

THE GODAVERY DISTRICT

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A
DESCRIPTIVE AND HISTORICAL ACCOUNT
OF THE
GODAVERY DISTRICT
IN
THE PRESIDENCY OF MADRAS

BY
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AND OTHER WORKS

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P R E F A C E

THE following monograph is one of a series 'of descriptive memoirs of all the Districts in the Madras Presidency, which' is being prepared under the direction of the Government. It is, however, in one respect unique. It is the history of a District which owes its prosperity to the benefits derived from judicious irrigation, and it is, therefore, of special interest at the present time. The attention of the people of England has been attracted to this subject by the terrible famine which has recently desolated Southern India. The immediate effects of this sad visitation are happily passing away, but the recollection of it cannot easily be effaced, and remedies against similar calamities are being diligently sought. The Godavery District is a proof of the incalculable advantages of irrigation, which, when carefully planned and energetically carried out, is an effectual remedy against famine, wherever it can be applied with any hope of success.

This volume has not only received the imprimatur of the Board of Revenue at Madras, to whom it was officially submitted, but those portions of it which relate to their own labours were submitted to Sir Arthur Cotton, by whose genius principally the District has been rendered prosperous; to Sir Henry C. Montgomery, whose wise suggestions tended to remove many of the evils by which it was once impoverished,

to Sir Walter Elliot, formerly Commissioner of the Northern Circars, to whose researches in antiquarian lore Southern India is deeply indebted, to Mr George Noble Taylor, whose efforts have done so much to encourage the growth of elementary education, and to Mr R. E Master, under whose careful supervision the new Settlement has recently been introduced. They have all kindly expressed their entire approval.

My special thanks are due to the Collector, Mr W S Foster, to Mr J Hope, who for a time acted as Collector, and to their native subordinates for their assistance, more particularly in preparing the statistics, which must have entailed on them very considerable labour. The authorities in the Record, the Statistical, and the Geographical Departments of the India Office have most courteously afforded me every help in their power, for which I cordially thank them.

H MORRIS

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