GLOSSARY

amla  Plural of *amal*, manager.

babu  Bengali word used as a title for a Hindu gentleman, equivalent to “sir” or “mister.” Later in the nineteenth century, applied in derision to English-educated Bengalis.

baithak khana  Sitting room or parlor.

bania  Hindustani trader, shopkeeper, or moneychanger.

banian  In Bengal, an Indian businessman in the service of Europeans.

banik  The Bengali variant of “bania.”

bhadralok  Bengali word meaning “gentlefolk.” Applied especially to educated upper castes and to those who imitated their style of life.

bhakti  Devotional worship.

bustee  Hut.

dak  Relay station.

dal  A party or faction.

dalapati  The head of a party or faction.

crore  Ten million, written 1,00,00,000.

darogha  Police.

dewan  Financial manager.

gariwala  Cart driver.

gomasta  Steward.

gur  Raw sugar.

jhil  Shallow lake.

kusa grass  A kind of grass used in religious ceremonies.

lakh  One hundred thousand, written 1,00,000.
GLOSSARY

lathyat  Warriors armed with sticks.
Kulin    A person of high birth.
molunghee Salt-maker.
mufassal Countryside as distinct from Calcutta; also, upcountry, or the area from Calcutta to Delhi.
mukhtear Agent or attorney.
paribar The extended family.
patisala Bengali school.
patta    Lease of property.
puja     Worship.
raiyati Owned or managed by a ryot.
ryot     Peasant.
Sadr court Chief court within jurisdiction of East India Company.
sanyassi Religious mendicant.
shestadar Head native officer.
shetia   In Bombay, an Indian merchant.
shroff   Moneychanger.
sraddha  Funeral ceremonies.
swadeshi One’s own country; a movement to encourage the manufacture and use of indigenous articles.
taluk    An estate.
thakur   A person of rank
zamindar Landholder.
zilla court District court.

CURRENCIES, WEIGHTS, AND MEASURES

rupee    Usually refers to the sicca rupee, a coin equal to about two shillings, or fifty cents American, in use during the 1830s and 1840s. C.R. refers to Company’s Rupee, a standard all-India rupee adopted in 1835 and equivalent to about 15/16 sicca rupee.
anna     One-sixteenth of a rupee.
pice     One-fourth of an anna.
maund   About 82 lb. av.
bigha    One-third of an acre.
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Comparatively few of Dwarkanath Tagore’s own writings have survived intact. Among these are about fifty personal letters, written mostly to business associates, some official letters to government agencies, speeches and letters printed in the newspapers, and excerpts from the lost diary, kept during his trips abroad, which were printed in Kissory Chand Mittra’s Memoir of Dwarkanath Tagore (Calcutta: 1870).

The major sources of information concerning his personal life are found in two archives: Rabindra Bharati University at Jorasanko, Calcutta; and Rabindra Sadhana at Santiniketan, West Bengal. Rabindra Bharati University holds a collection on Dwarkanath assembled by Kshitindranath Tagore (1869–1937). Kshitindranath challenged the will of his grandfather, Debendranath, in 1907 and built his lawsuit around the will of his great-grandfather, Dwarkanath. Later he became interested in the person of his great-grandfather and devoted the remainder of his life to collecting materials on Dwarkanath. Although he discovered some items found nowhere else, most of the collection consists of newspaper clippings and legal documents. Kshitindranath’s problem is explained in a letter in his collection written by Kshemendranath Tagore, dated 11 November 1939. The letter states that Rabindranath Tagore removed all the personal papers of Dwarkanath from the home at Jorasanko and burnt them. Before doing so, however, he gave three volumes of Dwarkanath’s business letters to Sir Ashutosh Chaudhuri, who in turn passed them on to Hitendranath Tagore, a brother of Kshitindranath. Thereafter, however, they too disappeared.

The second major Dwarkanath Tagore collection is situated in the Tagore family archives in Rabindra Sadhana on the campus of Visva-Bharati University, Santiniketan. Material on Dwarkanath is contained in seven thin folios of manuscripts and two volumes of
typed duplicates of manuscripts. One of these typed volumes, entitled "Our Family Correspondence," was assembled by Gagendranath Tagore in 1905. A microfilm copy of the original letters of Dwarkanath is on deposit in the National Archives of India.

In contrast to the paucity of personal letters, abundant material exists on the joint-stock companies founded by Dwarkanath and his partners. The *Bengal Hurkaru*, a daily newspaper directed at the European business community of Calcutta, contains verbatim reports of shareholders' meetings. In addition, the papers of two of the companies founded by Dwarkanath's firm have been preserved in archives; those of the Bengal Coal Company are in the archives of Andrew Yule and Company, Calcutta; and those of the Assam (Tea) Company in the Guildhall Library, London. Finally, where government decisions were involved, material on the companies is preserved in the West Bengal State Archives at Calcutta, the National Archives of India in New Delhi, and the India Office, London.

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