FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1887.

THE REAY PAPER MILL.

At the ceremony of opening this mill at Poona which was performed by H.E. the Governor on Wednesday evening, one of the directors, Mr. Nowrojee Pudumjee, gave the following history of the mill. He said:

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,—Considering the difficulties attending a new enterprise, the distance from Bombay and from large foundries, the distance from Poona itself, the directors of this company congratulate themselves that, in less than two years from the time the foundation stone of their building was laid, they are able to welcome the present distinguished assembly here, and to request you, my Lord, to perform the opening ceremony of the Reay Paper Mill this day. Fearing that a detailed account of the progress of this undertaking from its original conception to its present commencement of work might prove a trial for your patience, the directors wish to be as brief as possible in laying before you a short history of this enterprise. The first conception of this undertaking may safely be said to be due to a Resolution issued by the Government of India in the Department of Finance and Commerce, and dated 11 August, 1882. After a reference to the enquiries which were recommended to be made for a report on the sites suitable for a paper mill in this presidency, the Resolution proceeds thus:—"The main object which induced the Government of India to institute these enquiries was to encourage a project for the establishment of a paper mill in the Bombay Presidency, such a mill being much wanted there, and in furtherance of the policy of the Government to encourage local industries his Excellency in Council would be prepared to enter into a contract with any private individual or firm who may be willing to establish such mills, for a term of five years or more, for the supply of paper required for the public service in India of a quality not inferior to, and a cost not higher than, that now paid for imported paper."