

EAST INDIA COMPANY (PROGRESS AND CONDITION).

STATEMENT

EXHIBITING THE

MORAL AND MATERIAL PROGRESS AND CONDITION

OF

INDIA,

DURING THE YEAR 1871-72.

(PRESENTED PURSUANT TO ACT OF PARLIAMENT.)

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REFACE.

In the Act of Parliament constituting the Secretary of State and Council of India, it is provided that an account of the state of Indian finances shall be presented to Parliament within 14 days, during which Parliament may be sitting, next after the 1st May; and that "such account shall be accompanied by a statement prepared from detailed reports from each Presidency and District in India, in such form as shall exhibit the moral and material progress and condition of India in each such Presidency."

From 1858 to 1865 the voluminous administration reports, prepared by the several Governments since 1841, were presented to Parliament, in the form in which they arrived from India, without arrangement or condensation. It was found that this mode of complying with the requirements of the Act failed to secure the objects contemplated by the framers of the clause, which were, that a report on the progress of India should be annually furnished in a convenient and manageable form, supplying all necessary information, and adapted for future reference. It was, therefore, determined that, in future, statements should be prepared at the India Office, based on the administration reports and other information received from India, but in a conveniently condensed form.

The first statement of this kind was for the year 1864-65. The subject was treated under the different departmental heads of revenue, finance, public works, legislation, judicature and police, education, emigration, agriculture, sanitary measures, municipalities, ecclesiastical establishments, native states, army, marine, and miscellaneous. The same arrangement was followed in the statements for 1865-66 and 1866-67, though the subjects were not treated exactly in the same order, and some additional headings were introduced. But in 1867-68 a different arrangement was adopted, and continued in the statements for 1868-69, 1869-70 and 1870-71. Instead of treating the subject under the several departmental heads, a general account was given of the proceedings of each local government, and various miscellaneous matters and events were recorded in an introductory section. In two out of the three last statements, outline maps have been given, showing the political divisions and boundaries of each local government to face the eight different headings.

The present statement has been arranged on a different plan. It has been thought that the most useful form that such a document can take, is one by which an inquirer may obtain, by the perusal of one section, a general but correct knowledge of what has taken place during the year under review, in connection with any subject in which he may be interested. A knowledge is required, not so much of the general proceedings of the different local governments, as of the progress that has been made throughout British India in improving the condition of the people, and in providing for their moral and material wants. In commencing a new series it has been found necessary, in treating of subjects such as land revenue, irrigation, and some others, to give a concise account of the previous history of administrative measures connected with them, so that, during the perusal of future statements similarly arranged, there may be ready means of reference to a fuller account of any measure or undertaking, the yearly progress of which may be recorded. The present plan provides a place for every subject or section of a subject, and so long as it is closely adhered to in future statements, the progress under any given head may be traced through the different years without any trouble.

The whole subject of the moral and material progress and condition of India is arranged in 15 sections, each treating of a department of administration which is complete in itself, and under one or other of these heads every measure and every event will naturally find its place. The full details of the arrangement will be seen from the accompanying Analytical Table of Contents, which has been inserted for facility of reference.

The statement itself is, to a certain degree based on the Administration Reports issued by the different provinces. In the case of financial statistics, the figures given in the Parliamentary Paper entitled Finance and Revenue Accounts of the Government of India for the year 1871-72, have been strictly adhered to; and in trade statistics the figures shown in the annual statements of trade and navigation, compiled in the different presidencies, have been adopted.

The same orthography of proper names has been adopted as is now sanctioned by the Government of India. Those who advocate different systems of spelling will never agree, but no one can doubt the serious inconvenience of many different ways of spelling the same word. Dr. Hunter's system of orthography is based upon that of Sir William Jones. It has been adopted by the Supreme Government, in legislation, in maps by the Superintendent of the Great Trigonometrical Survey, in the Post Office Guides in the Telegraph Department, in the almanacs, and by several newspapers, as well as by the Punjab and Bombay Governments. It is thus making its way to general use. It has always been the system in use by the Asiatic and other learned Societies. Its adoption for the new Gazetteers has received the sanction of the Secretary of State in Council. It is, therefore, adhered to as closely as possible in the present statement.*

An attempt has been made to illustrate some of the subjects by the use of a map of India of convenient size repeated as often as may be required, according to the subject to be illustrated. A forest map shows the reserved and unreserved forests and the plantations, as well as the localities where the principal timber trees grow. One map, to illustrate the irrigation section, is tinted so as to show the amount of rainfall over the various zones, and the irrigation works themselves are shown on three maps on a larger scale. The map showing communications gives the lines of railway and electric telegraph, the different harbours and the light-houses. Another map gives the political boundaries of native and border states, and another shows the distribution of troops. Plans showing Karachi Harbour, the Pamban Passage, and Calcutta and Bombay Harbour defences, are also given. The Trigonometrical and the Geological Surveys of India are also illustrated.

CLEMENTS R. MARKHAM.

*Dr. Hunter's rules are as follows:—

- Short *a* (as in the second syllable of *artan*) to be expressed by *a*.
- “ *u* (as in *but*) also to be expressed by *a*.
- Long *a* (as in the first syllable of *artan*) to be expressed by *ā*.
- “ *a* (as in *say*) to be expressed by *e*.
- u* or *oo* (as in *food*) to be expressed by *ū*.
- “ *i* (as in *fit*) to be expressed by *i*.
- i* or *ee* (as in *police* or *meet*) to be expressed by *i*.
- “ *i* (as in *ride*) to be expressed by *ai*.
- ow* or *ou* (as in *crowd* or *cloud*) to be expressed by *au*.

All names which have acquired an absolute fixity of spelling, from historical or popular usage, such as Calcutta, or Bombay, are to be left untouched; except that when such names end in *nagar*, *nagore*, or *nuggur*, the termination *nagar* is to be uniformly used, and *pur* is always to be adhered to in place of *pore* or *poor*.

The rule of the Great Trigonometrical Survey is as follows:—

“ Rules for pronouncing Indian proper names: *a* as a variable sound, as in *woman*, *rural*, *paltry*; *ā* as in *tartan*; *i* as in *clique*; *i* as in *ravine*; *u* as in *bull*; *ū* as in *rural*; *o* as in *note*; *e* as *a* in *say*; *au* as *ou* in *cloud*; *ai* as *i* in *rule*; *g* as in *gong*; *ah* as *ah*; *bazar* as *bazar*. Exceptions to spelling by rule are indicated thus *Calcutta, *Calicut, &c.

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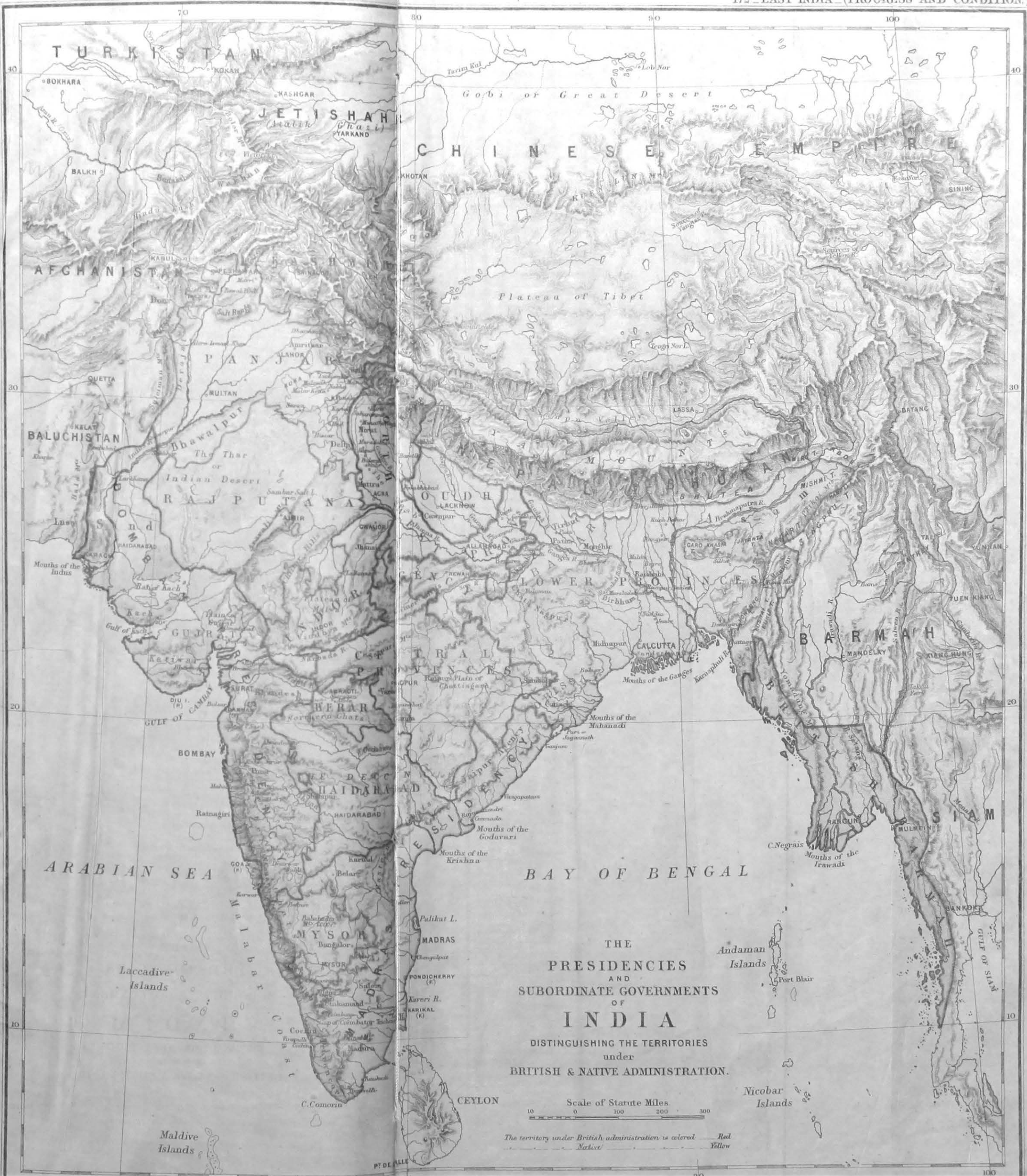
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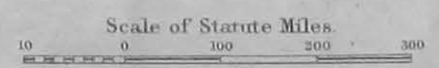
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BAY OF BENGAL

THE PRESIDENCIES AND SUBORDINATE GOVERNMENTS OF INDIA

DISTINGUISHING THE TERRITORIES under BRITISH & NATIVE ADMINISTRATION.



The territory under British administration is colored Red Native Yellow

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