

PREFACE.

This volume comprises the history of Modern Mysore from its beginning in 1799 after the fall of Seringapatam to the death of Krishnaraja Wodeyar III in 1868. The pages referring to the earlier years give a retrospect of the events from the time of Yaduraja the first founder of the present Hindu Royal family of Mysore to the re-constitution of the Mysore State under British Suzerainty in 1799. The book is not a mere narrative of military episodes and administrative measures but also attempts to give a description of the social and economic conditions of these bygone times. One new feature of the work is the light it throws for the first time on the events that led to the deprivation of Krishnaraja Wodeyar of his ruling powers in 1831 by Lord William Bentinck who was then the Governor-General of India. But this large-hearted administrator was the first to admit that acting on the unverified representations of the Madras Government he had done an act of injustice to the ruler of Mysore and ever after, even when he had retired to private life, he is said to have always referred to it with a feeling of regret. The Commission of Enquiry appointed subsequent to the assumption of the administration of Mysore by the Company's Government found that Krishnaraja Wodeyar was not personally accountable for the misgovernment which existed in some parts of the State and that he was but the victim of the circumstances of the time. To Krishnaraja Wodeyar, however, to obtain the restoration of his State proved a Herculean task and but for his tenacity of purpose the Parliamentary verdict of 1867 in favour of restoration would not have been possible. Krishnaraja Wodeyar by his conduct set an example to future generations of the success that can be achieved by pacific means. The succeeding volume which is already in the press will continue the history from the coronation of Chamaraja Wodeyar X in September 1868 to the present time.

I have to express my obligations to a large number of gentlemen who have helped me in various ways in connection with this work,

especially to Sir Mirza Ismail and Messrs. Ranganatha Rao Sahib, T. V. A. Iswaran, N. Madhava Rao, A. V. Ramanathan, T. R. A. Thumboo Chetty, B. T. Kesava Iyengar, R. Ranga Rao, M. Seshadri, M. Rama Rao, H. V. Ramaswamy, A. K. Syed Taj Peeran, K. Mylari Rao and Amildar K. Seshagiri Rao. I have consulted all the important official and private publications and referred to them in the body of the book which are too numerous to be acknowledged individually, including the Mysore Gazetteer as revised by Rao Sahib Mr. C. Hayavadana Rao. Prof. Venkatasubba Sastry's book on Sir Mark Cubbon has also been of service to me.

Finally, I must express my great indebtedness to my assistant Mr. B. M. Gopala Rao, B.A. (Hons.), but for whose earnest, intelligent and suggestive co-operation both when writing the book as well as in passing the proofs through the press the work would not have easily reached completion.

To Messrs. Higginbothams I have to express my thanks for the neat execution of the work entrusted to them.

BANGALORE,

9th July 1936.

M. SHAMA RAO.

ERRATA.

Page 41. Line 27—For 'pursued' *read* 'pursue.'

Page 70. Line 4 from bottom—For 'devasted' *read* 'devastated.'

Page 102. Line 10 from top—For 'meditator' *read* 'mediator.'

Page 117. Line 8 from bottom—For '1733' *read* '1773.'