PREFACE

Education plays a dominant role in determining the nature and destiny of man in the modern period. This thesis represents an attempt to study the growth of education in Travancore during the nineteenth century. Education was a forbidden fruit for most of the sections of the people of Travancore. The concept of education in ancient Kerala was entirely different from that of the modern period. Education based on pragmatism was the offspring of the nineteenth century.

As a result of the arrival of the missionaries a drastic change took place in the political, educational and economic set up of Kerala. Without wiping out the then formal system of education completely they disseminated and evolved a new system of schooling. Their activities and the changes in the society of Travancore are highlighted in this work.

I am deeply indebted to my guide and Guru Dr. T.K. Ravindran for his encouragement and guidance
and it is from him that I drew inspiration for the pursuit of research. I express my gratitude to Dr. K.K.N. Kurup for going through the manuscript and making valuable suggestions for its improvement. I also thank Dr. Michael Tharakan, Dr. R.N. Yesudas and Dr. K.K. Kusuman for their suggestions.

In order to write this thesis almost all available sources have been utilised. I use this opportunity to express my thanks to the staff of the archives and libraries. With unfailing zeal they helped me in my data collection.

The Indian Church History Archives, Bangalore, National Archives of India, New Delhi, Tamil Nadu Archives, Madras, Kerala State Archives, Trivandrum presented me with innumerable records as primary sources. C.M.S. College library, Kottayam and Scott Christian College Nagercoil deserve special mention for supplying me with missionary magazines and reports. Theological Seminary College, Kannanmoola, Trivandrum, Legislative Assembly Library, Trivandrum, Trivandrum Public Library and Education Department Library, Trivandrum lavished me with other sources of information.
I have great pleasure in placing on record my deep sense of gratitude to each and every one of those friends who have helped me in many ways in bringing out this volume.

M.J. Javernessa Beegom.