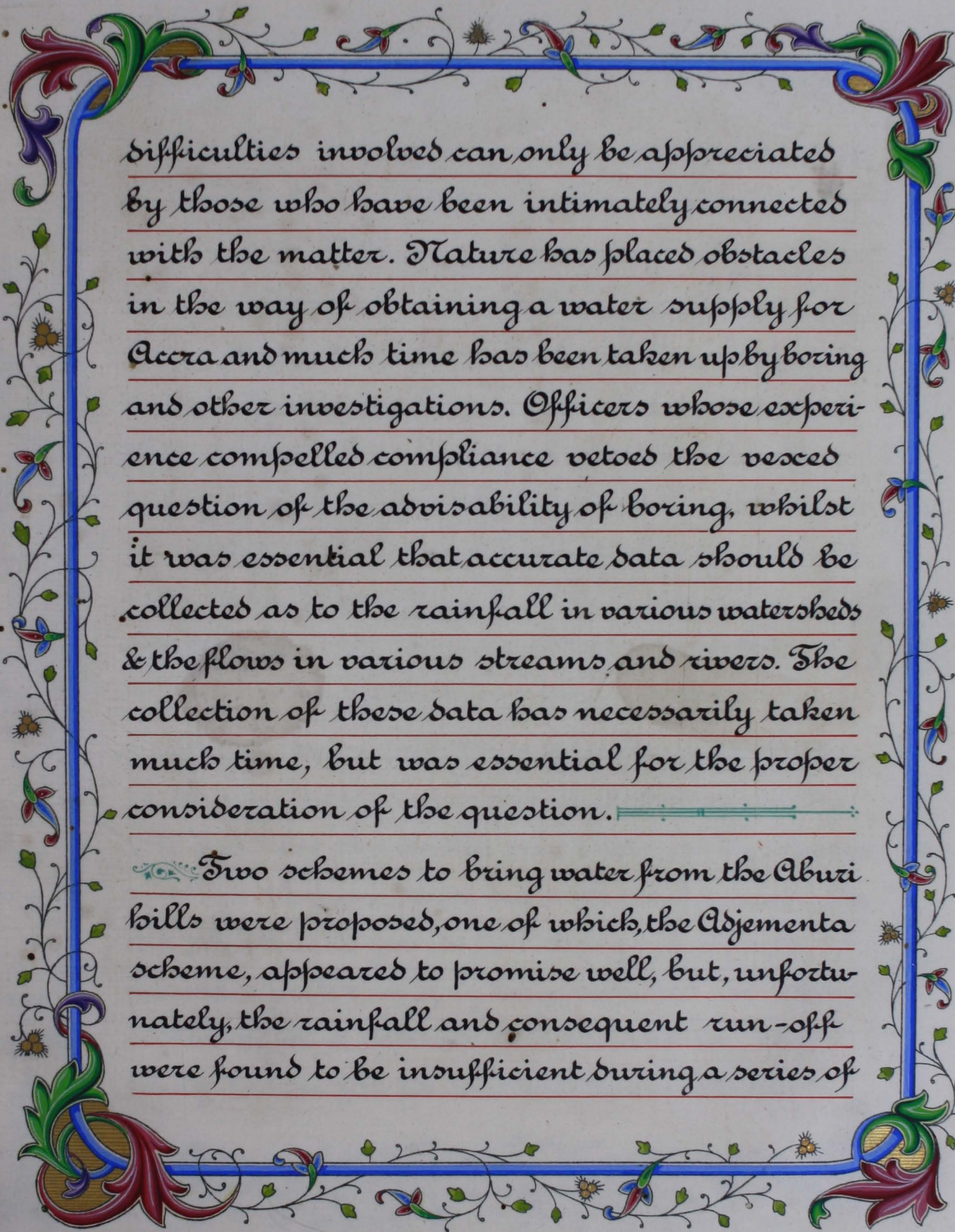


To His Excellency
Sir John Rodger, K.C.M.G.
Governor of the Gold Coast.

May it please Your Excellency,

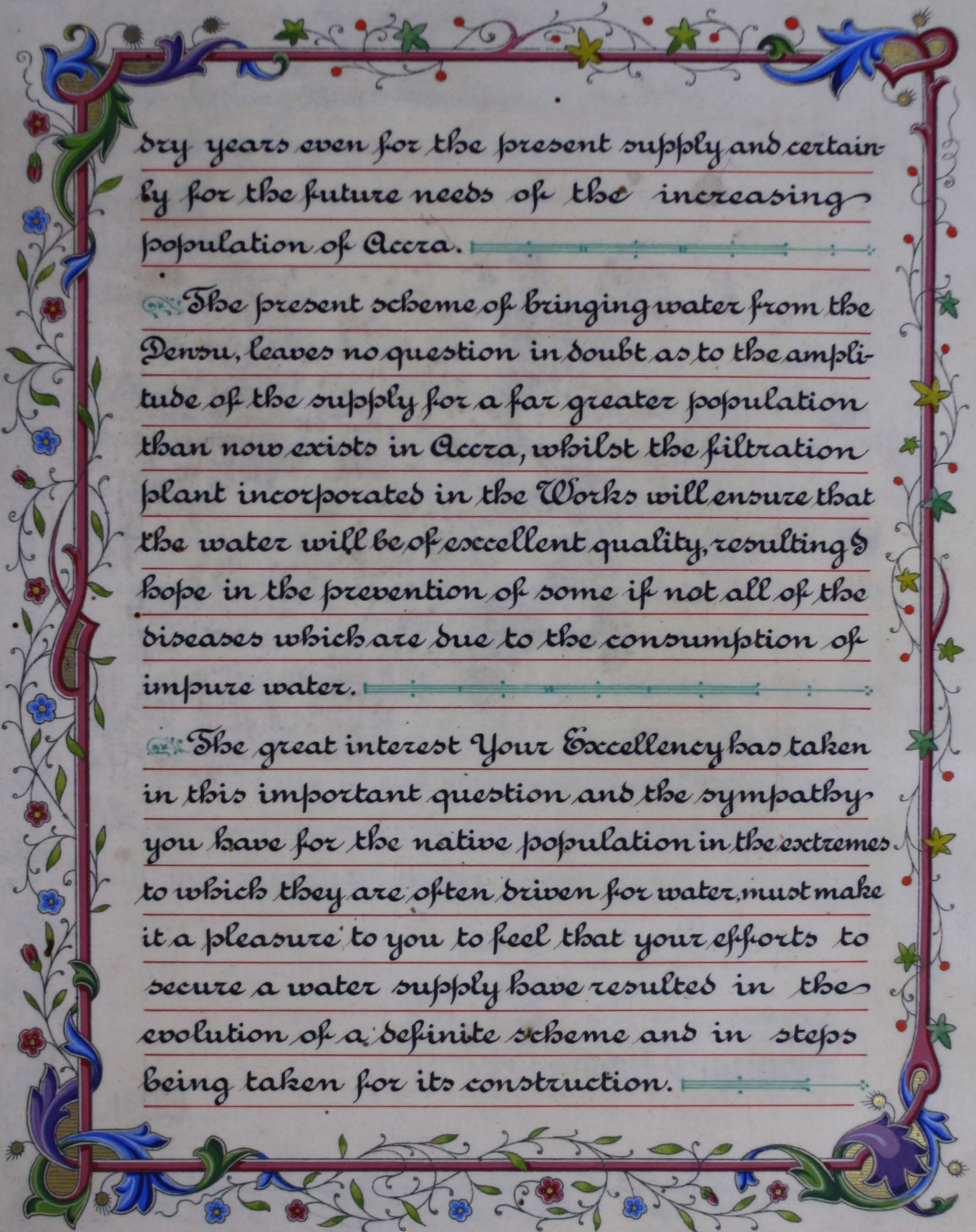
In the much regretted absence of the
Honourable Major W. E. Lees, I have
to thank you for the honour you have con-
ferred on the Public Works Department in
consenting to inaugurate the construction
of the **Accra Water Works**.

The question of a supply of water has
been under consideration for many years,
commencing, I believe, in 1894, and the



difficulties involved can only be appreciated by those who have been intimately connected with the matter. Nature has placed obstacles in the way of obtaining a water supply for Accra and much time has been taken up by boring and other investigations. Officers whose experience compelled compliance vetoed the vexed question of the advisability of boring, whilst it was essential that accurate data should be collected as to the rainfall in various watersheds & the flows in various streams and rivers. The collection of these data has necessarily taken much time, but was essential for the proper consideration of the question.

Two schemes to bring water from the Aburi hills were proposed, one of which, the Adjementa scheme, appeared to promise well, but, unfortunately, the rainfall and consequent run-off were found to be insufficient during a series of



dry years even for the present supply and certainly for the future needs of the increasing population of Accra.

The present scheme of bringing water from the Densu, leaves no question in doubt as to the amplitude of the supply for a far greater population than now exists in Accra, whilst the filtration plant incorporated in the Works will ensure that the water will be of excellent quality, resulting in hope in the prevention of some if not all of the diseases which are due to the consumption of impure water.

The great interest Your Excellency has taken in this important question and the sympathy you have for the native population in the extremes to which they are often driven for water, must make it a pleasure to you to feel that your efforts to secure a water supply have resulted in the evolution of a definite scheme and in steps being taken for its construction.

In asking Your Excellency on behalf of the
Consulting Engineers- **Messrs. Middleton, Hunter**
& **Puff**- to accept the accompanying trowel as a
memento of an event to which you will, I believe,
always look back with pleasure, I venture to express
my belief that, while the work has engineering
difficulties which will test those responsible for
its construction, it will be well and expeditiously
carried out and be a credit to the Colony, to the
Consulting Engineers and to the Public Works
Department, which is now entrusted with this great
and important engineering work.

I now beg to ask Your Excellency to lay the
foundation stone of a future Drinking Fountain
and to indicate to the population of Accra that it
is within measurable distance of an ample, constant,
and good supply of water.

Wm. Pitt
for *C. S. Craven*
Resident Engineer.

1910.