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Part I.—Minutes, Proclamations, Appointments, &c.

*Separate paging is given to each Part, in order that it may be filed separately.*

## MESSAGE FROM HIS MAJESTY THE KING.

**H**IS EXCELLENCY THE OFFICER ADMINISTERING THE GOVERNMENT has been pleased to direct that the following Message from His Majesty the King be published for general information:—

Another Christmas finds all the resources of the Empire still engaged in war, and I desire to convey, on My behalf and that of the Queen, a heartfelt Christmas greeting and Our good wishes for the New Year, to all who, on sea and land, are upholding the honour of the British name. In the officers and men of My Navy, on whom the security of the Empire depends, I repose, in common with all My subjects, a trust that is absolute. On the officers and men of My Armies, whether now in France, in the East, or in other fields, I rely with an equal faith, confident that their devotion, their valour, and their self-sacrifice will, under God's guidance, lead to victory and an honourable peace. There are many of their comrades now, alas, in hospital, and to these brave men also I desire, with the Queen, to express Our deep gratitude, and Our earnest prayers for their recovery.

Officers and men of the Navy and of the Army, another year is drawing to a close as it began, in toil, bloodshed, and suffering, but we rejoice to know that the goal to which you are striving draws nearer into sight. May God bless you and all your undertakings.

GEORGE R. I.

By His Excellency's command,  
A. S. PAGDEN,  
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,  
Colombo, December 25, 1915

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