



# Ceylon Govt. Gazette

**EXTRAORDINARY**

Published by Authority.

No. 5,392—TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1896.

PART I.—General: Minutes, Proclamations, Appointments, and General Government Notifications.

PART II.—Legal and Judicial. [Not issued]

PART III.—Provincial Administration. [Not issued]

PART IV.—Marine and Mercantile. [Not issued]

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## GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATIONS.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE SIR J. WEST RIDGEWAY, K.C.B., K.C.S.I., having arrived at Colombo by the P. & O. steamship Rome on the 10th instant, was met on board by His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, accompanied by the Members of the Executive Council and the Maha Mudaliyár.

Sir J. West Ridgeway landed at 4.15 P.M., at the Main Jetty, where he was received, under a salute of seventeen guns, by the Chief Justice, the Bishop, the Puisne Justices, the Members of the Executive, Legislative, and Municipal Councils, and the Heads of the Civil and Military Departments.

The following Address of Welcome was presented to Sir J. West Ridgeway by the Legislative Council:—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

THE Legislative Council of Ceylon beg leave to cordially welcome Your Excellency, and to offer you their hearty congratulations on your assumption of the Government of this Island.

The Council will endeavour to assist Your Excellency to the utmost of their ability in all matters calculated to promote the progress of the Colony and the well-being and prosperity of its inhabitants.

Sir J. West Ridgeway replied:—

YOUR EXCELLENCIES, AND GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,—I receive this address with much pleasure, and thank you most heartily for your cordial welcome and your hearty congratulations on my assumption of the administration of this Island. I especially welcome your assurance that you will assist me to the utmost of your ability, and I feel sure that, with the aid of your ripe experience and proved abilities, my fervent wish to advance the interests of this beautiful island will be duly realized.

The following Address was then presented by the Chairman and Members of the Municipal Council of Colombo :—

**MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,**

WE, the Chairman and Councillors of the Municipality of Colombo, desire, on behalf of ourselves and of our fellow-citizens, to respectfully offer to Your Excellency a loyal and cordial welcome to this city.

We beg to assure Your Excellency of the devotion of all classes of the community to our Most Gracious Sovereign the Queen, and to express our earnest wish to dutifully co-operate with Her Majesty's Representative in all measures calculated for the well-being of the people.

We confidently anticipate that under Your Excellency's rule Municipal institutions will receive encouragement, and that the privileges and responsibilities of local self-government will continue to be developed.

Wishing Your Excellency and Lady Ridgeway health, happiness, and prosperity, we have the honour to be, Sir, Your Excellency's most obedient, humble servants.

Sir J. West Ridgeway replied :—

GENTLEMEN AND MEMBERS OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL,—I receive this Address with great pleasure, and thank you for your kind wishes. It is a pleasure to receive an Address in Colombo, which is not only the capital of the Island, but the principal seaport of the East. Gentlemen, I congratulate you on possessing the privileges of local self-government. I assure you that the hope which you expressed is not made in vain, when you anticipate that under my rule Municipal institutions will receive every encouragement, and that the privileges and responsibilities of self-government will continue to be developed. I can assure you my earnest wish is to increase the power of those who, by vigorous and wise administration, have proved themselves to be worthy of this honour. Gentlemen, I again thank you for this Address and for the kind wishes expressed in it on behalf of Lady Ridgeway and myself.

Under the pavilion erected by the Headmen of the Western Province, where a Guard of Honour of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment was in waiting, Sir J. West Ridgeway was received by the Chief Headmen of the Western Province. The following Address was presented :—

**MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,**

THE Sinhalese Chiefs and Headmen of the Western Province offer Your Excellency and Lady Ridgeway a hearty welcome to this Island.

We assure Your Excellency of our loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign Queen Victoria, and of our readiness to assist Your Excellency as Her Majesty's Representative in all matters calculated to preserve the dignity of the Crown and to promote the well-being of Her Majesty's subjects, the inhabitants of this Western Province.

In conclusion, we trust that Your Excellency's administration of the Government will be as beneficial to the people of this Colony as it has been to those whom Your Excellency has already governed elsewhere, and that Your Excellency and Lady Ridgeway will enjoy good health during your residence in the Island.

Sir J. West Ridgeway replied :—

CHIEFS AND HEADMEN OF THE WESTERN PROVINCE,—I receive this Address with very much pleasure. There is no welcome which is more grateful to me than the welcome of you, gentlemen. You assure me of your loyalty to Her Majesty the Queen. That loyalty is too conspicuous and well known to need any such assurance, but nevertheless its repetition is very acceptable. Gentlemen, I fully recognize that the cordial welcome given to me to-day is not given to me personally, but as the representative of that Sovereign to whom you and all of us are devotedly attached. I trust, Chiefs and Headmen, that our relations will always be of the best description. I do not think I can remove any doubts you may have on that point better than by assuring you that the hope which you expressed—that my administration will be beneficial to the people of this Colony—cannot be better realized than by my following in the footsteps and continuing the policy of the wise and distinguished predecessors in this office. Gentlemen, I again thank you for this cordial Address.

Sir J. West Ridgeway then proceeded by carriage, past the Government Offices and the Gordon Gardens, to the Queen's House by the northern gate, the road being lined by the Troops and the Volunteers.

A Guard of Honour of the Ceylon Light Infantry Volunteers and the Ceylon Lascareens of the Guard were in waiting at the Queen's House, and a Guard of Honour of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment was in waiting opposite the Council Chamber.

On leaving the Queen's House, Sir J. West Ridgeway proceeded to the Council Chamber, and there produced Her Majesty's Commission, which was publicly read by the Colonial Secretary.

Sir J. West Ridgeway then, in the presence of the Executive Council, took the Oaths as Governor and Commander-in-Chief, administered by the Chief Justice, and announced by a salute of seventeen guns.

The Proclamation announcing the assumption of the Government by His Excellency Sir J. West Ridgeway was then publicly read by the Clerk of the Executive Council.

Colonial Secretary's Office,  
Colombo, February 11, 1896.

E. NOEL WALKER,  
Colonial Secretary.

## PROCLAMATION.

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WHEREAS His Excellency the Right Honourable Sir JOSEPH WEST RIDGEWAY, Knight Commander of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Knight Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India, has been appointed by HER MAJESTY to be Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Island of Ceylon, and its Dependencies: It is therefore hereby proclaimed that His Excellency Sir JOSEPH WEST RIDGEWAY, on the day of the date hereof, assumed the said office and took the Oaths prescribed. And all persons are hereby required to take notice accordingly.

Given at Colombo, this Tenth day of February, in the year of our Lord One thousand Eight hundred and Ninety-six.

By His Excellency's command,

E. NOEL WALKER,  
Colonial Secretary.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!

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## APPOINTMENTS. &c. BY THE GOVERNOR.

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HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR has been pleased to make the following appointments:—

Captain A. H. W. LOWNDES, Rifle Brigade, to be Acting Aide-de-Camp.

Lieutenant RAYMOND JOHN MARKER, Coldstream Guards, to be Aide-de-Camp with effect from March 7, 1896.

Lieutenant CHARLES WARD JACKSON, Yorkshire Hussars, to be an extra Aide-de-Camp.

By His Excellency's command,

Colonial Secretary's Office,  
Colombo, February 11, 1896.

E. NOEL WALKER,  
Colonial Secretary.

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