

PREFACE.

THE original 'Manual' of Bellary, by Mr. John Kelsall, I.C.S., was written as long ago as 1872, when the district included the area which was subsequently formed into the separate Collectorate of Anantapur. For this and other reasons it has now been re-written throughout.

The present volume is the first of the District Gazetteers to be prepared in accordance with the new system under which statistics which are liable speedily to become out of date are relegated to a separate Appendix which will be revised decennially, after each census. The book has been written in haste in the intervals of other work and has claims on this ground to a lenient judgement on its shortcomings.

Thanks are due to the many persons who have assisted with it. Acknowledgements have been made where possible in the body of the volume, but special obligations have been incurred to Mr. R. Sewell, who has been good enough to help with Chapter II, and to Mr. D. W. G. Cowie, the present Collector of the district, and his predecessor, Mr. R. C. C. Carr, who have kindly read the proofs of the remainder.

W. F.