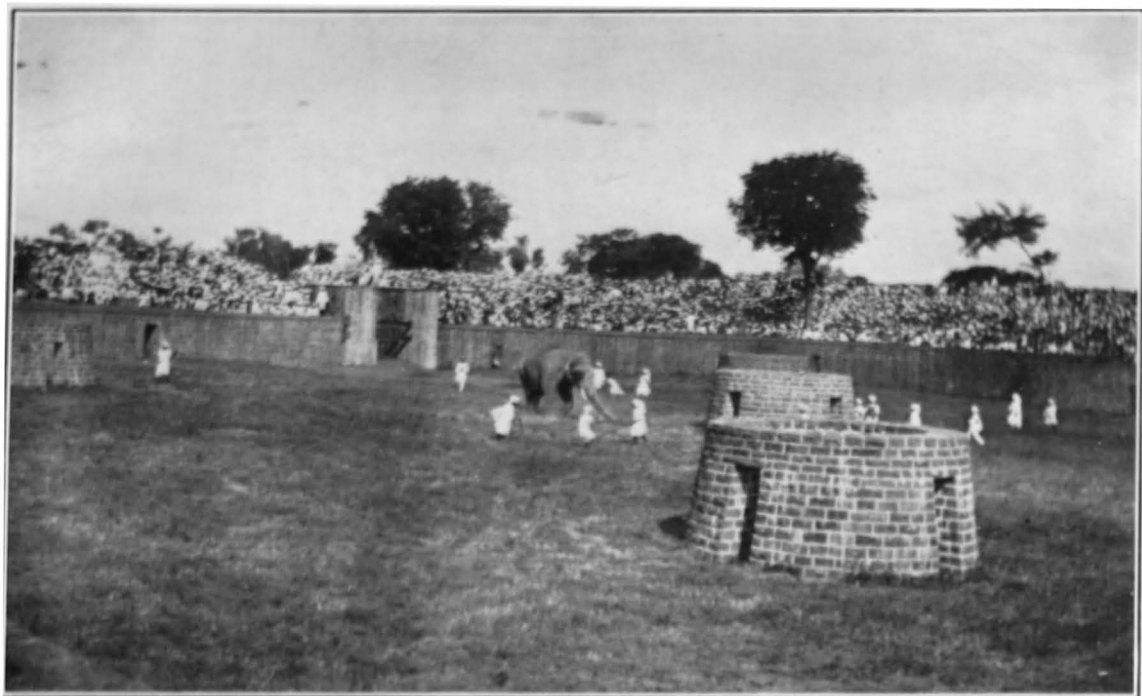
territory. They captured Panhala, Vishalgad, and other forts and destroyed several huge shrines now completely wiped off the earth, and mutilated the rest. The irreparable damage done to the Khidrapore, the Raibag and the Kolhapur temples furnish sad evidence of their acts of fanatic vandalism. Finally in 1498, A.D. when the Bahamani Kingdom split up into its component parts, the territory of Kolhapur and its important fortresses like Panhala, Vishalgad, etc., fell to the heritage of Bijapur, from whose clutches, they again passed into Hindu hands of the Great Siva Chhatrapati, the illustrious ancestor of the present Maharaja of Kolhapur, a blue-blooded Kashtriya descended from Sri Ramchandra through his eldest son Kusa, through Bappa Rawal, the founder of the Imperial dynasty of Udaipore, which is acknowledged even to-day as the most celebrated Royal House of Bharatavarsha. Shivaji's military operations in Kolhapur territory commenced in 1659 A.D., when he obtained possession of Panhala and the adjoining fort of Pavangad. After getting a footing here, he captured other forts on the Sahyadri range, Vishalgad or Khelna in the north and Rangna in the south. These forts amply repaid all the pains taken in reducing them, by affording him shelter when he was hard pressed by the hostile forces sent against him by the Bijapur Government. It was near these

Marathas
Shivaji the
Great, 1674-
1680.

forts that one of the most brilliant episodes in Maratha history occurred. After the slaughter of Afzulkhan and his army, when, to avenge the deed, Sidi Johar with a large force marched against Shivaji, Panhala gave him refuge for a time, but the fort being closely invested for four months Shivaji had to leave it. He managed to escape to Vishalgad. Here in a narrow pass his General Baji Prabhu Deshpande with a handful of brave Mayalas (inhabitants of the hilly districts near the Western Ghats) held at bay hordes of Sidi Johar's army. They had come in hot pursuit of the quarry that had given them the slip. Shivaji was to signal his entry into the fort by the firing of guns and the small band of loyal warriors held out till they heard the boom of cannon. Then sallying forth, determined to sell their lives as dear as possible, they attacked the Sidi's army till every one of them with their heroic General fell, with the satisfaction of a soldier that they had done their duty. This unique display of bravery, which enabled Shivaji to escape has been rightly described in history as the Thermopylae of India. It is one of the most heroic deeds that have emblazoned the pages of the Maratha history.

Sambhaji,
1680-89 A.D.

Shivaji was succeeded by his eldest son Sambhaji, who with his son Shahu, fell into the hands of Aurangzebe and met with a cruel death.



Elephant Satmar.

Shahu was kept in captivity. The kingdom then fell to his younger brother, Rajaram. He succeeded ^{Rajaram} in turning back the tide of the fresh invasion of Mahomedans, who had been elated by their recent achievements. After his demise in 1700 A.D., Rajaram's heroic wife, Tarabai, placed her son Shivaji II on the Gadi and conducted the adminis- ^{Shivaji II.} tration. Her strenuous efforts, however, to maintain intact the rich inheritance bequeathed by the Founder of the Maratha Empire, were frustrated by Aurangzebe's successor by a grand and ingenious stroke of policy. He liberated Sambhaji's son Shahu from captivity. The release of this scion of the elder branch of the Imperial House led to an internecine war among the Marathas for succession to the Hindupadbadshahi (Hindu sovereignty), founded by his grand-father. Tarabai with her son had to flee from Satara and take shelter in the fort of Panhala, 12 miles from Kolhapur, and the struggle between the rival claimants ended at last in the partition of ^{Sambhaji II.} the Raj between the two grand-sons of Shivaji, _{1712-1760.} Shahu, and Sambhaji the son of the younger wife of Rajaram, who had succeeded his nephew Shivaji II. A treaty was entered into between them in 1731 A.D., whereby the Raj at Kolhapur, then embracing a large tract of country, right from the Warna to the Junction of the Krishna and the Tungabhadra, fell to the share of the repre-

sentative of the younger branch, Sambhaji. It formed a separate independent kingdom with all the honours and dignities, and powers and privileges, of the main branch of the Imperial House at Satara. Shivaji's form of government was adopted in Kolhapur, and in conformity with the constitution of the hereditary ministry in the Imperial Government of Shivaji, the feudatories of Kolhapur, forming a hereditary cabinet of *Asth Pradhans* (eight ministers) came into being. As such they have now ceased to function except for ceremonial purposes and they pay a fixed contribution in lieu of service. Sambhaji died without issue in 1760 A.D. and a member of the Bhosale family was adopted as his successor and named Shivaji III or Shivaji II of Kolhapur, and the dowager queen Maharani Jijabai Saheb conducted the administration, during which the first Treaty was concluded with the East India Company in 1765 A.D. Another Treaty was entered into in the interests of British trade and was signed in 1792 A.D. After the death of the Dowager Maharani in 1772 A.D., troublous times followed and the young ruler had to fight with his neighbours on the east and south, the Patwardhans, Savants and the Nipanikar. The British Government had to intervene and protection from aggression was guaranteed to him under the Treaty of 1811 A.D. The next year Shivaji died after a rule of fifty-three

Shivaji III,
1760-1812.

years. His two sons Sambhu *alias* Aba Saheb and Shahaji *alias* Bava Saheb succeeded him one after the other. The former met with a violent death at the hands of one of his Sardars in 1821 A.D. His cordial friendship with the British, was rewarded by the restoration to him of the districts of Chikodi and Manoli, which had been, in former years, wrested from him by the Nipaniar. His brother Shahaji succeeded him. Shahaji's active hostilities with the neighbouring Chiefs and his acts of spoliation resulted in the Treaties of 1826 A.D. and 1827 A.D. The latter cost Kolhapur the districts of Chikodi and Manoli which his father had won back by his friendly services to the British Government.

Sambhu,
1812-1821.

Shahaji,
1821-1837.

After Bavasaheb's death, on the 29th November 1838, his son Shivaji *alias* Baba Saheb Maharaja succeeded to the Gadi. The internal dissensions during his minority again called for British intervention and the British Government appointed a minister of their own to reform the administration. The rebellion of 1844 was the result of the sweeping measures introduced by that officer. After its suppression all the forts in the State were dismantled and the British Government assumed direct administration of the State, until in 1862 the management was restored to the Maharaja and a new Treaty was concluded with him. Shivaji IV

Shivaji IV,
1837-1866.

Rajaram II,
1866-1870.

remained faithful to the British Government during the mutiny of 1857 and received the right of adoption. Knighthood of the Order of Star of India was subsequently conferred on him. He died in 1866 after adopting his nephew (sister's son) who was named Rajaram. The latter was one of the most brilliant and enlightened of the rulers of Kolhapur, but unfortunately his career was cut short by a sudden illness while on his way back to India and a portion of his ashes now lie underneath a beautiful Chhatri on the banks of the River Arno. The spot is marked by a bust erected in his honour. It adorns a lovely site beyond the Cascini. This amiable and accomplished prince, after whom the premier educational institution of the State, the Rajaram College, is named, was succeeded by Shivaji V, who unfortunately got demented and met with a tragic death at Ahmednagar on December 25th, 1883. After him sat on the Gadi Shri Shahu Chhatrapati Maharaja under whom Kolhapur shot into great prominence and unrivalled prosperity. Shri Shahu Maharaj was born on July 26, 1874, in the family of the Ghatages of Kagal. His father Jaysingrao, *alias* Abasaheb Ghatage, Chief of Kagal, was well known for his zeal for the welfare of his subjects, his liberal views and his extremely friendly relations with British Government. Yeshvantrao, by which name Shahu Chhatrapati

Shivaji V,
1870-1883.

Shahu II,
1884-1922.

was known in his natural family, was Abasaheb's eldest son and was adopted by the Maharanee Anandibai Saheb after the death of her husband Shivaji V. For a short time, Shahu Maharaj was sent to the Rajkumar College at Rajkot for education. But he was soon brought back, and subsequently, along with his brother Bapu Saheb, the Jahagirdar of Kagal (Sr.) and his uncle, Bala Saheb, the Jahagirdar of Kagal (Jr.), kept at Dharwar, under the guardianship of Mr. (now Sir) Stuart Fraser. After finishing their prescribed course of studies, the Kumars made tours in India and Ceylon with their guardian, and when Shahu Maharaj was nearly twenty, he was installed on the Gadi of Kolhapur and invested with full powers of the State. The advent of a ruler to the gadi, after a long period of minorities of nearly half a century, was hailed with great jubilation not only by the subjects of the Raj, but throughout the whole of Maharashtra. The following extract from the address presented by a deputation of the Poona Sarvajanik Sabha, the popular assembly of the Deccan, to the young Maharaja immediately on his installation, shows with what joy the event was received:—

“ The Kolhapur Raj represents in these days the direct line of the descendants of the Great Shivaji, who founded the Maratha Empire, and though its territorial limits are now confined to a small district, yet it is by reason of its tradition an object of

reverence and affection throughout the whole of Hindustan, wherever the Maratha influence extends. It is this national bond of allegiance and love which has brought us here to join with the people of Kolhapur on this auspicious occasion."

As the same Sabha observed on another occasion through the mouth of the late Mr. G. K. Gokhale,

"the Kolhapur Gadi still continues to stand as a visible emblem of the great work which the Marathas were able to achieve, and its occupants will always be regarded by the people of the whole Maharashtra—even by those who are not directly subjected to their rule—with feelings of veneration and affection."

Thus it was after a long period of minority of rulers extending almost continuously over fifty years, that His Highness the late Shahu Chhatrapati Maharaja, G.C.V.O., G.C.S.I., LL.D., assumed the reins of Government on the 2nd of April 1894. For most of this period, the Bombay Government administered the Raj of Kolhapur through their Political Agent, and latterly, under his supervision, the administration was conducted by the Regent in Council and Council of administration. This period, exceeding half a century, was marked by progress in the State in all directions. Several public works of great utility were executed. The City was embellished by that imposing edifice, the New Palace, with its graceful architecture and harmonious blend of the Indo-Saracenic style. The magnificent buildings of the Albert Edward

Period of
minorities
till 1894.



Elephant Fight.

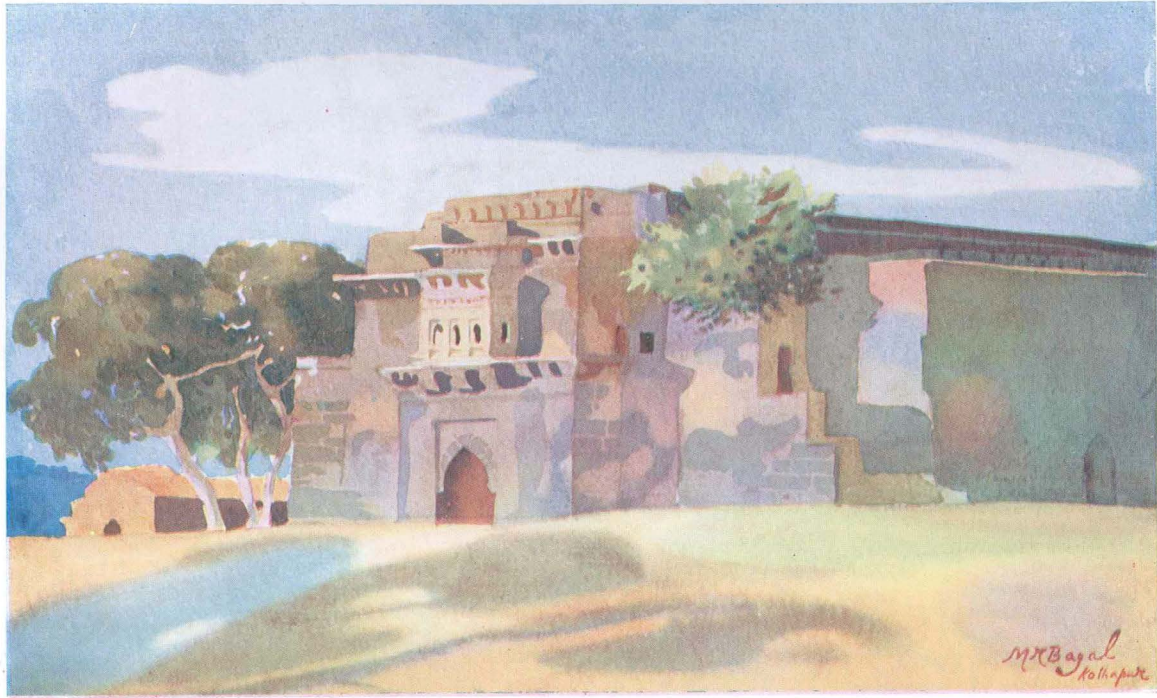
Hospital and the Town Hall, surrounded by a beautiful garden were erected. The Department of vaccination was organised for the prevention of small-pox. Sanitation of the City was greatly improved, the walls of the fort round it, which barred free access of the air, were demolished, and the trenches inclosing them, which were hotbeds of all manner of disease germs, were filled up. The Kalamba tank was built which, while it provided the City with pure drinking water, also made it almost immune from ravages of cholera. The masonry dam of the Rankalla tank, with the ornamental turrets and lattice work of its intake, was also built during this period. The Kolhapur Miraj Railway, constructed during the latter part of the period, has not only stimulated trade, but added largely to the revenues of the State. When the work was undertaken there were great misgivings that it may not even pay its way. But it has been not only self-supporting, but now, with the impetus to trade given by Sir Shahu Chhatrapati, pays a dividend of 10 per cent. The Shivaji bridge was built across the Punch Ganga on the Kolhapur-Ratnagiri Road removing the longfelt inconvenience to passenger and vehicular traffic. The State Risalla was comfortably lodged in the spacious and commodious stables built for it and His Highness' riding and carriage horses were suitably

accommodated in a building with an ornamental front near the Old Palace. A splendid building was provided for the High School named after the late Rajaram Maharaja, whose promising career was cut short in the prime of his youth on his way back from his tour to England. Two college classes were added to the Institute thus providing a second grade college to the State. A stately building was erected for the girls' school named after the late Her Highness Maharani Ahilyabai, a highly revered lady of the Royal family. An ornamental building was provided for the Kolhapur Library, built in a style harmonising with the beautiful architecture of the noble edifice in its front, Rajaram College (then the Rajaram High School). Schools were established in villages for the spread of primary education. Thus education, primary and secondary, received great incentive. To such a well ordered and progressive administration Shahu Maharaja succeeded. His reign lasted for a little more than 38 years, from March 17, 1884, to May 6, 1922. During his administration many reforms were introduced for the welfare of his subjects, but the one task to which he devoted his energies was the reduction of the social inequalities he found among the people committed to his care. The uplift of the masses claimed his sole attention. His genuine sympathies for the tiller of the soil and the depressed classes or the so-

**Shahu II's
administration.**

called untouchables, afford a key to most of his activities during his regime. With a view to afford relief to the rayats, especially in the eastern part of the State, which periodically suffers from scarcity, one of the great works undertaken by him was the construction of a huge masonry dam across the Bhogavati in a valley of the Sahayadris. It was calculated to irrigate more than 20,000 acres. Close upon twenty lakhs of rupees were spent over the project. The work is yet to be completed. Small tanks, costing over a lakh of rupees, were constructed at Wadgaon and Atigra which, besides providing drinking water to the villages, also supply water for irrigation. A tank was built at Shirol to relieve the longfelt want of drinking water. To promote the growth of trade, he brought into being the now flourishing centre of commerce in Kolhapur, the suburb of Shahupuri, and Jayasingpuri near Shirol. The Shahu spinning and weaving mills owe their birth to his keen desire for encouraging industry. They utilize cotton produced in the State, which also provides the requisite custom for their products. Shahu Chhatrapati's claim, however, to the esteem and affectionate regards of posterity is based, not so much on the tanks, buildings and mills constructed during his regime, nor on his creation of the great suburb of Shahupuri, as on the stupendous task of the elevation of the masses. It absorbed his atten-

tion and energies throughout his life. From the beginning he realised the necessity of setting on the right track the whole social machine, which, for ages, had strayed along lines harmful to national growth. To do so he had to embark on the tough undertaking of a fight with the traditional hierarchy of caste. He set about his work systematically. All forces that made for the uplift of the masses were utilized by him. Compulsory primary education was introduced into the State and a fair start was made in launching the measure. To give a stimulus to higher education among the backward classes, communal hostels were built for their different sections. In the State service preference was given to these long handicapped communities. Even the so-called untouchables were admitted to it. To free the latter from the ban of untouchability he led the way by employing them even in his household and occasionally freely dining with them. The activities of the Arya Samajist and the Satya Shodhak were given considerable scope. Nor did consideration of alien religion find place in his broad-minded sympathy with the down trodden depressed classes. His appreciation of the Christian missionaries' efforts to ameliorate the hard lot of these unfortunate communities found expression in his princely generosity towards these selfless workers. It has secured



Ambar Khana (Panhala).

to the Christian Mission spacious buildings and prominent sites in and about the City. His staunch loyalty to the British Throne and his unsparing efforts to suppress sedition and disloyalty in and also outside his State brought on him bitter attacks from the extremist press. But undaunted by them, he flinched not, deeply convinced as he was that the salvation of India depended on the uplift of the masses, that it was the British Government that was the first to apply the powerful lever to the work, and that the end could not be attained without their sympathies and help. Thus cordial co-operation with the British Government was the watchword of his policy and his 'humble services' as he used to say, were always at their disposal. His active help in the troublous days, when sedition was rampant, especially in the Deccan, is well known as are his services during the Great War when he offered to fly into Kutelamara and use his personal influence with the Maratha soldiery there, who had declined to partake of forbidden food. So great, however, was his hold over them that a mere message from him sent under his signature and seal, was enough to bring them round. Similarly during the visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales in 1922, when non-co-operation was at its height, by his vigorous efforts to counteract it, the movement lost its edge. Regarding Shahu

Chhatrapati's services during the Great War His Excellency Sir Leslie Wilson has aptly remarked in his speech on the occasion of unveiling his memorial :—

“ In this great epoch of history the Kolhapur State led by His late Highness played its part nobly. It gave recruits, contributions in material and money, and other service in full proportion to its population and resources.”

His zealous work in the interests of his people and his valuable services during the Great War, were highly appreciated by the British Government. It found recognition in his being made a G.C.S.I., G.C.V.O. and G.C.I.E., in the restoration to His House of the power of capital punishment and Residuary jurisdiction in feudatory Jahagirs, and in the bestowal of the great honour of a personal salute of 21 guns on him. He was one of the few Indian princes who had the honour of being invited to England for the Coronation of His late Majesty King-Emperor Edward VII. He availed himself of the opportunity to make a tour on the Continent of Europe and visited a few places of importance in France and Italy. While he was in England, the Cambridge University rewarded his zeal for the spread of education, by conferring on him the highest academical honour, the degree of LL.D., and that rather exclusive Institute, the Royal Society of Agriculture in England, honoured him by admitting him to membership in its

appreciation of his active interest in agriculture, and specially in apiculture.

Shahu Chhatrapati married from the celebrated family of Khanwilkars of Baroda and had four children, two sons and two daughters, of whom two, one daughter and one son, died during his life-time. His eldest daughter, Her Highness S. S. Maharani Radhabai Aka Saheb Maharaj, is married to His Highness the Maharaja Saheb of Dewas (Sr.), Sir Tukojirao Powar, K.C.S.I. She is the mother of the talented heir-apparent to the throne of Dewas (Sr.), His Highness Prince Vikramsinha Maharaja, who, though only 17 years old, has already distinguished himself by his brilliant University career. Her Highness Aka Saheb Maharaj is an expert rider and inheriting the love of horses from her father, has a splendid stud of racers. Her sister died very young. Shahu Maharaja's last days were embittered by a heavy domestic calamity. His younger son Prince Shivaji Maharaja, a bright and intelligent youth, beloved by all, met with an accident in Shikar. While-pig-sticking he was thrown from his horse and died in the prime of budding manhood on June 12, 1918, at the age of 19. The Prince Shivaji Hostel, which now supports many a poor Maratha student, has been started in his name. In memory of the gallant Prince, an equestrian statue is to be erected on a prominent site, in

front of the Victoria Maratha Education Society's buildings, where the Sir William Birdwood Road starts.

After an arduous lifelong struggle in the cause of the backward communities Sir Shahu Chhatrapati breathed his last on Sunday, the 6th May 1922. He was an all-round sportsman, equally interested in coursing as in big game shooting and falconry as well as cheeta hunt. The latter indeed was his specialty. When he went after a herd of deer, it was a sight to see him drive over rough uneven ground, at a break-neck speed, his four-in-hand, with cheetas seated on either side, his tall muscular figure, six feet in height prominently standing out. He was fond of elephant fights, and the special *agadas* (arenas) constructed by him at various places, Radhanagari, Raibag, Rukadi, Kolhapur, &c., are standing witnesses of his great love of the sport. He was partial to it because, as he used to say, it led to the growth of that virile spirit of fearlessness in facing danger, characteristic of the Maratha. He took great delight also in seeing the races of draft animals like tonga ponies and bullocks. Those sports were held annually near the present race-course and many a villager was proud to secure an entry in the races to the bullocks and ponies bred by him. Being himself a great wrestler, wrestling was his favourite amusement. A spacious arena has been



SHRI SHAHU MEMORIAL.

This Memorial to the revered memory of His late Highness Sir Shahu Chhatrapati, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., G.C.V.O., LL.D., etc., Maharaja of Kolhapur, was erected by his subjects in Kolhapur, and also his friends and admirers outside, in token of the high and affectionate esteem in which he was held by them. It was unveiled by His Excellency the Right Hon'ble Sir Leslie Orme Wilson, P.C., G.C.I.E., C.M.G., D.S.O., on 12th April 1927.

erected in Khasbag right in the heart of the City. It is large enough to seat more than twenty thousand people and there throughout the year matches of renowned wrestlers used to be held. His son and successor, His Highness Sir Shri Rajaram Chhatrapati Maharaja, has inherited his fondness for this sport as well as cheeta hunt, and they have now become specialties of Kolhapur.

This brief sketch of the monarch's career may aptly be concluded by a quotation from a speech of the late Governor, Sir George (now Lord) Lloyd, who knew him personally and also one from the Preface to Rao Bahadur Latthe's 'Memoirs of Shahu Chhatrapati,' written by Sir Stuart Fraser, K.C.I.E., late Resident of Hyderabad, who was Shahu Maharaja's Tutor and Guardian during the latter part of his tutelage. To the broadening influence of Sir Stuart's tuition may be traced the roots of that catholic sympathy for humanity, which was the main spring of all his pupil's activities in his after-life. The seed sown by him had fallen on fertile soil. Towards Sir Stuart Fraser Shahu Chhatrapati retained to the last feelings of deep affection and friendship.

Sir Stuart says in the preface :—

“ Preachers of reform have appeared from time to time of many different types; scholars and philosophers of the literate classes, saints, poets, and lovers of their fellow-men, who sprang from a variety of

castes. It may be doubted, however, whether anything like a similar instance is recorded of a Ruling Prince who worked and suffered during his whole manhood in one long struggle against the deep-rooted evils of a complex social and religious system in order to effect the betterment of the humblest of his fellow-men.

Not a low-caste man who had himself been under the harrow of oppression, but a Kshatriya of illustrious family, and Ruler of the principal State in the Bombay Presidency—not a studious ascetic, but a genial figure, fortunate in his one wife and his children, and very human in all his traits—not a freethinker, but scrupulous even to the verge of superstition in his personal observances—untouched by Western republican ideas and a model of personal loyalty to the Crown—an all round sportsman who loved horse and hound—the Maharaja was a man who might have found his place among the ranks of those who view the world as a comfortable dwelling on the whole, make the best of things as they are, and avoid stirring up hornets' nests. Such a conventional attitude, however, did not accord either with the Chhatrapati Maharaja's militant conscience or with his ideal of the obligations attaching to his position. His varied characteristics add interest to the story of his life long fight in one of the most unselfish of causes."

Sir George Lloyd on the occasion of his visit to Kolhapur in 1922 said:—

"He (Shahu Chhatrapati) was a ruler who combined definite ideals of work with strength and capacity to attain them and the administration of the great



Old Gujari.

State, bears everywhere the impress of his personal energy and enthusiasm. Outside his State, he was a powerful champion of a cause, as worthy as any that is being fought for in India, and in him the backward classes have lost a friend who was as anxious as he was strong to help them and finally I am privileged to speak of him as a personal friend; I myself think that all who so knew him must remember most vividly a quality about him which is hard to describe in words. It was his deep enjoyment and most sympathetic understanding of the human side in all those with whom he came into contact. It was from this understanding, from his fresh, almost joyous interest in all the thoughts and actions of his fellow-men that his character to my mind derived its chief strength and charm. He was an outstanding personality and if we have a consolation for his loss, it is in the conviction, steadily growing among us, that Your Highness (Shri Rajaram Chhatrapati) has inherited a large share of his qualities and of his anxiety for the good administration of his State which he has bequeathed to you."

Sir Shahu Chhatrapati Maharaj was succeeded by his eldest son His Highness Sir Shri Rajaram Maharaj, G.C.I.E., who is now on the throne. His Highness was born on the 31st of July, 1897. His royal father bestowed very great care on his education. After going through the vernacular course of studies, when he had some grounding in English, he was sent to England in charge of a European lady for further education. He was accompanied Rajaram III.

by his late brother Prince Shivaji Maharaj, the eldest son of the Jahagirdar of Kagal (Jr.), and a few other Kumars from Sardar families. It was the earnest desire of the late His Highness Shri Shahu Maharaja that his sons should learn and take interest in agriculture and should spend about seven years in England. But unfortunately the Great War came in the way and the Princes had hardly three years in England before they had to return. On their return journey they took the route *via* Atlantic and Pacific oceans and availed themselves of the opportunity to gain knowledge at first hand of the democratic people of the great American Continent through which they had to pass. On their way they saw Hongkong, Singapore and parts of China and Japan and reached Kolhapur on the 17th of October 1915. It was a keen disappointment to His late Highness that the Princes had to come back before they could finish the prescribed course of studies. Determined, nevertheless, that they should have sufficient knowledge of scientific Agriculture to enable them to take active interest in the Agricultural pursuits of his people, he sent them to Allahabad, where they joined the Ewing Christian College and pursued their studies in that subject. His Highness studied there for about a year. The climate of the place, however, did not agree with him,



OLD GUJARI
(Renewed under City Improvement Scheme).

and he had to be brought back to Kolhapur after a severe illness. Since then, up to the unexpected and untimely demise of his father, the young Maharaja's time was occupied in mastering details of administrative work with the help of experienced officers of the State. Thus amply equipped, Shri Rajaram Maharaja came to the throne, and when he found himself at the helm of affairs, he felt no difficulty in steering aright the ship of the State. He took up the threads of administration most seriously and has steadily and silently worked hard for the peaceful progress of his State. Though very young, he has shown that he possesses sound judgment of riper years and great tact, very rarely found at his age. All departments have claimed his attention. First of all in order to put the finances of the State on a proper footing, he has, with a strong hand, curtailed his expenditure on Khasgi. Within the short space of five years since coming to the throne, he has effected great improvement in the administration. Almost all departments have been overhauled and fresh blood has been infused into them. The Rajaram College, which had been handed over to the Arya Pratinidhi Sabha for management, has been taken over under the direct control of the Darbar and suitably manned and equipped to meet the requirements of a full-

grade Institution with a Science class. The change has largely added to its usefulness and the number of students has risen from 280 in 1922 to 325. In this connection it may not be out of place to mention here that some of the most renowned men who took a leading part in the politics of the day, hail from Kolhapur. Its educational Institutions claim among their *alumni* men like the late Messrs. Justice Ranade and G. K. Gokhale, whose towering intellects combined with calm and judicious moderation, once made their influence felt throughout India. The Indian Civil Service too has its quota of talented men who received their education in the Rajaram College. Under the great stimulus which the Institution has now received from its present enlightened Ruler, it is not too much to expect that many more may follow in the wake of their distinguished predecessors. The grant for Education including primary and secondary education has been considerably enhanced, and compulsory education is pushed on with great vigour. The persistent efforts of Shri Shahu Maharaja to create in his son an active interest in Agriculture have borne rich fruit. Several institutions whose sole aim is the spread of scientific knowledge of Agriculture owe their birth to His Highness' desire to improve the lot of the cultivator by teaching him advanced methods of farming and use of



State Bungalow No. 1 (Panhala).

improved implements of husbandry securing economy of labour. Suitable endowment for a number of scholarships has enabled the American Mission to start Agricultural classes accompanied with demonstration work on the lands allotted to them for the purpose. They yield an annual income of over Rs. 2,000. A special department has been organised and placed under an officer, an experienced graduate in agriculture, to stimulate the creation and work of co-operative societies and to help agriculturists. The Lord Irwin Agricultural Museum, which will shortly be opened by His Excellency the Viceroy, will be a centre of agricultural activities in the State. The demonstrations to be held in connection therewith will, by providing ocular evidence of the utility of scientific methods of cultivation, be of very great service to the rural areas of the State. The Agricultural Exhibition accompanying the opening ceremony of the Institute, promises to be a show most helpful to the actual tiller of the soil as also to the capitalist farmer. Revenue officers have been relieved of much of their work of a quasi-judicial nature. They can now devote undivided attention to their revenue duties. The privilege of elective franchise has been conferred upon Municipalities, both in the City of Kolhapur and Taluka towns outside, and also on District and Taluka Boards, or Ilakha and Taluka

Panchayats as they are called. A start has thus been made in training the people to take part in the work of the administration and His Highness has been carefully and anxiously watching the experiment. The annual conferences of officials and leading non-officials in the State is a new feature of His Highness' administration. It is calculated to conduce to its efficiency by promoting mutual understanding and good-will and bringing about and maintaining harmonious relations between them. To improve the sanitation of the City and to further relieve congestion, His Highness has given up, for creating a new suburb named after his revered mother Her Highness Maharani Laxmibai Saheb Maharaj, his private lands in the Kharalla gardens yielding a fairly large income. This has secured the triple advantage of addition to the building area of the City, the removal of the insanitary sugarcane plantations from its midst, and the closing up of the dirty pool of water, preserved for irrigating the lands. With its filthy, stagnant water it was always full of noxious weeds and a breeding place for mosquitoes and other germs of disease. A bridge named "Lady Wilson Bridge" in commemoration of Her Excellency's visit to Kolhapur, has been constructed, connecting this Kharalla Extension, Laxmipuri, with the great centre of trade, Shahupuri. In the city of Kolhapur



Bhavsingji Road (widened).

itself roads, or rather narrow old lanes, have been widened and congested parts are being opened up. The citizens would appear to have been inoculated with the spirit of their tasteful Ruler and handsome storied buildings are taking the place of the old unsightly structures that lined the streets. The traditional interest in Cavalry of the Marathas, who once truly boasted that their horses watered in the Cauvery in the South as in the Indus near Peshawar in the North, is proverbial. The State Risalla, therefore, has naturally claimed His Highness' attention, and its equipment and mounts as well as the training of the horses and men, bear impress of personal care bestowed upon them.

Nor have commerce and industry escaped His Highness' solicitude for the communities engaged in these trades. The Kolhapur Bank, Ltd., owes its existence to the liberal support and encouragement given by His Highness. It supplies a longfelt want of the mercantile classes.

A weaving department has been recently added to the Shahu Mills. It has considerably enhanced their usefulness and rendered them less liable to suffer pecuniarily in times of slump in trade.

The pumping installation, erected near the Punchganga Mahal, on the right bank of the river, about a couple of miles from the City, with its

arrangements for filtration and disinfection of water, will secure to the people living in the camp and the suburb of Shahupuri, a perennial supply of pure drinking water. The Rajaram Tank that is under construction near Sarnobat wadi about four miles from the City, will be of use for purposes of irrigation and could also be drawn upon as an additional source of water to the City, should necessity arise. With the liberalising influence of the education received by him, His Highness would no longer shut his eyes to the evils of early and infant marriage, and to prevent them he took the bold measure of resorting to legislation. In the beginning he was not able to go far enough. But the step taken will now successfully put a stop to marriages of girls below 10 and of boys below 14 years of age. To the same liberalising influence of English education, combined with travels abroad and sojourn in foreign country, is to be traced the complete freedom from communal bias, visible everywhere in the administration. All castes and creeds are receiving fair treatment and due encouragement and support at the hands of His Highness, and the Marathas, Lingayats, Jains and Moslems as well as advanced and depressed classes alike share the patronage of the State. Equal opportunities for all would appeal to be his guiding principle.

His Highness' relations with the British Government have been of a most cordial nature. The present Governor, His Excellency Sir Leslie Wilson, and his predecessor Sir George (now Lord) Lloyd, and the Residents at Kolhapur, have been most friendly to him and have taken the keenest interest in his well-being. It is their encouragement and guidance, as he has often expressed himself, that have proved a source of inspiration to him and helped him in initiating and carrying out reforms in the administration.

His Highness is a teetotaller and his scrupulously pure and spotless private character is an inspiring example to his Court. Its effect is visible everywhere in the State.

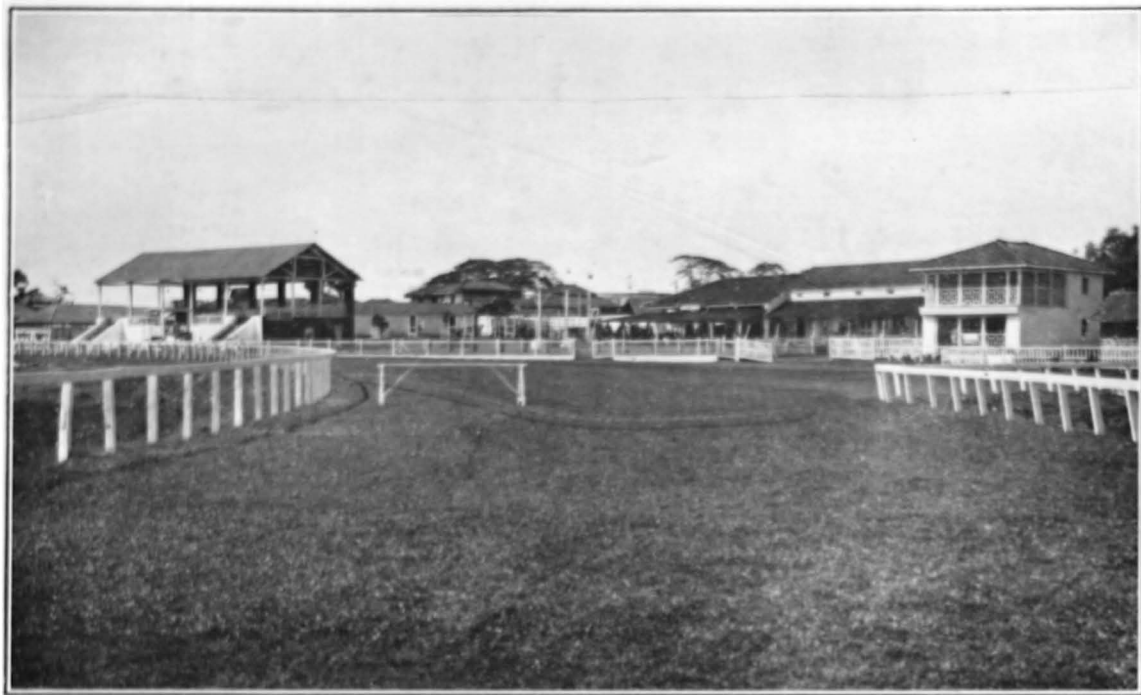
Appreciating the beneficent influence of the Boy Scout movement His Highness has become the Chief Scout of its Kolhapur unit. It was at his instance that the Boy Scouts of the State have been affiliated to the Imperial Organisation which bears the name of its illustrious founder. In declaring open the Sir George Lloyd Boy Scout camp in Kolhapur, His Excellency the Governor observed :—

“ The whole of the Boy Scout movement is made of entirely independent units and runs on independent lines, and your Highness' Kolhapur Scouts will lose nothing of their independence by belonging to the Imperial movement, but rather will ally themselves with, and gain fresh strength from being a member

as Canada, Australia, New Zealand or any other part of the Empire is, and therefore I thank your Highness for the splendid example you have given in regard to the unity of this great movement. The second important matter I see in this Scout movement in Kolhapur is with regard to your Highness' headship of the Maratha people and I therefore hope that your Highness' example and influence will help right through the Maharashtra among the Maratha people to bring the Maratha youth into a movement, which has proved so beneficial for the Empire wherever it has been tried."

Like his father, His Highness is also a lover of horse-flesh. It is a trait of character which has been the peculiarity of the Kings of Kolhapur from early historical times. Thus we find that as far back as 150 A.D. Kolhapur was styled Hyppocura and from the 8th century onwards Turagpura (City of horses) both *Hippos* and *Turaga* meaning a horse. Cheeta hunt is His Highness' favourite sport. His magnificent stud of breeding, racing and riding horses will compare with any in or outside India.

The Maharaja is fortunate in having a mother the Dowager Maharani Saheb, Her Highness Laxmibai, who has mainly been instrumental in bringing him up in all the noble traditions of the House of Shivaji the Great. A typical Maratha lady of high birth, affectionate and kind, Her Highness is loved and adored by



The Kolhapur Race Course.

him as she is by all people. She takes a keen interest in the welfare of children, and poor orphans are her special care. The Baby Week and Child Welfare movements have received a great impetus from her genuine sympathy and tender regards for the destitute. Her Highness is a lover of fine arts and devotes her spare hours to bead-work pictures, among which those of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales and the God Krishna, destroying the deadly serpent, attest her taste, assiduity and care. They were not very long ago exhibited in the Wembley and Poona Fine Art Exhibitions and were greatly admired.

His Highness has two wives, his first wife Her Highness Maharani Tarabai Saheb is the grand-daughter of His Highness Maharaja Sir Sayajirao Gaikwad, being the sister of the present Yuvaraj of Baroda. His second wife, Her Highness Maharani Vijayamala Saheb comes from a respectable Maratha family in Tanjore. His first marriage took place in April 1918 and the second in June 1925.

From the enlightened and progressive administration of His Highness during the first quinquennium of his reign, the assiduous and anxious attention he has been paying to the minutest details and the remarkable success achieved by him during the period, it may well be

affirmed that, under Divine grace, the State will have an era of progress, peace and prosperity in His Highness' regime and that His Highness will earn the rich reward of the blessings of a happy, contented and thriving people advancing along right lines in all directions.

May His Highness have a long, prosperous and glorious reign !

Feudatory Jahagirdars of Kolhapur are nine in number. They all pay *NAZAR* on succession equal to a year's net income of their Jahagirs and also an annual contribution towards the maintenance of Military force. The following table gives their names, titles, &c., and some details about their Jahagirs :

Name.	Title.	Residence.	Caste.	Age.	Area.	Popula- tion.	Gross Revenue.	Contri- bution towards mainte- nance of Military force.
1. Meherban Abajirao Krishnarao. (Jahagirdar of Vishalgad.)	Pant Pra- trinidhi.	Malkapur.	Brahman Madhyan- din.	58	236 square miles.	30,125	Rs. 3,22,515	Rs. 5,000
2. Meherban Madhavrao Moreswar. (Jahagirdar of Bavada.)	Pant Amatya	Bavada.	Brahmin Deshastha.	68	243 square miles.	44,680	2,37,222	3,420
3. Meherban Jaysingrao <i>alias</i> Abasaheb Ghatge. (Jahagirdar of Kagal Sr.)	Sarjerao Vajrat Ma-ab.	Kagal.	Maratha.	9	1,151 square miles.	45,324	3,61,871	2,000
4. Meherban Santajirao <i>alias</i> Babasaheb Ghorpade. (Jahagirdar of Kapshi.)	Senapati.	Kapshi.	Maratha.	23	831 square miles.	11,747	1,14,499	4,301
5. Meherban Narsojirao <i>alias</i> Babasaheb Shinde. (Jahagirdar of Torgal.)	Senakhas- khel.	Kolhapur.	Maratha.	16	137'2 square miles.	12,535	1,12,923	1,014
6. Meherban Narayanrao Govind <i>alias</i> Babasa- saheb Ghorpade. (Jahagirdar of Ichalkaranji.)	Pant Sachiv.	Ichalkaranji	Brahmin Kokanastha	55	241 square miles.	60,366	7,30,009	2,000
7. Meherban Dattajirao <i>alias</i> Balasaheb Ghatge. (Jahagirdar of Kagal Jr.)	Sarjerao.	Kolhapur.	Maratha.	51	17'3 square miles.	6,110	1,36,354	2,154
8. Meherban Udajirao <i>alias</i> Abasaheb Chavan. (Jahagirdar.)	Himmat Bahadur.	Kolhapur.	Maratha.	51	49'1 square miles.	17,986	1,29,763	4,000
9. Meherban Sultanrao <i>alias</i> Raosaheb Nimbalkar. (Jahagirdar.)	Sarlashkar Bahadur.	Kolhapur.	Maratha.	38	21'6 square miles.	6,496	82,199	2,626

21,27,355

PART II.
TEMPLES, PUBLIC BUILDINGS
AND PLACES OF
INTEREST.



Ambabai Temple.

PART II.

TEMPLES, PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PLACES OF INTEREST.

This very famous temple is situated about a hundred yards to the north-west of the old State Palace, and is a finished gem of Chalukyan or the Vesara type of Hindu Architecture. The central building, around which are grouped a number of independent shrines, is star-shaped in plan like the temple of Ambernath near Kalyan, is two storeyed and contains, besides the main shrine dedicated to Amba Bai or Maha Lakshmi, a shrine to the south dedicated to Maha Saraswati and another to the north, dedicated to Maha Kali.

**Amba Bai
Temple.**

As the style indicates, the oldest part of the present shrine may have been the work of the early Chalukyas (550 A.D. to 660 A.D.) which the Silhara rulers of Kolhapur (ninth century A.D. and onwards) added to and embellished considerably.

Later on, owing to the combined influences, of the earthquakes and the iconoclastic tendencies of the Muslim invaders, its sculptures were torn from their niches and mutilated. About the middle of the eighteenth century, the Chatrapatis

of Kolhapur once again restored the glory of the shrine and added to it its present towers (Shikaras), restored those sculptures which could be recovered and also adorned it with gateways, etc., so that the present shrine consists of two parts—one, the old that received additions from the seventh century to the tenth, and the modern from the eighteenth century to the present day.

The old structure is built of close fitting mortarless stone, quarried in the neighbourhood, and capable of taking high polish.

The main building, as it stands at present, consists of an Entrance Mandap (Pravesa Mandap) now styled familiarly as the Garuda Mandap, in which during the *Navaratra* celebrations in *Ashvin* (September-October) a silver image of the goddess is installed for worship on the raised stone platform therein. As one enters the old main building, one sees the Mukh (face) Mandap on either side of which in the niches are beautiful images, the chief of them being the duplicates of the so-called Bharata and Shatrughna images, though in reality in spite of all their charm, they are only Jain Dwarapalas (gate-keepers). This Mandap leads on to the Mani (Bell) Mandap, which is artistically paved, at the end walls of which are two very beautiful *Dwarapalas* (gate-keepers) called Jaya and Vijaya, cast in heroic mould, like the huge Buddha



Portion of Ambabai Temple.

figures at the Kanheri Caves. This Bell Mandap leads into the *Mula-sthan* or the *Sanctum Sanctorum*, wherein is the image of Maha Lakshmi or Amba Bai. This image was hidden away for nearly two centuries because of the fear of Moslem molestation and was placed here only in the year 1722 A.D. This central shrine has got round it a passage for circumambulation (*Pradakshina*).

The first floor of this central shrine now houses a Linga to which steps lead from near the Mahakali. A magnificent array of danseuses (dancing apsarases), locally known as the sixty-four *Yoginis*, adorn the outer walls of the central shrine. They range from the sixth to the eighteenth century, the more antique among them being indeed *tres charmant*.

Besides this central shrine, there are other subsidiary and surrounding shrines, the chief of which, from the point of view of art and antiquity, are the shrines of the Sheshashayi and the Navagraha or rather Ashtadik-pal Mandap.

The Sheshashayi shrine contains inside a sculpture of Vishnu, reclining on his primeval serpent couch, though the sculpture here is not so very beautiful as those at Bhaireswarvadi and Talsandhe (villages in Kolhapur territory). The front of this shrine is adorned with the figures of the Seven Mothers and Ganapati in the same way as at the side Linga shrine at Elephanta,

thus indicating clearly that this shrine owes its inspiration to the kings of the Chalukya race, whose tutelary deities these goddesses were. In the front of the shrine there is a beautiful Mandap, the inner dome of whose ceiling is carved in a most exquisite fashion, rivalling in its delicacy the carving inside the ceiling of Vimala Saba at Mount Abu. Under the carved ceiling are standing figures of naked Jain Tirthankaras, while the inscriptions which are carved along in an old form of Canarese (Hale Kanada) inform us that they are the work of a pious Jain King.

The Navagraha Mandap, miscalled so from the number of the nine panels that adorn the inner face of its ceiling, is an exquisite work of ancient Indian sculpturesque architecture, and contains also a fine frieze of swans excelling in beauty even those on the moonstone at Anuradhapura (Ceylon). At the ends of this Mandap, as on the facings of the Sheshashayi, are exquisite types of Indian womanhood whom religion has sanctified as Apsaras (Divine Nymphs). The inner shrine contains a figure of Durga slaying the Buffalo Demon (Mahishasura Mardhini) and also another fine group, depicting the Solar deity being borne aloft on his seven horsed, single wheeled chariot (Ratha).

In addition to these two subsidiary shrines, the temple also contains other smaller places of



Ceiling of Navagraha-mandap or Ashta-dikpal Temple.

worship, each of which enshrines images ranging from one to about half a dozen. Of these, the most important are the small temples of Dattatraya Hari-Hareshwar, Mukteshvari, Vitoba, Kashi-vishveshvar, Rama and Radhakrishna. The images of Bharata and Shatrughna, Vishnu and Shiva-Parvati, the ten incarnations of Vishnu (Dasavatar), of the five sacred rivers, of Mahakali (locally known as Jaratkaru) and Kartikswami and Gaja Lakshmi, lodged in different parts of the inclosure, and those containing some fine specimens of art that are now housed in the small side shrine, known as the Indra Sabha, are also worshipped by their votaries.

The temple has four gates, the principal one being called the Maha Dwara facing the West. It has on its top a Nagarkhana (Drum chamber). There are on the northern side, two *tirthas* (pools of holy water) known as the Kashi and the Manikarnika, whose sides are lined with images and hero stones. The most important among them are a scene representing Jain version of the Temptation of Buddha, the statues of Balarama, of the sages Agastya and Narada, of Krishna playing the flute, of Siva and Parvati, of Gaja Lakshmi, etc.

The temple has also in addition to these, a block of modern dipamalas (stone pillars for supporting rows of lamps) and two modern

fountains. About eight inscriptions in Sanskrit and old Kanarese are found in different parts of the temple.

**Vitoba
Temple.**

This temple, too, like that of Amba Bai, owes its inspiration to the Chalukyas, and its embellishment to the Silahar rulers of Kolhapur (from the ninth century and onwards) and is similar to it in point of style, the material employed and technique.

The temple, as it is at present, belongs to three epochs, one, the early or the Chalukya-Silahara, the second the Bijapur, and the third from the eighteenth century and onwards. Thus the eastern portion of it, containing some of the loveliest sculptures, though now in a state of partial mutilation, belongs to the early period, the southern and the rest are works of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, while the Sikhara (dome) belongs to the eighteenth century.

Originally, this temple stood on an eminence or raised platform of its own, but after its partial demolition under Muslim *regime* the walls were patched up and the temple assumed its present condition.

It is entered by a gate from the north wherein have been sandwiched a few hero stones and the figures of the sage Agastya, picked from somewhere else. It leads on to three or four important shrines, the chief among which are the old

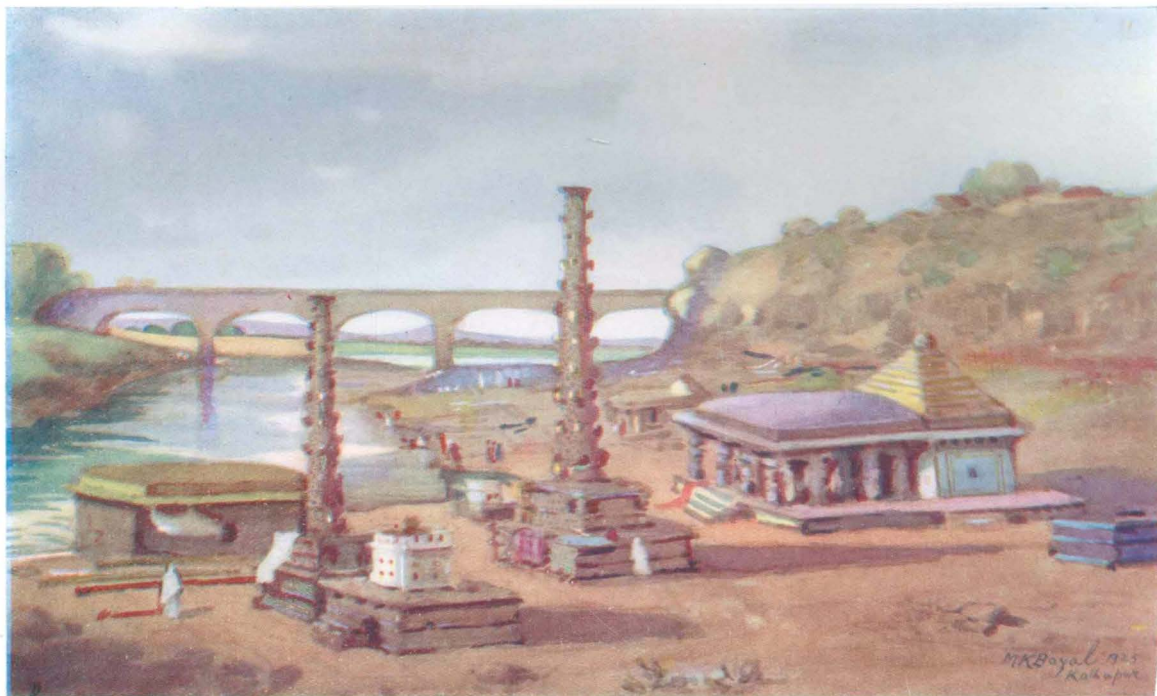


TEMBLAI Hills, Sir Claude Hill Sanatorium and Service Water Reservoir.

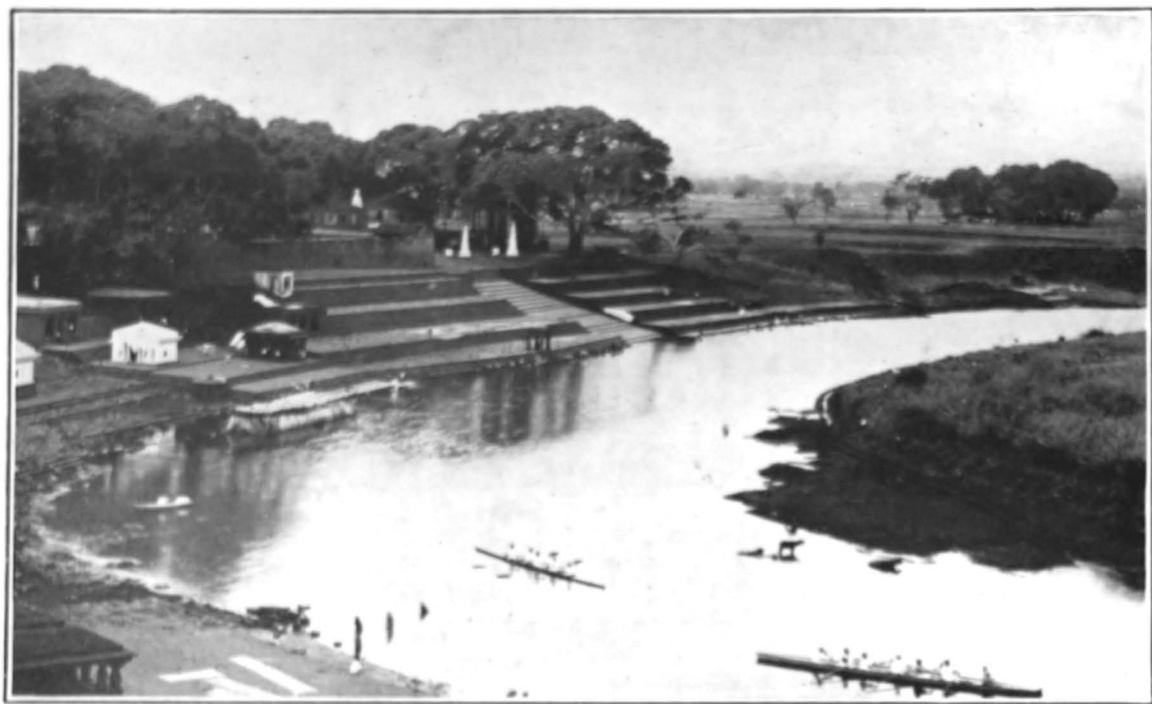
shrines of Mahadeva and Vitoba and modern ones, dedicated to Vishnu and Rama. Of these the shrine of Mahadeva is the oldest and the more important. Its Entrance (Pravesa) Mandap has a ceiling the carvings in which resemble very much, and are as beautiful as those of the Sheshashayi in Ambabai Temple. Its entrance doorway is worked and coruscates like a jewel rather than like an ordinary carving on stone and is exquisite alike for its taste, restraint and charm. The sculptures that remain on the outer walls of this shrine are fine specimens of Jain Art, before that became degenerated into conventionality and it contains also a short inscription in Canarese.

This group of small temples is situated on the ^{Tryambuli or} ~~Temblai~~ hillocks so named, and present a fine view of the City of Kolhapur and the surrounding country. Near this on the neighbouring hills are the Hill (Sir Claude) Sanatorium for consumptives and also the water reservoir connected with the Panch Ganga Mehal pumping installation. Temblai or Tryambuli is considered as the sister of Amba Bai, whom she left because of a quarrel and to bring her round, her sister, Amba Bai, visits her once a year. On this occasion a symbolical Yatra or festival is held, when the image of Amba Bai is carried in a procession usually attended by His Highness the Maharaja accompanied by Sardars, Mankaris, officers, etc., and all State paraphernalia, to the

shrine of Temblai, and the victory which Temblai won for her sister over the demon Kolla, is symbolically represented by a pumpkin being cut by an unmarried daughter of the headman of the village of Bavada. The small temple to the north is that of Margai (Goddess of Epidemics).



Panch Ganga Ghats.



Panch Ganga River Ghats.

OTHER TEMPLES.

Besides the Amba Bai, the Vitoba and the Temblai, Kolhapur contained at least a hundred shrines, all told, several of which are subterranean, the chief among them being that of Khandoba called the Khol or the underground Khandoba, wherein there is a Linga at a depth of about thirty feet below the level of the surrounding area. Such shrines are quite numerous, any casual excavation occasionally lays bare such a shrine along with its sacred pool of water or tank and a few sculptures.

I. Of the Jain temples called *Bustis*, which according to tradition choked up the present city area to the number of three hundred and sixty, the most important one at present is the Jain Busti in Shukrawar Peth, containing some very fine Tirthankara statues in beautiful finely polished black stone like those of the North Canara Jain Images, a profusion of Jain Bronzes and two inscriptions in Canarese, engraved on huge pieces of rock and laid to rest leaning against the wall, and Kirti Stumbha (pillar of fame) in the front, similar in style to that of Gurusankary in North Kanara, but neither so beautiful nor old.

II. The Jirghe's Jain Busti is a clean neat, well lighted beautiful modern structure, having the usual Jain Bronzes and also the usual images,

both in the Black stone of North Canara style, as well as those imported from Upper India, the stone used being the beautiful white Jaipur marble.

III. The Kesapur Jain Busti is one of the oldest Bustis in Kolhapur, the site, on which it is situated, is very antique, though the temple that now stands on the site is barely a hundred years old. Still this area is very important not so much for the things above ground as for those below, among which may be mentioned some fine Jain panels with Tirthankara figures, some beautiful and majestic statues, some exquisite carvings of dancing scenes, etc.

IV. The Jain Busti near Khol Khandoba is also a very antique shrine, with an inscription pedestal on the first floor shrine room, and contains figures of the great saints, 24 in number, worshipped by Jains. Besides the usual Jain figures and Bronzes, it has two Dwarapalas, which but for their mutilation would be real ornaments of Indian art. Near this is another Jain shrine containing a large number of Jain images, the most interesting being the depiction of the 1,008 Jains on what apparently is a tower in the typical Aryavarta or the Nagar style, resembling those of the temples of Orissa or Khajuraho, though reproduced here on a very small scale. In the compound of this temple in the neighbouring



Saraswati (Khidrapur Temple), Kolhapur State.

Hindu Temple, there is a very fine seated sculpture of Saraswati (the Goddess of Learning).

These temples, which are erected to the sacred memory of the revered ancestors of the present Chhatrapati Maharaja Saheb, are located behind the Town Hall gardens and on the banks of the Puncha Ganga. The best specimens of the class are to be found on the banks of that sacred stream.

The Memorial Temple.

Of these temples dedicated to the kings and queens and other members of the Royal family of Kolhapur, including the late lamented brother of the present Maharaja Saheb, the finest is the Linga shrine of His Highness Shivaji III, which was finished in the year 1815. It represents a harmonious combination of both the Hindu and the Muslim styles of Architecture. Its interior built, of the local basaltic trap, displays the high mirror-like polish the stone is capable of receiving. It resembles the interior of the Lomas Rishi's cave near Gaya.

TEMPLE OF KOPESHWAR,
KHIDRAPORE.

Khidrapore is a village about seven miles by the river way from Narsoba Wadi. It is one of the celebrated places of pilgrimage in the Kolhapur State, standing on the river Krishna and contains two famous temples, one of which is now dedicated to Hindu worship and the other to the Jain.

Of these two, the bigger and by far the finer is the Hindu temple which appears also to be one of the oldest from the point of view of style. This temple now contains two Lingas called Kopeswar and Dopeswar in the Mulasthan, and parts of it, especially the front section of it must have once been converted and used as a mosque, a similar example being the Jain temple converted into a mosque at Delhi. Needless to say, this finest gem of Hindu Sculpturesque Art came to have the fullest share of mutilation from the Vandalistic hands of Islam with the result that now very few things are left entire and unspoilt. Still the beauty of what remains over, is so exquisite and splendid that it might be said that it is the finest temple of its kind, namely, of the Vimana style of architecture in the whole of India, the only one approaching this anywhere in quality, being the Black Pagoda or the Konaka Temple near Bhuvaneshwar (Orissa).



Khidrapur Temple (one portion).

This temple is about fifty feet in height and the base of the temple lies buried under eight to ten feet of the Krishna mud. The main structure is in the form of a charriot or Ratha, such as is used even to-day in South India. The first layer of ornamentation begins with beautiful serpentine coil like scroll work containing inside small figures. After a stage, begin the freize of elephants which are far more elegant and beautiful than those at Halebid (Mysore) though the number here is only one hundred. On the back of the elephants are mounted figures of Hindu Gods and Goddesses, so that this row is a veritable sculptured pantheon of the Hindu conception of Heaven. At the feet of the elephants and clinging to their proboscides are also beautiful figures and the surrounding wall spaces are choked and filled with other sculptures depicting Hindu social life with its varied forms of enjoyment. In the middle part of the temple three or four tiers above this, are also represented groups of Hindu deities and episodes from the Ramayana, the chief of which is the scene of the attempt of Surpanaka, the sister of Ravana, exhibiting a most bewitching dance, to entice away Sri Rama from his legitimate wife and companion in exile, Sita. Other groups contain Vishnu and Lakshmi, Brahma and his consort, and surrounded by *Chamari* bearers, the Matrika group, the Ganapati,

etc. Between these major groups which seem as if they divide the forest of sculptures into well-marked and properly defined preserves, are depicted the Divine dancers, gorgeously ornamented, divinely clothed and with coiffures and poses of the body which depict them in all the various modes of dancing then known to the ancient Indians (seventh century A.D.). Many are clothed only in diaphanous robes, which accentuate and make pronounced the least curves and rhythms of the charming Indian feminine body so that for one Venus d'Milo or Venus D'Medici we have here by the dozens, the pose, the carriage and the chic of every one being different from the others.

... Besides these, up to the end of the cornice the whole structure is covered with single detached figures and couple groups who observe Purdah in the shaded cornices and corners of the niches, afraid as it were as they are still of the rude gazes or Vandalism of Man. The interior of the temple consists of the usual Mulasthan and the Mani, Mukha and the Pravesa Mandaps, whose Pillars riot in their beauty and variety, ensconcing in semi-sacred light not only figures of Hindu gods and goddesses; but also Mithuna couples of men and monkeys. In the front of this temple is the so-called Asthana Mandapa which is now open to the skies, supported at the front by



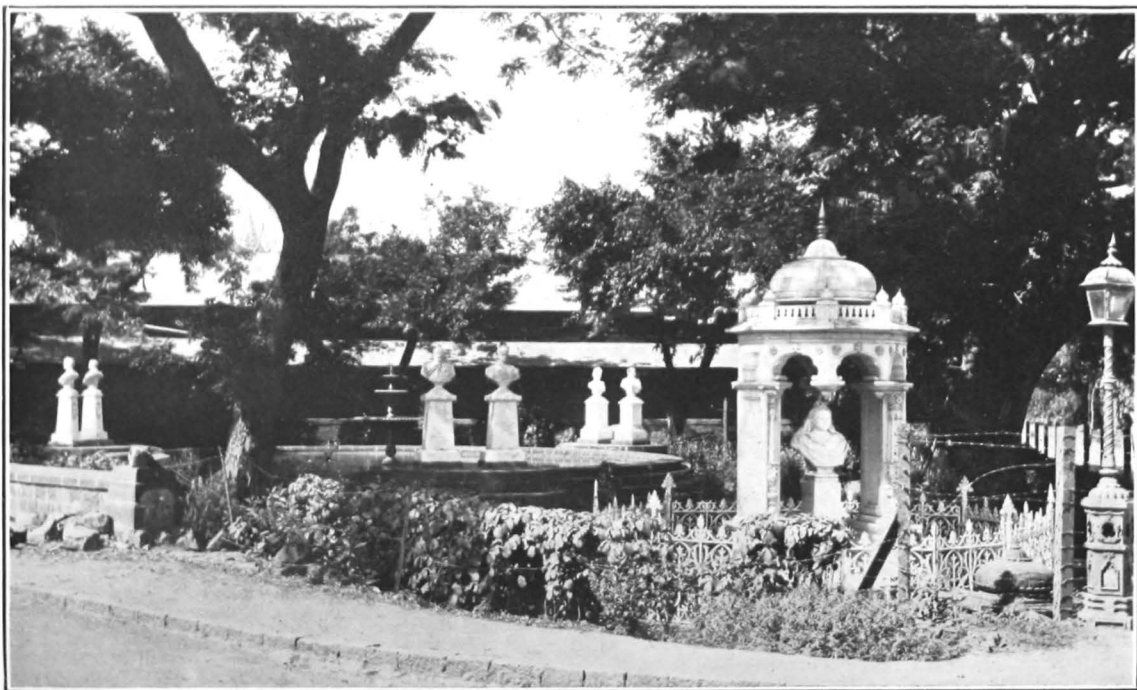
Khidrapur Temple, Kolhapur State.

elephant groups and in the inside by very beautiful carved pillar groups, the whole structure being a sixteen angled one with the doorways opening on the four sides, the ceilings, so far as they are preserved being a *chief-d'oeuvre* of Indian Art, with the Hindu deities like Subramanya, Vishnu, Siva, Brahma, etc., gracefully posing on their vehicles along with their wives.

The Jain temple which is now used as a Busti for worship consists of two strata, the upper and the lower, the lower probably being of the same date as the Hindu temple, and the upper probably built within living memory.

NEW PALACE.

The New Palace is situated to the North of the Kolhapur City at a distance of about two miles. This magnificent building, which was designed by Major Mant, Royal Engineer, Architect to the Government of Bombay, took seven years to complete, from 1877 to 1884, and cost about 7 lacs of rupees. The building faces south and has an octagonal tower in the centre, commonly known as the Clock Tower, about 25 feet broad (outside dimension) and 135 feet high. The end rooms of the Palace are octagonal in shape both in front and at back, and it has a grand Darbar hall and billiard room on one side and two reception rooms on the other. At the back is an open chook (square) with a fountain at the centre and an enclosed verandah arcade and rooms on all sides of the chook. The main building is two-storied with a terraced roof and numerous turrets and domes. The Palace is designed with an exquisite grace of outline which characterises the mixed Hindu style of architecture and is ornamented with a profusion of elaborate detail which presents itself to the utmost advantage. The Palace, situated as it is on an elevated spot, enjoys a healthy atmosphere and commands beautiful scenery on all sides. It is the grandest buildings in Kolhapur.



ROYAL FAMILY OF ENGLAND.

**Busts of Their Majesties QUEEN VICTORIA, KING EDWARD and QUEEN ALEXANDRA,
KING GEORGE and QUEEN MARY and their Royal Highnesses DUKE and DUCHESS OF
CONNAUGHT.**

The Royal Family of England including the busts of Their late Majesties Queen-Empress Victoria and King-Emperor Edward the VII and Queen Alexandra, and Their Majesties King-Emperor George the V and Queen Mary, and Their Royal Highnesses Duke and Duchess of Connaught.

Kolhapur owes this fine group of statue busts of the Royal Family of England to His late Highness' personal feelings of deep loyalty and devotion to the Imperial House. His late Highness had the unique privilege of personally knowing the august sovereigns descended from the Great Queen, the first Empress of India. He also appreciated very keenly the high regards Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Connaught had for him, and their busts have found place in this group. It is picturesquely situated by the side of a fountain, nestling among large shady trees, in a prominent place opposite the stately buildings of the Albert Edward Hospital. Her late Majesty Queen Victoria's statue bust was unveiled on the 21st of March 1908 by the then Governor His Excellency Sir George Clarke (now Lord Sydenham).



New Palace.



OLD PALACE
(Drum House Gate).

OLD PALACE.

This was built 200 years since. Some portions of this Palace having been set on fire in the insurrection of 1813 by Sadalla Khan, they had to be rebuilt from time to time. The front portion is almost a new one. It is a two-storied building having a terrace all over except the central portion where a hall has been erected which is sometimes used as office by His Highness. It contains 6 Chouks (quadrangles) appropriated for different purposes, the most important of them being the one called Ambabai's Chouk in which the image of the family deity, viz., Ambabai, is set up. In this Chouk, Darbars are held and all the religious functions connected with His Highness's household, gone through.

The original structure having undergone several changes, the exact cost cannot be given; however, it cannot be below 15 lacs. Several offices have been located in this extensive building such as Huzur Treasury, His Highness's Khasgi Department, old Militia, old Records, Daftardar's and District Registrar's offices, the State granary, &c.

To the North of the Palace there is a massive five-storied building in the old style, used for Nagarkhana (drum-house). It was planned and constructed under the personal supervision of the last independent ruler H. H. Buwa Sahab

Maharaj. The work took nearly eleven years to complete from 1827 to 1838.

Its cost is unknown. However, it may be estimated at about 5 lacs. The Nagarkhana has now been removed to a building specially built for the purpose in front of the Palace as the beating of the drum caused disturbance to the classes in the adjacent Rajaram College.



Residency, Kolhapur.

THE RESIDENCY, KOLHAPUR.

This building was first erected between the years 1845 to 1848. Considerable additions have been made to it from time to time. On the western side it commands a splendid view, overlooking the historic hill-forts of Panhala and Pavangad. In its enclosure there is a small picturesque tank fringed by clumps of Bamboos and Banian trees. Since 1846 it has been the residence of the Political Superintendents, Political Agents and Residents of Kolhapur. The total cost of all buildings including all additions approximates one lakh of rupees.

DIWAN'S OFFICE.

This building known as Her Highness "Shri Radhabai Building" is situated in the Town Hall Garden to the right hand side of the main entrance. It is named after His Highness Sir Rajaram Chhatrapati Maharaja's sister, Her Highness S. S. Radhabai Aka Saheb Maharaj, Maharani of Dewas (Sr.) It is a two-storied building constructed for the use of the Dewan's Office at a cost of nearly Rs. 35,000 and was opened at the hands of Mr. J. R. Martin, C.I.E., B.A., Chief Secretary to Government, Political Department, Bombay, on 12th August 1927.



Her Highness Shri Radhabai Building, Dewan's Office.



Town Hall Garden with a bust of SHIVAJI THE GREAT.

TOWN HALL.

This handsome building is situated to the north-eastern corner of the city, and was built by the State in the year 1876 at a total cost of Rs. 80,000. The design of this beautiful building, in the Gothic style, was prepared by Major Mant, the Royal Architectural Engineer in the service of the Bombay Government, and consists of a large central hall and gallery with two rooms on either side, joined to the main hall by a spacious verandah in the front. There is a fine porch with a terrace over it, joined to the Hall and gallery. The hall is spacious enough to seat 500 persons.

The building is surrounded by a beautiful garden. The large oval fountain playing in front and small reservoirs of water standing at small distances, the picturesque arrangements of different beds of plants and pots, the artificial hill sceneries, the glass house arrangement of plants requiring greater amount of moist heat, the thick bowers of creepers and parasites and to crown all, the small statue bust of Shivaji the Great, recently installed near the fountain, all tend to augment the beauty of this garden.

A sum of Rs. 4,000 is spent annually by the Darbar for the maintenance of this garden. A Bandstand is provided where the Kolhapur Infantry Band plays occasionally.

THE RAJARAM COLLEGE.

The Rajaram College is one of the oldest educational institutions affiliated to the University of Bombay. It was founded in 1880 primarily for the education of the sons of Chiefs and Sardars. Later on, it welcomed all classes of students and succeeded in attracting a large number of young men who were destined to leave an indelible mark on the history of their country.

From 1919 to 1925 the College was managed by the Arya Pratinidhi Sabha, U. P. During this period the College got recognition from the University for teaching B.A. pass and Honours Courses. The management was resumed by the Darbar in 1926 and the present staff is in the permanent pensionable State service.

In 1927 His Highness Chatrapati Maharaja Saheb very liberally sanctioned a large sum for equipping the Science Department. The University, being satisfied with the arrangements, granted affiliation for the Inter-Science Course.

The number of students now on roll is about 400. The students are drawn chiefly from the agricultural and professional classes. Special facilities in the form of free studentships and scholarships are offered to members of the backward communities which contribute more than one-half of the total number of students in the institution.



Rajaram College, Kolhapur.

The College is situated in a grand artistic building erected at a cost of 5 lacs of rupees in the eighties. Very large additions have been made through the generosity of His Highness Sir Rajaram Chhatrapati Maharaja Saheb.

The chief advantages of the College are that the fees are the lowest in the whole Presidency, the living in Kolhapur is comparatively very cheap, the climate is very bracing and healthy, the percentage of free studentships is larger (20 per cent. of the total number) and number of scholarships and prizes are more tempting than elsewhere. No fees are charged from lady students. Besides there are special prizes awarded in all College classes to the successful lady candidates.

In a word, there is every facility for the nurture and culture of the College students in their physical, mental, moral and spiritual needs amidst historic scenes at a small expense in the healthy atmosphere of the premier and go-ahead Maratha State of Kolhapur.

The total annual cost of education per scholar was Rs. 165 of which Rs. 104 was contributed by the State, the rest being met by the receipts of fees from students.

KOLHAPUR GENERAL LIBRARY.

This Institution was originally started in the year 1850, and was transferred to the present building in the year 1882, which was built at a cost of Rs. 27,000. Of this amount, Rs. 10,000 were contributed by the Kolhapur Darbar, and Rs. 10,000 by the Kolhapur City Municipality. A portion of the remaining amount was collected by subscriptions, and the remaining portion was expended from the funds of the Library. As this building, though large, was found to be insufficient, a site adjoining to the building was acquired, and a new Reading Hall was built at a cost of Rs. 12,600 solely from the funds of the Library.

The Institution has been prospering every year, under the patronage of His Highness the Maharaja Sahib of Kolhapur, who is a patron of the Library. Interest is also taken by all classes of people in every position in the institution. The total subscriptions collected during the year 1926 (December) amounted to Rs. 2,200 and the number of the subscribers was 602. The number of the newspapers and periodicals subscribed is 70, and Rs. 600 are spent every year for the same. The total number of volumes in the Library is 15,235 at present, out of which 7,075 are English books and 8,160 are Marathi and Sanskrit Books. Both the buildings are repaired



Kolhapur Library.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS

63

every year by the Darbar at a cost of Rs. 225. The Kolhapur City Municipality has sanctioned an annual grant of Rs. 500.

AHILYABAI GIRLS' SCHOOL, KOLHAPUR.

The Institution is named after the present Maharaja's great great-grandmother, a lady known for her piety and love of learning. There are at present in all 7 Girls' Schools in the town of Kolhapur and its suburbs of which Ahilyabai Girls' School is the largest and first in point of importance. The School-house was built in modern fashion in the year 1881-82 at a total cost of Rs. 35,000. It furnishes accommodation for about 300 girls. A complete Marathi course qualifying the girls to appear for the Vernacular Final Examination is taught in it and to meet the growing demand for education, English is taught at present up to the 5th Standard complete. Judging from the ever-increasing popular liking for English education for girls, it is expected that the institution will soon develop into a complete Female High School. The standard of tuition has been kept corresponding to that in Boys' Schools. Provision is also made to impart instruction to pupils in all branches of learning requisite for girls such as needle-work, embroidery, drawing, singing, etc. The School is managed by a lady who is a graduate of Indian Women's University. She is Superintendent of the Female Education under the general supervision of the Educational Inspector. The Darbar is paying special attention to the quality of the education imparted to



Ahalya-bai Girls' School.

the girls. With that object in view 4 lady teachers are sent every year to the Training College, maintained by the Darbar, to qualify themselves as teachers.

For the encouragement of female education, the Institution has been endowed with scholarships and prizes by the Darbar as well as some private individuals, most prominent among which is "H. H. the Maharani Saheb of Dewas Sr. S. S. Akka Saheb Maharaj Scholarship and Prize," the special feature of which is that it is awarded every year to the successful student who obtains the highest number of marks for regular attendance and good conduct. The prize consists of an ornamental silver plate worth Rs. 40. Sufficient encouragement is also given to the girls of the depressed classes by granting them special scholarships in this Institution.

A small library is attached to the Institution for the use of the staff and the students. With the object of creating a liking for reading, the use of the library is extended to the ladies in the town on payment of a nominal monthly subscription.

In 1924 Kolhapur was selected as one of the centres of the Girls' Vernacular Final Examination by the British Education Department and the examination is held every year in this Institution under the supervision of the Educational Inspector and the Lady Superintendent.

Not to lag behind the times the Institution of "Girl Guides" has recently been inaugurated in this school under the kind supervision of Miss Seiler, District Commissioner of Girl Guides. At present 20 girls are under training as guides, the Lady Superintendent being the head of the Troop. The movement is in its initial stage, but the progress made by it during the short period of a few months promises a good development in the near future.

The total cost of maintenance of this single Institution is Rs. 14,702 a year. The number at present on the roll is 290 and the daily average attendance is 205.

JAYSHINGRAO GHATGE TECHNICAL INSTITUTE.

This Institution was founded in the year 1887 in the revered memory of the late Jayshingrao *alias* Abasaheb Ghatge Sarjerao Vajarat Ma-ab, Chief of Kagal (Sr.) and the regent of Kolhapur. The School gives a four years' practical course of instruction in two branches, viz., Carpentry and Fitting. Carpentry includes (a) Joinery, (b) Wood turning, (c) French polishing and (d) Drawing up to 2nd grade. Fitting includes (a) Smithy, (b) Metal turning, (c) Brass founding, (d) Simple engine driving, (e) Drawing up to 2nd grade, and (f) General knowledge of Machinery. Successful students from fourth year are admitted to receive instruction in motor repairing and driving. The School is under the direction of a Committee consisting of the Principal Rajaram College, the State Executive Engineer and the Educational Inspector, Kolhapur, the Principal being the president of the Committee.

Boys, after passing the 5th Vernacular standard, are admitted into the School. 15 Scholarships to the 2nd, 3rd and 4th year students and 24 to the 1st year students of different castes, are awarded every year. For this purpose the interest on Sir James Fergusson Fund (Rs. 20,000) and on Jayshingrao Ghatge Technical Fund (Rs. 26,900) is placed on credit in Huzur Treasury;

and the sum of Rs. 5,260 is sanctioned in the annual budget of the Educational Inspector as Endowment Fund, from which these Scholarships are annually awarded to the students.

The number of students on the roll at present is 44, 24 students are learning Carpentry, and 20 receiving instruction in Brass and Iron Work, etc. Of the 44 students, 25 are Maharathas, 8 Brahmins, 1 Mohammedan and 10 of other castes. The total expenditure incurred annually on the Institution amounts to Rs. 6,486.



Albert Edward Hospital.

ALBERT EDWARD HOSPITAL, KOLHAPUR.

The foundation stone of this building was laid by Sir James Fergusson, the then Governor of Bombay, on the 9th March 1881, and the Hospital has been named Albert Edward Hospital in commemoration of the visit in 1875 to this country of His Royal Highness, the then Prince of Wales.

The building was completed in the year 1884 at a total cost of three lakhs of rupees. The design of this beautiful building in Gothic style was prepared by Major Mant, Royal Architectural Engineer in the service of the Bombay Government.

The building gives accommodation to about a hundred in-patients. A Contagious Diseases Ward has been attached to the Hospital. There is also separate arrangement for the treatment and accommodation of persons of both sexes suffering from mental diseases. The male and female in-patients have got their separate wards. Lately, an Anti-Rabic Treatment Centre has been opened in the A. E. Hospital where Anti-Rabic Treatment is given free. A Child-Welfare Association Centre has been opened and attached to this Hospital. Milk is distributed gratis at this centre to children of the poor, and free advice regarding the health of children is given to the parents here, under direction of the Darbar Surgeon. The Darbar

Surgeon has under his control the Medical Department of the State and is assisted in his work by two assistant Surgeons, one Lady Doctor and a large staff of qualified Sub-Assistant Surgeons. He and his Assistants have been provided with quarters in the vicinity of the Hospital buildings.

The total cost of maintenance of this Institution during the year 1926-27 was Rs. 51,685 approximately. The number of in-patients during the year 1926-27 was 1,864 and that of out-patients was 44,893, showing a daily average of about 341 patients.

**HER HIGHNESS SHRI VIJAYAMALA
MAHARANI VETERINARY HOSPITAL.**

The Panjrapole Committee have erected this building at a cost of about Rs. 25,000 on a spacious site, granted by the Darbar. It has been named after Her Highness S. S. Shri Vijayamala Maharani Saheb of Kolhapur and supplements the work of the State veterinary dispensary. The opening ceremony was performed by Colonel E. O'Brien, C.B.E., popular Resident of Kolhapur, and Senior Political Agent, Southern Mahratta Country States, on the 27th June 1927.

RAJPUTWADI STATE PADDOCK.

The paddock is located in the Rajputwadi camp about five miles on the way to Panhala. It was started by His late Highness Sir Shahu Chhatrapati Maharaja Saheb. His Highness Sir Shri Rajaram Maharaj has made considerable alterations in it. In 1922 it had 20 thorough bred English mares and 40 Australian and Country bred. Now the corresponding numbers are 27 and 50. It now contains 6 English breeders, 2 Arab, 10 English colts, 22 country and 2 Havena ponies. In all there are 119 horses. Land, four miles in circumference, is reserved for grazing. A small tank on the adjoining Jotiba Hill supplies water to the stud. There is also another small tank near the paddock, which, besides supplying drinking water to the animals, is useful in irrigating lands on which lucerne, guinea grass, carrots, etc., are grown.

From 1922-27 the breeding establishment has added, on an average, 8 English and 15 other horses annually. The former are used for races and the latter for the State Risalla. Some of the sires have won Viceroy's and King's cups, as some of the mares have won other cups.

A veterinary dispensary is attached to the stud. It is in charge of a graduate of the Bombay Veterinary College. His Highness Shri

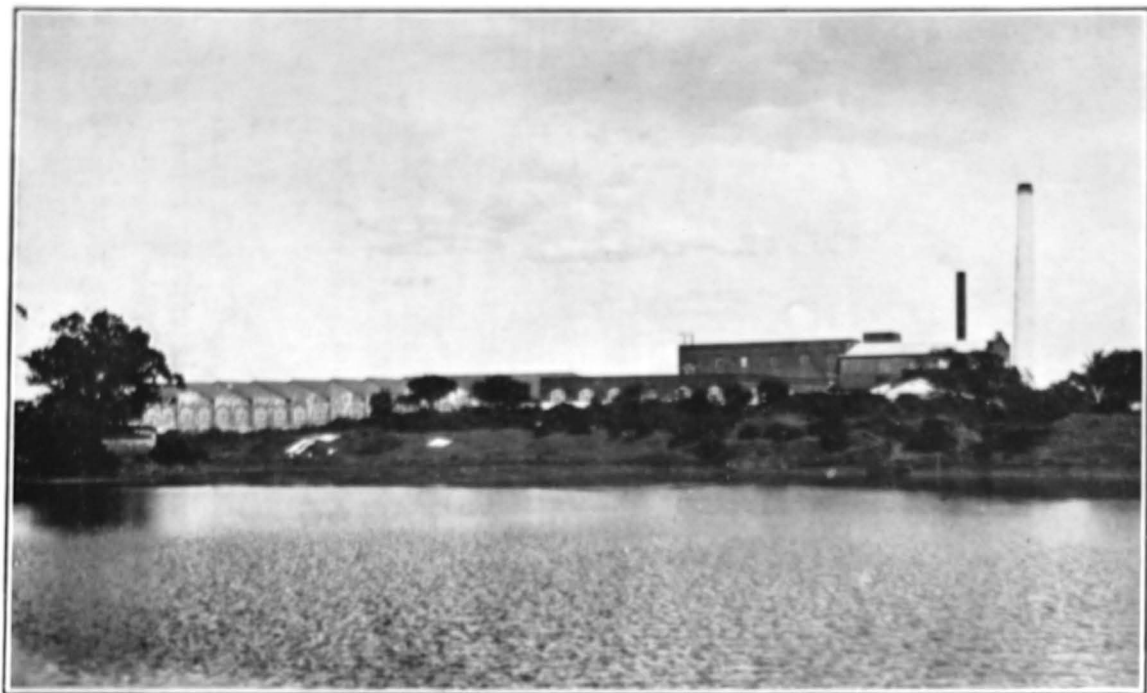
Rajaram Chhatrapati Maharaja takes keen personal interest in the working and progress of the paddock.

SHRI SHAHU CHHATRAPATI SPINNING AND WEAVING MILLS, KOLHAPUR.

These Mills have hitherto been only spinning yarn with fourteen thousand spindles and producing yarn something like 3,000 bales every year. His Highness the Chhatrapati Maharaja Saheb, with a view to utilize a great part of this yarn for producing cloth in the State, was pleased to spend about Rs. 3,00,000 for machinery and Rs. 2,00,000 for buildings for this purpose. The Mill industry in India is passing through very dull times. His Highness the Chhatrapati Maharaja Saheb felt that though to-day this industry may not be prosperous, it will be to the benefit of the subjects and the State to invest this money and produce cloth here in Kolhapur to meet local needs by providing cheap cloth to the poor classes.

The Weaving Department was opened on the 19th of October 1926, by His Excellency Sir Leslie Wilson, Governor of Bombay.

Upto the end of the last year these Mills were being managed by the State officials. His Highness the Chhatrapati Maharajasaheb graciously offered a splendid opportunity to the business-men of the State to undertake the management of this large business, which has been placed since the 1st of January 1927 under



Shri Shahu Spinning and Weaving Mills.

a board composed of the two business-men and an officer on behalf of the Darbar.

The Mills turned out this year 1,275,100 lbs. of yarn and the cloth manufactured was 147,948 lbs.

In order to have varieties of cloth with various shades and colours, the management have added a small dyehouse which was quite necessary. The mills now can manufacture, along with white khadi, long-cloth and bed sheets, shirting, bordered dhoties, saris, etc.

HIS EXCELLENCY SIR LESLIE WILSON ROAD AND LADY WILSON BRIDGE.

Kolhapur town with its increasing vehicular traffic and mechanical road traction had long since found itself in want of broader roads and easier means of communication and transport. The City improvement and extension scheme started by His Highness Sir Shri Rajaram Chhatrapati Maharaj began with the construction of the "Sir Leslie Wilson" road leading from the town to Shahupuri, the principal trading centre and suburb of Kolhapur, the object being to divert a part of traffic from the City towards this road and to encourage City extension towards Shahupuri.

This road starting from the Ferris Markets, goes by Raviwar Vesh (gate) right up to Shahupuri, and is seven furlongs in length. It is a *pacca* metalled road, 36ft. wide with 10ft. foot-path on either side.

The road crosses a stream called Jiti Nala which is bridged over by three arches of 25 ft. span each. This masonry structure known as the *Lady Wilson Bridge* forms one of the essential additional links in the communication between the City and Shahupuri. To secure a suitable site for its foundation the existing Nala had to be diverted for a portion of its length.



Lady Wilson Bridge.

The highest flood level which is due to the back water of the river into which the Nala tails, is 3ft. above springing and the present road level over the bridge is 6ft. higher than that over the existing station road bridge. The width between parapets is 40ft., the clear road way being 30ft. and 5ft. foot-path being left on either side.

The total estimated cost of the bridge in round figures is Rs. 70,000 ; the diversion of the Nala cost Rs. 19,000 and the making of the approaches Rs. 11,000. The work was started on November 3rd, 1926, and was completed on the 12th April 1927.

The road and the bridge were opened for traffic by His Excellency Sir Leslie Wilson, the Governor of Bombay, on the 13th April 1927.

SHRI RAJARAM TANK.

This tank is named after His Highness Sir Shri Rajaram Maharaj, G.C.I.E., Maharaja Saheb of Kolhapur. His Highness' interest in agriculture has induced him to turn it into a small irrigation project. Originally the tank was designed to impound sufficient water for supplementing the water supply to Kolhapur City, the supply from Kalamba Tank being inadequate to meet the growing demands of the increasing population. As it was found subsequently that the head commanded by the sluice was not sufficient, it was converted at His Highness' instance into an Irrigation Scheme as a sort of protective work with a storage capacity of 38 million cubic feet, proposing to irrigate 150 acres of land growing sugar-cane by rotation, thus covering a total cultivable area of 300 acres.

The independent catchment area of the tank being found very small, it is arranged to have the drainage diverted from the Nala on the other side of the road by means of a lifting dam and a feeder channel with the requisite masonry work, such as relieving weirs, etc., along the line of channel, for ensuring the intended supply. Other masonry works required for the tank proper, *viz.*, sluice and weir, have also been included and are in progress.



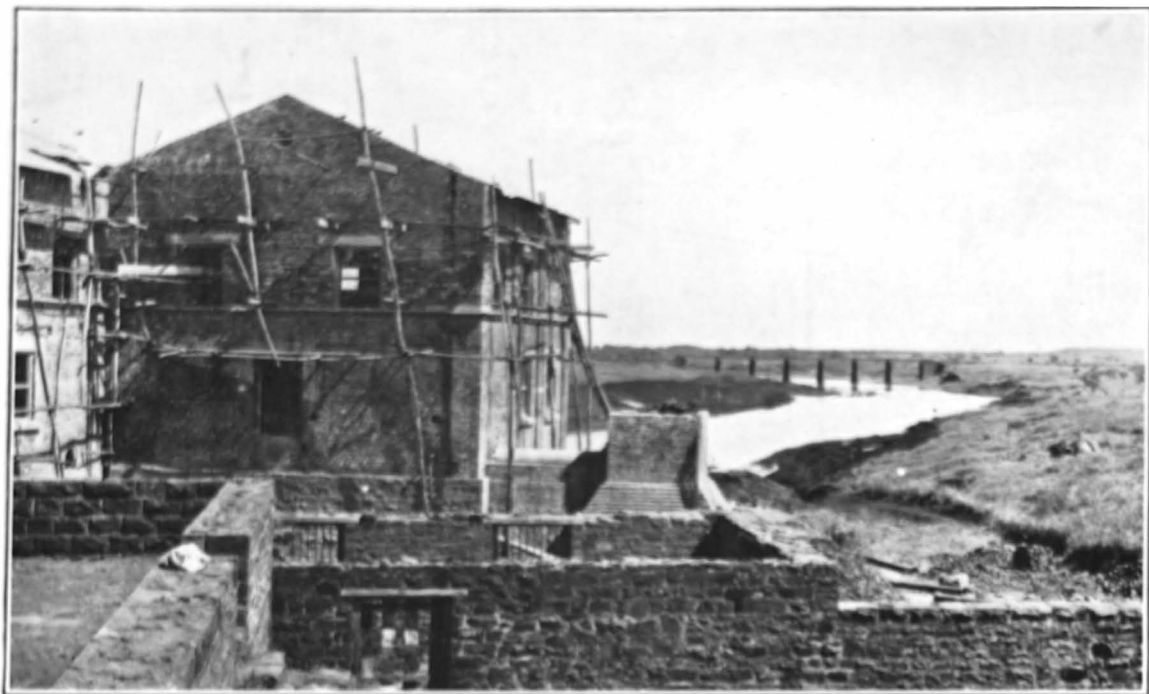
His Highness Shri RAJARAM CHHATRAPATI Tank (under construction).

The total estimated cost of the project amounts to three and a quarter lakhs of rupees and it is estimated to bring in a revenue of Rs. 15,000 every year, at the rate of Rs. 100 per acre, for sugar-cane cultivation, it being the usual assessment levied in these parts of the Kolhapur State, thus working out nearly at 4½ per cent. per annum on the capital outlay.

PUNCHGANGA PUMPING INSTALLATION.

The site selected near the Punchganga Mahal is an ideal one, securing the special advantages conferred by Nature, of not only a rocky bank for locating the pump well but also of the existence of a pool abutting for nearly $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles higher up the river with a depth ranging from 8' to 14', thus ensuring unfailing supply, much more than the actual requirements during the summer months of the year.

The machinery is designed for forcing a discharge of 400 gallons per minute, and sending the intended supply, *viz.* 1,50,000 gallons, to the Service Reservoir, in $6\frac{1}{4}$ hours. It consists of Low-duty Worthington steam plant of 45 B.H.P. with low and high-lift pumps and also Babcock and Wilcox boilers. The source of supply being the river, arrangement is made for the purification of the water, as will be explained below. It may also be noted here that there are duplicate sets of machinery in each section, the object being to have one set as a sort of stand-by, in case of any break-down or accidents in one set during working, at any time in future. The total height to which the water has to be raised will be 185ft., *i.e.*, on the top of Temblai Hills, it being higher by 55 ft. than the highest place in the Kolhapur City.



Panch Ganga Pumping Station (under construction).

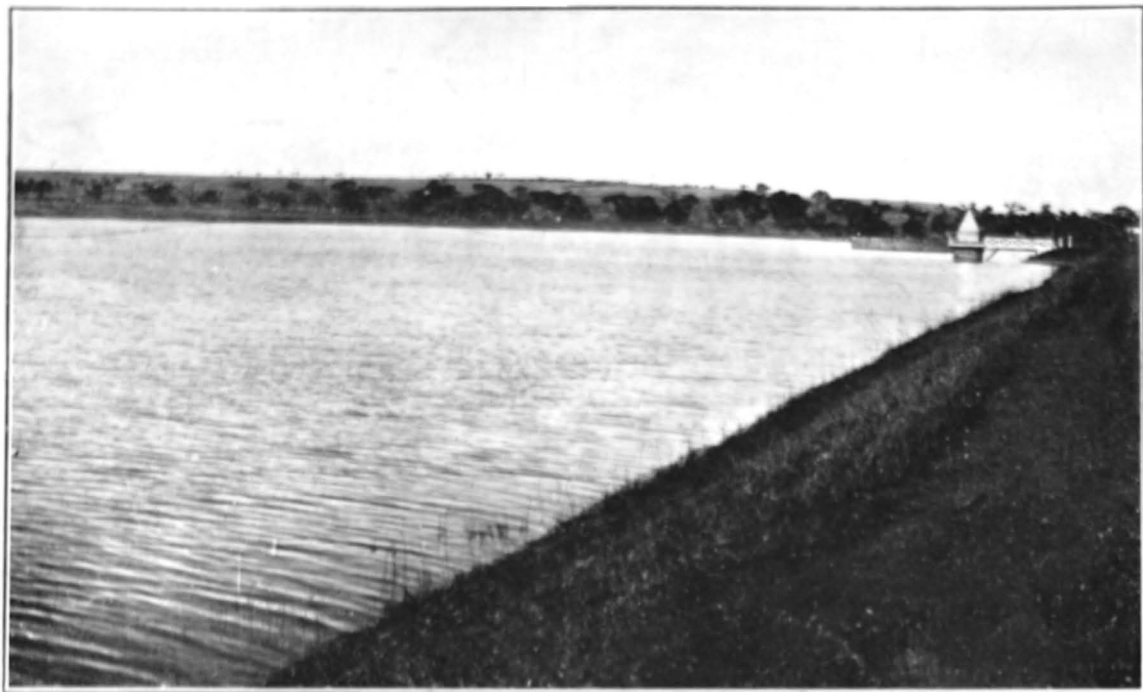
Process of purification commences with the discharge of water through the in-take pipe through a copper rose with a number of holes of $\frac{1}{2}$ " in diameter fixed at its mouth, which will remove all the larger suspended impurities before the water reaches the pumpwell. Then the water is pumped by the low lift pumps to the settling tank which is situated away from the bank and above the maximum flood level. Arrangement is made there, for administering Alum from the Alumhouse, varying in quantity from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ or 3 grains per gallon of water according to its turbidity. Afterwards water flows by gravity to the Jewel Filters, after it is allowed to settle for 6 hours in the settling tank and then made to pass through the filtering materials consisting of fine sand and pebble of $\frac{1}{2}$ " and $\frac{1}{4}$ " in diameter to the pure water tank, immediately below, after being thoroughly agitated by the Agitator Engine fixed at the top in the Filter House.

Practically the water will be 99 per cent. chemically pure and it is forced through the Rising Main (9" pipe) by the High Lift pump to the Service Reservoir located on the top of Temblai Hills, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the Pumping Station, and the water is served therefrom through the distribution to a portion of the City, including the New Palace, and the Residency.

Provision is also made for washing the Filters with the filtered water from the Rising Main by the insertion of a pressure reducing valve in the same, at its commencement. If necessary, the introduction of the method for the chlorination of water will have to be considered later on.

The population to be served by this scheme will be about 10,000 and the supply works out at the rate of 15 gallons per head per day, the general consumption being not more than 10 gallons. As the machinery can be worked for 10 hours a day easily, a total supply of 250,000 gallons per day can be secured, which will be enough for a prospective population of 25,000 at any time in future.

The total cost of the scheme will come to Rs. 3,20,000 and as it is expected that there will be at least 1,000 house connections, the income resulting therefrom will be Rs. 24,000 at Rs. 2 per month for $\frac{1}{4}$ " connection, it being filtered water. Deducting Rs. 10,000 for working and depreciating charges, the net annual revenue accruing to Government will be Rs. 14,000 on the total outlay excluding the distribution.



Kalamba Tank.

KALAMBA TANK.

Before 1880, the town of Kolhapur depended for its supply of drinking water on some wells and springs situated in the Katyayani valley, whence a masonry conduit led to a service reservoir, which in its turn fed a net work of pipes distributed through the town.

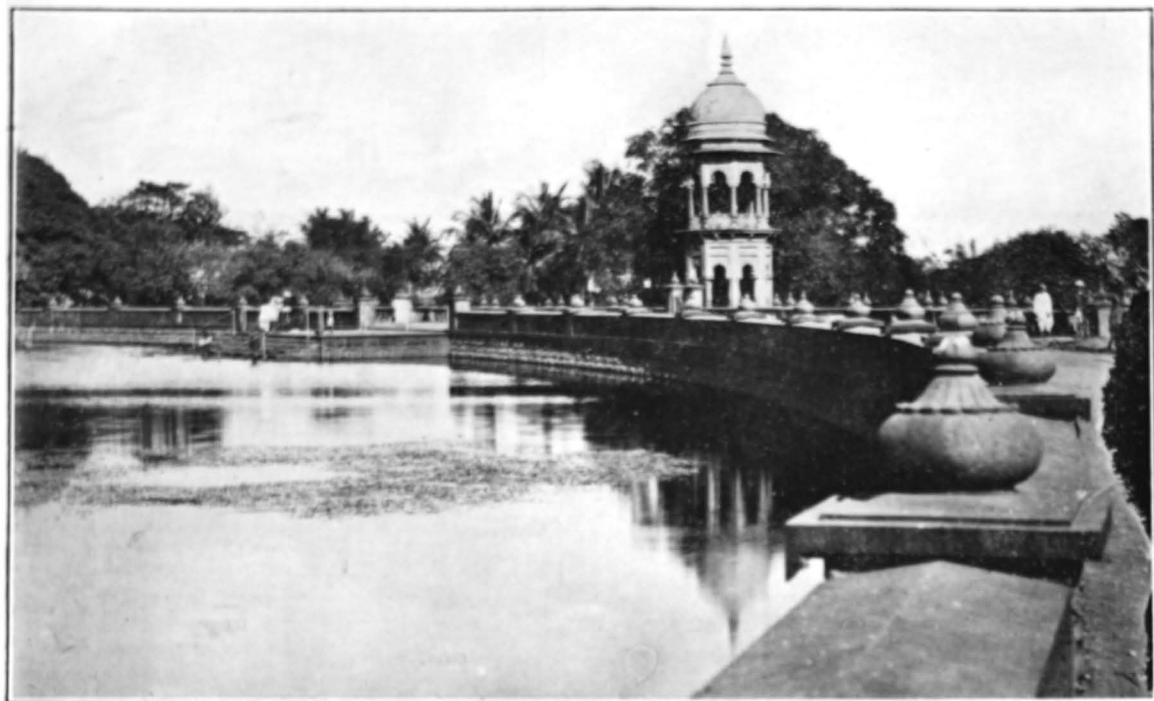
The experience of several years, however, showed that the supply from these sources was not only inadequate, but was subject to constant variations and stoppages, and it was proposed to make this supply supplemental to that derived from a reservoir of a capacity sufficient to impound 292,000 gallons of water, which would daily give 40,000 people 10 gallons per head during 2 years.

In May 1880 Major Smith, R.E., Officiating Superintending Engineer, P.W.D., Bombay, after careful exploration, selected a suitable site in the Katyayani valley, about 3 miles from the town of Kolhapur and adjacent to the village of Kalamba.

The tank was designed by Mr. R. J. Shannon, State Executive Engineer, and was constructed by him in the reign of His Highness Shivaji Chhatrapati and during the regency of the late Meherban Jayasingrao Abasaheb, Jahagirdar of Kagal Senior.

This work, which cost Rs. 1,86,000, was commenced in March 1881 and was completed

in July 1883. The length of the dam is 3,700 feet. The length of the waste weir is 300 feet. Top width of the dam is 15 feet. Depth during flood is $29\frac{1}{2}$ feet. Full supply depth is 27 feet.



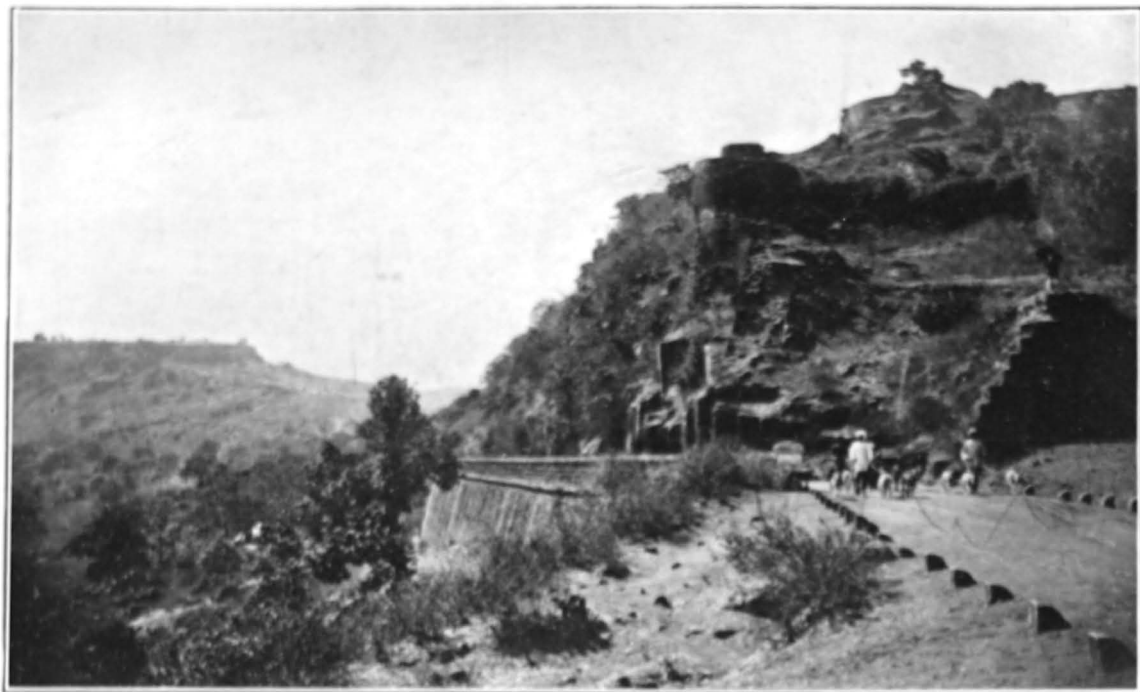
Rankala Tank.

RANKALA TANK.

The tank is named after the God Rank Bhairav, an incarnation of God Shiva. The beginning of the Rankala Tank is said to have been a quarry from which stones were supplied to the Jain and other Temples in the town. Afterwards in the 8th or 9th century an earthquake is said to have enlarged the quarry and filled it with water. The tank is now fed by two streams in the south and has also a natural waste weir in the western direction. Later on, in the year 1883, the Rankala water supply was much improved and now it presents an appearance of a fine large artificial tank. A new dam of cut stone has been built on the City side at a total cost of about 2,60,000 rupees. It is often compared to and is styled as the Back Bay of Kolhapur by visitors. The Rankala water is now used for irrigation and washing purposes only. The total area at present irrigated by the waters is about 230 acres, yielding a revenue of 15,000 rupees per annum. The water was formerly used for drinking purposes and was conveyed to the town for the purpose, by a small conduit built of brick masonry in old fashion. As the level of this tank is low, the water is distributed only in the suburbs. The tank has a circumference of about two and a half miles and its depth is about 35 feet at the centre.

PANHALA.

This famous hill fort rendered impregnable by Nature and beautiful by man, around which trails a thousand years' glorious history, is situated 12 miles to the north-west of the historic City of Kolhapur, at a height of about 2,772 feet above the sea level and contains a glorious plateau, second only to that on which Ootacamund is perched. The climate is very salubrious and healthy and the water-supply is so abundant and surcharged with iron that it might be styled the Spa if not the Sanatorium of Kolhapur. Famous in legend since the mythical days of Rishi Parasar, whose rock cut cavern is still visited by thousands, it must have been in use as human habitation since the days of the Bikkus who hewed out the cave group now called the Pandava Darah (about 3rd century B.C.). It came into political importance during the glorious days of the Silahara rulers of Kolhapur (1050-1120 A.D.), the greatest of whom Bhoj II (1190 A.D.) made it the chief seat of his power, embellishing it with fine and beautiful structures. From him it passed into the hands of the Yadhava rulers of Kolhapur and after a period of independence fell to the onslaughts of the Bahamani kingdom, descending to the share of Bijapur on the split up of the Sultanate of the Bahamanis. Shri Siva Chhatrapati secured it once again for the Hindu race and



Pavangad and Panhalagad from the site of Char Darvaja.



Teen Durwaja (Panhala).



AMBARKHANA
(Granary) on Panhala Fort.

after changing ownership on a few occasions, it has since the founding of the Hindu-pad-Badshahi by that great warrior-statesman, remained a cherished possession of the Chhatrapatis.

Regarding the buildings at present on this Fort as well as the remains, most of these are not older than the Bahmani period as the inscriptions, more than a dozen, proclaim. Among these the finest from the viewpoint of art, the Teen Darwaja is intact with an inscription (A.H. 954) and the Wagh Darwaja, a shadow of its former splendour and greatness, still keeps together the massive slabs on its arch, like the present Indian States of the Maratha Raj. The Ambar Khana is a massive structure of three separate granaries, in which was stored not only grain and provisions for the war, but the recent discoveries of large quantities of lead in the interior of a wall prove that it served also as a munitions dump. These three, now popularly known after the three famous rivers of India that make sacrosanct the Prayag (Allahabad) could contain 25,000 khandies of corn, which was showered into them through symmetrically arranged holes on the tops, much as is the vogue even to-day in South India. The Dharma Kothi, also a granary cast on a less heroic scale than the ones mentioned above, opposite which is the present dispensary, was so called because, the

grain stored in it was used for doling out Dharma, or distribution *gratis* to the deserving poor and needy.

The Sajja Kothi, now styled as State Bungalow No. I, commands the finest position and forms the central picture of the beautiful panorama of Panhala Hills as viewed from the winding road from Kolhapur and contains two floors of habitable rooms, wherein is shown still a window from which the Founder of the Hindu-pad-Badshahi, escaped into the security of Vishalgad while the Bijapur troops were closely beleaguering the Fort.

The terrace of this Sajja looks on another pretty bit of ruins, called the Kalavantin's Sajja, containing a beautiful ornamented ceiling, which contained separate living quarters for thirty of the most beautiful ladies of the Sultan's harem, a combination dance or orchestra by whom was supposed to be not only audible, but also visible therefrom. Among those devoted to religious uses, the temples of Sambhaji and Jijabai are held sacred by the Hindus, while the tomb of Sad-ud-din or Saint Sadoba, fronted by a fine tank, is held in similar veneration by the Mussalman subjects of His Highness the Chhatrapati Maharaj. Panhala is also noted for its rich mineral deposits of kaolin and bauxite.