

CHAPTER X.

EDUCATION.

CENSUS STATISTICS—Education rare—The languages best known—Education by religions—Education by taluks—EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS—The Wardlaw College—Upper Secondary schools—Lower Secondary schools—Schools for girls—Other schools.

ACCORDING to the statistics of the last census, an abstract of some of which will be found in the separate Appendix to this Gazetteer, Bellary is backward educationally, though slightly less behindhand than its neighbours the other Ceded districts.

CHAP. X
CENSUS
STATISTICS.

Between four and five in every hundred of its people can read and write, but the large majority of these are found among its male population and in the education of its girls it is inferior to every district in the Presidency except the jungly Agencies of Ganjám and Vizagapatam.

Education rare.

The people who can read and write are usually best acquainted with Canarese, and less than a third of them know Telugu.

Languages best known.

Among Musalmans the proportion of those who can read and write is slightly higher than among Hindus. Christians are, as usual, better educated than either, but in Bellary their predominance is partly due to the unusually large number of Europeans and Eurasians who reside in the district head-quarters.

Education by religions.

Of the various taluks, Bellary naturally contains the largest percentage of literate persons, while Adóni, Alúr and Rayadrag, in this order, bring up the rear.

Education by taluks.

The district is also ranked by the Educational Department among the backward areas of the Presidency. Less than one-tenth of the children attending its schools are in classes above the lower primary.

The chief educational institution in it is the Wardlaw College at Bellary, a second-grade institution maintained by the London Mission aided by grants. It is the only college in all the Ceded districts and is the development of a school founded in 1846 by the Rev. J. S. Wardlaw, D.D., of the London Mission. A Matriculation class was opened about 1867 and an F.A. class in 1869. It was affiliated in 1891 and under its present principal, M.R.Ry. J. P. Cotilingam, has made much progress.

EDUCATIONAL
INSTITUTIONS.
The Wardlaw
College.

CHAP. X.
EDUCATIONAL
INSTITUTIONS.

Upper
Secondary
schools.

There are three upper secondary schools in the district—one in Bellary maintained by the municipality, another in Harpanahalli kept up by the taluk board, and the school department of the Wardlaw College. The first of these originated in the "Provincial School" which was opened in 1855. It subsequently grew into a college. In 1885 the college department was abolished and the school was placed under municipal management.

Lower
Secondary
schools.

The lower secondary schools include that at Hospet kept up by the taluk board, the Jubilee school at Sandur, the St. Joseph's school of the Roman Catholic Mission at Bellary, which is intended chiefly for destitute boys of European descent and has a boarding-house for its pupils, and the Protestant Orphanage in the same town under the management of the Chaplain.

Schools for
girls.

The institutions intended for girls include the St. Philomena's upper secondary school at Bellary, which is maintained by the Nuns of the Good Shepherd for European and Eurasian girls and has an orphanage attached to it; the Government lower secondary school for Hindu girls at Adóni; and two aided lower secondary schools at Bellary managed respectively by the native Nuns of St. Francis Xavier and the London Mission.

Statistics of these institutions and of the primary schools of the various classes will be found in the separate Appendix.

Other
schools.

There is also a training school for masters in Bellary, for which a new building is now in course of erection, and a local board sessional school. The former was established by the district board in 1879 and was taken over by Government in 1892.

There are no real technical or industrial schools or classes in any part of the district, but the girls in St. Philomena's school are taught music and drawing and there is a drawing class in the training school.