

EAST INDIA (CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATIONS).

RETURN to an Order of the Honourable The House of Commons,
dated 20 May 1858;—for,

COPY “ of any CORRESPONDENCE which has taken place since the 1st day of May 1858, between the Board of Commissioners for the Affairs of *India* and the Court of Directors of the East India Company, relating to the REGULATIONS framed by the Board for the EXAMINATION of CANDIDATES for Appointment to the CIVIL SERVICE of the EAST INDIA COMPANY, and which were ordered to be printed 30 April 1858, and presented to this House pursuant to the Act 16 & 17 Vict. c. 95.”

East India House, }
28 May 1858. }

J. D. DICKINSON,
Secretary.

The Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Court of Directors of the
East India Company.

Gentlemen,

India Board, 5 May 1858.

I BEG to transmit to you a copy of the paper laid before Parliament with respect to the examinations of candidates for the civil service for this year.

You will perceive that I have for this year placed the examinations under the Civil Service Commissioners, and have also re-established the second examination, which was a part of the original plan.

I regret that the preliminary announcement, published before I came into office, precluded me from doing more than I have done.

If I should remain in office for another year, I propose making material alterations in the subjects of the first examination, and fixing the second examination at a greater distance of time from the first, as well as making it much more severe; so that at least we may, by this new system, obtain civil servants as competent, as far as mere education can make them so, as the great majority of those who were furnished by Haileybury College.

I cannot but think that no examination can test the possession by a candidate of the higher qualities required in one who may exercise a great influence over the well being of the people of India; and I fear we may hereafter have to regret the departure from a system which, whatever may have been its theoretical defects, and whatever may have been its practical inconveniences, gave us no doubt a constant succession of civil servants, distinguished by the characteristic qualities of English gentlemen.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Ellenborough.*

EAST INDIA
(CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATIONS).

COPY of LETTER from the President of the Board of Commissioners on the Affairs of *India* to the Court of Directors, of the East India Company, dated 5 May 1858, relating to the REGULATIONS framed by the Board, for the EXAMINATION of CANDIDATES for Appointment to the CIVIL SERVICE of the EAST INDIA COMPANY.

(*Sir Minto Farquhar.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
31 May 1858.
