

APPENDIX II

APPRECIATIONS OF ANUNDORAM BOROOAH

1. *Sir Gurudas Banerjee*, Kt., M.A., D.L., PH.D., formerly Vice-chancellor of the Calcutta University, sometime Puisne Judge of the Calcutta High-Court, in a letter to Dr. S. K. Bhuyan, dated Narikeldanga, Calcutta, January 24, 1912, said:

"In compliance with your verbal request made to me yesterday, I have much pleasure in sending you the following note embodying my reminiscences regarding the late Mr. Anundoram Borooah.

"I became acquainted with Mr. Anundoram Borooah as a first-year student of the Presidency College in 1865, when I was temporarily appointed as an Assistant Lecturer on Mathematics in that College. I came into contact with him almost everyday for a period of one year and the impression he left on my mind was a very favourable one. He was very modest and unassuming, and he did his work in the class remarkably well. There was no problem in Mathematics, simple or difficult, set by me in the class, which Sri Borooah failed to solve. He was quick in arriving at his solutions and they were generally simple and ingenious. The first-year class in the Presidency College that year was a splendid class, containing many very brilliant students, such as the late Sri R. C. Dutt, the late Babu Kartick Chandra Mitra (who afterwards obtained the Premchand Roychand studentship and was for many years a leading pleader of Midnapur), Babu Trailokyanath Bose, for many years a leader of the Dacca Bar, Sri B. L. Gupta and Babu Umakali Mukherjee, one of the leading Vakils of the High Court. Of these Babu Kartick Chandra Mitra, Trailokyanath Bose and Umakali Mukherji were exceedingly good in my subject; and Sri Borooah was unquestionably the brightest of this bright band of young students. It is worthy of note that his class-fellows never grudged to admit his superior merit. It is a matter of deep regret that his brilliant career of public service was cut off so early."

2. *Sri Bolinarayan Borah*, c.E. (Retd.), formerly Executive Engineer, Assam, in a letter to Dr. S. K. Bhuyan, dated *Rothiemay*, Darjeeling, November, 19, 1919, said:

"I am in receipt of your letter of the 14th instant, in which you ask me to contribute whatever reminiscences I have of the late Sri A. Borooah, towards the compilation of his biography that you have undertaken, as you are under the impression that I was a close friend of his, and that therefore I was in a position to tell you many things about him. Excuse me saying that you are mistaken in both these respects. I was no personal friend of Sri A. Borooah, indeed I hardly ever came in contact with him; and consequently I can tell you very little about him that is not well-known to anybody else. He was too great a genius and a too sedentary worker to be a close friend of any man.

"I met him in school days in Assam for two or three years, but we hardly exchanged a word, as he had the habit of being rather reserved, exclusive, and too attentive to his books, which unfortunately I was not. Since he left Assam after passing the Entrance Examination in 1864, we never met again. I was not in Calcutta when he was there, I was not in England when he was there. His service was mostly in Bengal, and mine in Assam. So, except for a little correspondence on business matters, I had never come across him. But I knew that he had a great aptitude for Sanskrit studies, for he was known to have been able to recite from memory the whole of *Amarakosha* even at the early age of 12 or 14. He had an aptitude for Mathematics in 1866 at the First Arts Examination of the Calcutta University, and I believe first too in the Indian Civil