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and in 1780, official enumeration gave the population at 113,126. The message of Nelson's victory found 150,000. From 15,000 in the beginning to 150,000 in the end of the century is a remarkable achievement, seldom paralleled in the annals of any country. Early in the nineteenth century, the number of inhabitants seems to have averaged 200,000, while at the present day it is over 800,000.

As another instance of progress, in 1806, when land was granted for barracks, one Ardeshir Dady got for 5,000 square yards at the rate of *Rs. 25/- a yard. The site, in 1791, was estimated by Dady's father as worth Rs. 60,000/-, i.e. Rs. 12/- per square yard. In fifteen years the price of land had more than doubled.

In 1819, Mount Stuart Elphinstone was appointed Governor, and during this time Bombay made marked progress in all directions. In 1826, the population increased as if Cadmus had sown Dragon's teeth, mercantile houses multiplied, charities were founded, public tanks were enlarged so as to afford a constant supply of water, the ways were elegantly lighted, the Esplanade was levelled and cleared, roads were made, and edifices arose, designed with architectural taste and executed with masonic skill.

The Town Hall, the Cathedral, and the Scotch Kirk date from this period. Dr. John Wilson, the Scottish Missionary, began his evangelical labors in Bombay about the same time as Elphinstone began his administration.

The change in the political situation made its influence felt in the commerce of the city. In 1837, the overland route facilitated commerce with Europe, and only one event remained to consummate the glories of this wonderful city, and that came by the opening of the Suez Canal, in 1869.

From this period, assisted doubtless by

*The Rupee is equal to 32½ cents, or 18. 4d. sterling.

the opening of railway lines to the inland districts, Bombay entered on a career of steady and sober progress, broken only by one financial demoralization of the deepest kind, when mania for speculation seized her and worked disastrous results. Yet, again, rising like a phoenix, she went forward on her phenomenal progress. The municipality of Bombay was reconstructed on a popular basis in 1872; the city increased in population and prosperity; stately buildings, both public and private, arose: new roads and bridges connected distant parts of the city. Mr. S. M. Edwardes writes in his history of the city: "Beautiful were her public buildings; great was the increase of her commerce; huge was her population by the year 1872."

In the period from 1860 to 1870, many excellent works of public convenience and adornment were, by the exertions of the genius of Bombay's leading men, brought to completion. By no means the least among these is a line of magnificent buildings which face the beautiful Back Bay, and beyond it the terraced steep of Malabar Hill, with the residence of the Governor at its point.

The buildings looking from the Southern end are the Government Secretariat, the University Convocation Hall, the University Library and the "Rajabai Tower," the money for which was gifted by Mr. Premchand Roychand, and was named after his mother. Next in order comes the High Court, Public Works Accounts Offices, while beyond lie the General Post Office and its adjunct, the Telegraph Office.

Within a stone's throw of the latter, although not in the same line, are some equally imposing buildings, raised within the last quarter of a century. For the most important business edifices lately raised, one must travel in the direction of the Victoria Terminus. In this handsome street, devoted almost wholly to