

REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF BENGAL, 1889-90.

Calcutta:

PRINTED AT THE BENGAL SECRETARIAT PRESS.

1890.

Price Rs. 6.

Zoological Gardens.

THE receipts from private sources amounted to Rs. 18,126, the Government contribution was Rs. 19,504, making a total income of Rs. 37,630, while the expenditure was Rs. 46,285, leaving a deficit of Rs. 8,655. Of this Rs. 6,523 were spent on original works of construction; but, even excluding that sum, the cost of ordinary administration exceeded the income. The balance was reduced from Rs. 11,279 to Rs. 2,624.

A very useful tropical aviary was constructed during the year, which bears the name of the Nawab Bahadur of Moorshedabad in recognition of his large subscription to the Gardens of Rs. 10,000.

The number of visitors who paid entrance fees was 109,569, against 111,573 in the previous year; but this number was exclusive of a large number of students and children under eight years of age who were admitted free of charge. The most important additions made in the course of the year were a pair of adult African lions, two African leopards, one African caracal, and one hunting leopard presented by His Excellency the Viceroy; a pair of young Indian lions presented by the Nawab of Junagarh, Katteywar, and two tigress cubs presented by Sir Steuart Bayley. One zebra was obtained by exchange from the Zoological Society's Gardens, London, and a pair of jaguars from Mr. Carl Hagenbeck of Hamburg. The birth of a pair of tiger cubs was recorded as an unusual event during the year. Of the presentations made, there were 60 mammals, 34 birds, and 4 reptiles. The total number of presentations during the year was 98 as against 42 in the previous year, and is indicative of the interest taken by the public in the institution.

The institution continued to maintain its popularity with the students and teachers of the various schools and colleges of Calcutta and its suburbs.