

Dhananjayrao Gadgil Library



GIPE-PUNE-101434

5

SELECTIONS FROM THE RECORDS OF THE BOMBAY
GOVERNMENT.

No. CXLIV.—New Series.

PAPERS

RELATIVE TO THE

REVISION OF THE RATES OF ASSESSMEN

OF THE

KHARAPAT LANDS

OF THE

ALIBA'GH TALUKA.

Bombay:

PRINTED AT THE GOVERNMENT CENTRAL PRESS.

1874.

X723.23152 ALT

A874

101484

-No. 471 of 1873.

To

THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.

Camp Prántej, 30th January 1873.

SIR,

I have the honour to forward a report by the Superintendent of Survey on the revision of rates in Kharapat, a narrow tract lying on the west bank of the Nagotna Creek, containing 56 villages, 27 only of which are inhabited, owing to the impossibility of getting water.

2. The rates in force in this tract were settled with some discretion in 1852, and the people have prospered during the term of settlement to judge from the tables annexed to the report. The population has increased 32 per cent. to 9,200, and live stock from 446 to 2,390, which is certainly a very assuring sign of agricultural prosperity. The mode of tillage does not require the use of ploughs, and, from the number of creeks which intersect the tract, water-carriage is much more in use than land-carriage in carts. Alibágh is the market town, twelve miles distant, but produce is generally sent by water to Bombay or Nagotna. The only product is rice of two kinds, white and red.

3. The present assessment provides for four classes of land, the rates rising from Rs. 2 to Rs. 3 the acre. The total assessment is Rs. 27,650. All the available land is under cultivation; and the ease with which the people meet the present demand can be seen from the fact, that in the last ten years the total remissions came to Rs. 75 only.

4. The proposed assessment follows the settlement of the Uran Petta of the Tanna District, which is not far off. It varies from Rs. 3 to Rs. 5, and raises the total assessment from Rs. 27,650 to Rs. 38,655. This is, if anything, a low assessment, when it is considered that the price of rice, which is the only product, has trebled in the last fifteen years; but I concur in the remarks of the Superintendent, that from the very precarious nature of the cultivation, and the liability to inundations, and the irruptions of the sea, it is about as high as the assessment ought to be raised at

I R M

present. And, besides, these villages form a part of the Alibágh Taluka, the survey guarantee in which will expire for the most part in 1886-87. The guarantee for these villages should not then be for the full term of thirty years, but to expire with the rest of the taluka, when the rates will again come under revision.

5. The case of the village of Rámkotá (paragraph 28) will be commented on when the promised report is received from the Superintendent.

6. I will request the Collector to direct the Local Fund Engineer to inspect the Kharapat, and to devise any possible means of forming a few tanks in central places for the convenience of the people.

7. The Collector concurs in the proposals of the Superintendent.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

L. R. ASHBURNER,
Revenue Commissioner, N. D.

No. 494 of 1872.

To

THE COLLECTOR OF KOLABA.

Sátára, 21st November 1872.

SIR,

I have the honour to submit the following report on the revision of the rates of assessment in 56 villages of the Alibágh Taluka. These villages were surveyed and assessed by Mr. Jones in 1852-53, and the rates then introduced were guaranteed for 20 years; consequently the leases expire at the end of the current year.

2. The district under report, which is styled the "Kharapat" is a long, narrow strip of country, lying between the Nagotna Creek and the range of hills which runs from north to south through the Alibágh Taluka. It extends from the sea, facing the harbour of Bombay on the north, to the Sambri Khind on the south, its length being about 17 miles, and the breadth varying from about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles in the broadest part to $\frac{1}{4}$ mile in the narrowest.

3. The "Kharapat" is a large reclamation, which has been gradually recovered from the sea during the last 300 years, and a considerable portion of it is some three or four feet below the level of the sea during the spring tides. It is entirely devoid of trees, except near the village sites in the inland side. The climate during the greater part of the year is much the same as that of the rest of Kolaba, but in the hot weather the temperature is much higher, owing to the range of hills in the west, which intercepts the sea breeze. The average rainfall for the last 14 years is 71.4 inches per annum.

4. There is no great variety of soil in the district. Near the creeks it is mostly of a very dark brown colour, and is extremely hard when dry. It is strongly impregnated with salt, and, in some places, a considerable admixture of limestone is found. Below the soil is a stratum of mud, which, in many places, is in a semi-liquid state. Near the hills the soil is lighter in colour, more friable, and, from being under the influence of the drainage from the hills, is less impregnated with salt.

5. The only product of the district is rice, of which there are two kinds—white and red. The red rice is an inferior sort, and is grown only in low-lying land near the creek, which is liable to be flooded during the spring tides, and where the soil, from the constant percolation of sea water, is extremely salt. The white rice will only grow in the high-lying lands, which are beyond the influence of the salt water. The difference between the market value of the two kinds is from one to two rupees per candy.

6. The mode of cultivation is entirely different from that pursued in sweet rice lands. The land is never ploughed; but a few clods of earth are turned over here and there with a sort of pickaxe. A portion of the straw is left standing every year, and this, when decomposed by the rain, forms the only manure that is ever applied. The process of burning brushwood in the places used as nurseries for the seedlings before transplantation is not necessary, but the seed is, instead, placed in a heap, and wetted until it begins to germinate. After the soil has been thoroughly softened by the rain the seedlings are scattered on the surface of the mud, and when they have grown up a little those that are crowded are thinned. After this no operations are needed till the crop ripens.

7. The chief labour and expense in cultivating salt rice land is the preparation and repair of embankments. Every field is surrounded by an embankment varying in height from 2 feet to 4 feet, according to its distance from the creek, and this has to be renewed every year and kept in repair during the time the crop

tem as the Deccan survey, and, as far as the measurement goes was very accurate; but the plan of dividing the land into Survey numbers of a convenient and uniform size was not adopted. Instead of this each "Khar" or village was divided into "Khotas, an ancient division of the land, the boundaries of which were well known to the people, and the limits of these Khotas were defined by boundary marks. As, however, some of these Khotas exceeded 100 acres in extent, these boundary marks afforded but little assistance towards the identification of individual holdings, and the practical utility of the Survey was somewhat lessened in consequence.

17. The following description of the system adopted for the classification of the soils is taken from Mr. Jones' settlement report:—"For the purpose of classification, committees were appointed, composed of Karkoons, Koolcurnees, and Patels well acquainted with the nature of the land and the particular modes of cultivation of the different 'khars.' To superintend these committees and test their work were appointed superior committees, composed of the Duftadar and Mamlutdar of the district, assisted by my clerk, Mr. W. Hearn, who made himself useful in this department, as well as in the measurement, in the furtherance of which he was my most active assistant. For the sake of classification the Khars were arranged according to the productiveness in proportion to their extent, ascertained from the average of the last 10 years' annual surveys, thus: the 1st class is composed of those in which 12 pands per beegha and upwards had been recorded as productive—of this class there are 22 khars; the 2nd is composed of 27 khars in which from seven to 12 pands per beegha of the whole extent had been found productive; the 3rd class, composed of four khars, those in which from 4 to 7 pands per beegha had been productive; 4th class, of three khars, where only 4 pands or 1/5th of the superficial extent had been returned as productive."

The soil in each khar was then classified as follows:—

"The first sort of land is that on which sweet rice and the white or best description of salt rice only is grown, owing to the soil being situated at a distance from the salt water and not being liable to inundation (being on a higher level), and to the comparative depth of the salt moisture below the surface; when dry it is soft. The 2nd sort is that in which white rice can occasionally be grown, but which is oftener cultivated with 'Ratale' or red rice owing to its being exposed to salt water, and to the soil having salt near the surface; when dry it is hard and brittle.

"The third is that on which red rice only can be cultivated and is frequently exposed to salt water; has moorum in it, and is hard when dry. The fourth is that which is situated near the

outside embankments, and is constantly being flooded; and, consequently hitherto uncultivated, owing to the outlay that would be necessary to render it productive."

The following is the scale of rates which were imposed on each description of land:—

CLASS.	1st Sort Land.	2nd Sort Land.	3rd Sort Land.	4th Sort Land
	Rs. a.	Rs. a.	Rs. a.	Rs. a.
I ...	3 0	2 8	2 4	1 0
II. ...	2 8	2 4	2 0	1 0
III. ...	2 4	2 0	1 12	1 0
IV. ...	2 0	1 12	1 8	1 0

18. When the survey of the rest of the Alibágh Taluka was made by the Púna and Ratnagiri survey, the measurements of the Kharapat villages were revised and the land divided into Survey numbers, the limits of which were marked in the usual manner with stones. During the present season the classification of the soil in these villages has been revised on the system adopted in other talukas of the Tanna districts. This operation was carried out under the supervision of Mr. Hearn, an officer who has had great experience in this branch of the survey work. The average error in the work was six (6) pies.

19. It will be seen from the accompanying diagram that the total remissions during the 20 years the present rates have been in force amount to Rs. 9,635; of this sum Rs. 7,979 were remitted during the first year of the settlement in consequence of a failure of the crops. During the last 10 years the remissions amounted to 75 only! The area of land paying assessment has varied but little since the last settlement was made, and since the year 1854 the yearly increase or decrease has never exceeded 200 acres.

20. The rates that I now propose are the same as those of the Kharapat villages in the district of Uran, which is situated on the opposite side of the creek forming the eastern boundary of the Alibágh Taluka, viz. Rs. 5 for the 1st class villages, Rs. 4-8 for the 2nd class, and Rs. 4 for the 3rd class. The quality of the soil, style of cultivation, and products of both districts, are alike, and both districts are almost equally well situated as regards distance

present time, none of the land is cultivated : in fact it is covered by the sea at every high tide, and the boundary marks long ago been washed away. The greater part of the village owned by one man, who is, I believe, willing to renew embankment if the land is let to him at a lower rate. As reclamation of this village would greatly benefit the adjoining I think that it would be advisable to let it out to him at a rate ; but before making any proposal as to how much it should I wish to make some further inquiries regarding the probability of the reclamation ; and I propose to report specially on this village after visiting the district this month.

29. A statement contrasting the former with proposed improvements and showing the difference in area and assessment of the village is appended. Among the appendices to this report will be found a statement showing the rainfall of the district for 14 years the price of rice for 20 years, an abstract of the census returns and a coloured map showing the grouping of the villages.

30. In conclusion, I must express my regret that this report was not submitted sooner ; but it was impossible to prepare it till the final examination of the papers had been made, and work has only lately been completed.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

J. GIBSON,

Deputy Superintendent, Ratnagiri Sur

Statement A.

STATEMENT contrasting present and proposed Assess

No.	NAME OF VILLAGE.	Present Assessment, 1872.		Proposed Assessment.						
				Cultivated.		Waste.		Total.	B	
		Acres.	Rupees.	Acres.	Rupees.	Acres.	Rupees.	Acres.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
						a. g.		a. g.		
1	Rajan Khar	260	680	250	955	.....	.....	.....	.....	259
2	Polambe Khar	182	426	195	412	.....	.....	.....	.....	196
3	Jashli	39	105	40	170	.....	.....	.....	.....	40
4	Khat Wira	111	236	112	380	.....	.....	.....	.....	112
6	Kalwad Khan	202	596	209	730	.....	.....	.....	.....	209
6	Bhasgar	3	9	3	11	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
7	Dewiang	10	29	10	41	.....	.....	.....	.....	10
8	Nawkhar Balde	50	105	51	171	.....	.....	.....	.....	51
9	Gonkhar	25	68	29	103	.....	.....	.....	.....	29
10	Khudi	40	94	40	164	0 0	.....	0 0	.....	40 0
11	Morwira	19	41	19	69	.....	.....	.....	.....	19
12	Talbund	117	289	117	420	.....	.....	.....	.....	117
13	Fajari	296	815	303	1,181	.....	.....	5 0	.....	306
14	Shiwahet	2	6	2	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
15	Chari Khar	161	418	164	621	1 0	.....	1 0	.....	165
16	Zhakarwad	41	107	42	140	.....	.....	.....	.....	42
17	Talari	35	96	36	131	.....	.....	.....	.....	36
18	Balde	42	116	48	164	.....	.....	.....	.....	48
19	Tudacha Kota	5	16	6	21	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
20	Balkhar	111	188	118	357	.....	.....	.....	.....	118
21	Lunkota	48	87	48	130	.....	.....	.....	.....	48
	Total Villages 21 ..	1,806	4,462	1,848	6,738	4 9	.....	6 9	.....	1,847-9
1	Mandaw Khar	141	331	142	413	.....	.....	.....	.....	142
2	Phopleri	236	430	237	709	.....	.....	.....	.....	237
3	Durgadaria	12	30	12	37	.....	.....	.....	.....	12
4	Nawkhar	177	496	178	612	.....	.....	.....	.....	178
6	Wagwira	148	342	151	535	.....	.....	.....	.....	151
6	Samori Khar	178	478	178	657	.....	.....	.....	.....	178
7	Simaderi Khar	33	80	35	121	.....	.....	.....	.....	35
8	Chikli Khar	98	238	99	327	.....	.....	.....	.....	99
9	Pikari Khar	216	565	219	805	.....	.....	.....	.....	219
10	Phansapur	154	413	155	521	.....	.....	.....	.....	155
11	Kopri	109	264	109	342	.....	.....	.....	.....	109
12	Kachli	297	712	297	975	3 0	.....	4 0	.....	297
13	Dhruwad	36	88	37	110	3 0	.....	4 0	.....	37
14	Shahbas	978	2,235	989	3,130	5 0	.....	4 0	.....	994
15	Kadwira	92	212	92	299	.....	.....	.....	.....	92
16	Wascham	424	784	425	1,397	.....	.....	.....	.....	425
17	Gawli Kota	24	63	24	79	.....	.....	.....	.....	24
18	Debankon	357	797	357	1,146	.....	.....	.....	.....	357
19	Walwade	38	102	38	124	.....	.....	.....	.....	38
20	Laxmi Prasad	19	37	20	60	.....	.....	.....	.....	20
21	Lehli	113	201	115	360	.....	.....	.....	.....	115
22	Bhahapur	3,501	5,827	3,519	8,938	39 0	.....	54 0	.....	3,558
23	Mede Khar	378	819	379	1,266	3 0	.....	4 0	.....	382
24	Ghaswad	30	84	31	102	.....	.....	.....	.....	31
25	Khopan	294	664	295	911	.....	.....	.....	.....	295
26	Gopchari	109	353	109	335	.....	.....	.....	.....	109
27	Mikalkhar	136	328	136	535	.....	.....	.....	.....	136
	Total Villages 27 ..	7,388	16,967	7,565	23,968	43 0	.....	70 0	.....	7,648
1	Bajankhar Dawli	65	106	67	138	9 0	.....	12 0	.....	76
2	Bamkoka	84	84	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
3	Mankole	190	2,178	194	2,223	.....	.....	.....	.....	194
4	Haswira	1,226	2,178	1,243	3,298	58 0	.....	72 0	.....	1,271
5	Senkoka	278	922	300	788	62 0	.....	77 0	.....	300
6	Dheran	264	735	264	980	.....	.....	.....	.....	264
7	Juse Gawli	37	121	41	96	.....	.....	.....	.....	41
8	Juse Bapuji	93	140	95	195	.....	.....	.....	.....	95
	Total Villages 8 ..	2,987	6,221	2,914	7,718	130	.....	161	.....	3,043
26	Grand Total	12,120	27,650	12,229	36,416	184 9	.....	297 9	.....	12,428-9

STATEMENT contrasting present and proposed Assessment

No.	NAME OF VILLAGE.	Present Assessment, 1872.		Proposed Assessment.						
				Cultivated.		Waste.		Total.		
		Acres.	Rupees.	Acres.	Rupees.	Acres.	Rupees.	Acres.	Rupees.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
1	Rajan Khar	260	630	259	655				655	
2	Podembo Khar	108	428	106	712				712	
3	Jaishi	39	105	40	170				170	
4	Khat Wira	111	236	112	280				280	
5	Kalwod Khan	202	566	209	780				780	
6	Bhangar	3	9	3	11				11	
7	Dewlang	10	29	10	41				41	
8	Nawkhar Balde	69	103	61	171				171	
9	Gaonkhar	26	68	29	108				108	
10	Khidki	40	94	40	184	0	0		40	164
11	Korwira	19	41	19	89				19	69
12	Talband	117	293	117	420				117	429
13	Pejari	296	815	303	1,181	3	5		306	1,186
14	Shiwahet	2	5	2	5				2	5
15	Chari Khar	161	164	164	621	1	0		165	623
16	Bakarwad	41	107	42	140				42	140
17	Talani	35	65	36	131				36	131
18	Balde	42	116	48	184				48	184
19	Tadacha Kota	5	15	6	21				6	21
20	Bekhar	111	183	113	357				113	357
21	Loukota	48	67	45	130				45	130
Total Villages 21 ..		1,805	4,462	1,843	6,732	4	9	1,847	6,738	9
1	Mandow Khar	141	331	142	412				142	412
2	Phopheri	236	490	237	703				237	703
3	Durgadaria	12	30	13	27				13	27
4	Nawkhar	177	496	178	612				178	612
5	Wagwira	148	349	151	535				151	535
6	Sambri Khar	178	478	178	597				178	597
7	Simdori Khar	38	89	35	121				35	121
8	Chikhi Khar	98	238	99	327				99	327
9	Pitkari Khar	246	585	249	805				249	805
10	Phanspoor	154	418	155	821				155	821
11	Kopri	109	264	109	342				109	342
12	Kachit	297	712	297	975	3	4		300	979
13	Dhuwad	38	88	37	110	3	4		40	114
14	Shahba	978	2,235	989	3,139	5	4		994	3,134
15	Radwira	82	212	82	289				82	289
16	Waghran	424	784	425	1,397				425	1,397
17	Gawli Kota	24	63	24	79				24	79
18	Dohankon	357	797	357	1,146				357	1,146
19	Waiwade	83	192	85	274				85	274
20	Luxmi Frusad	19	37	20	60				20	60
21	Lebli	113	201	115	369				115	369
22	Shahapur	2,501	5,827	2,519	8,096	30	0		3,558	8,149
23	Mede Khar	373	819	379	1,205	3	4		382	1,210
24	Ghawsad	39	84	31	102				31	102
25	Khopan	384	664	391	911				391	911
26	Gopchari	109	231	109	335				109	335
27	Milkatkar	138	289	288	638				288	638
Total Villages 27 ..		7,338	16,967	7,565	23,965	33	70	7,548	24,038	9
1	Rajankhar Dawli	65	105	67	128	9	13		76	140
2	Ramkota	84	84							
3	Ramkule	790	2,178	794	2,233				794	2,233
4	Raswira	1,226	2,178	1,243	3,298	56	78		1,301	3,380
5	Sonkota	278	623	300	783	62	77		362	875
6	Dheran	364	763	364	980				364	980
7	Jeece Gawli	37	121	31	98				31	98
8	Jeece Bapuji	32	140	35	195				35	195
Total Villages 8 ..		3,967	6,221	3,914	7,718	129	161	3,043	7,479	9
Grand Total ..		12,130	27,650	12,388	38,418	186	299	12,883	38,685	9

for 56 Villages in the Kharapat Lands of the Alibagh Taluka.

Decrease.		Increase.		Percentage.				Maximum Rates.	REMARKS:
Acres.	Rupees.	Acres.	Rupees.	Decrease.		Increase.			
				Acres.	Rupees.	Acres.	Rupees.		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
		a. g.	a. g.	a. g.	a. g.	a. g.		Rs. a. p.	
1		375	0 15			40 7			
	2 0	386				1 1			
	1 0	88				3 23			
	1 0	144				0 35			
	7 0	214				8 19			
		2							
		12							
	1 0	06				2 0			
	4 0	40				16 0			
	0 9	70-9				0 22			
		28							5 0 0
		181							
	10 0	371				8 15			
		1							
	4 0	206				2 10			
	1 0	38				2 18			
	1 0	36				1 54			
	6 0	48				14 11			
	1 0	6				30 0			
	2 0	109				1 22			
	2 0	73				4 20			
1	48 9	2,375-0							
	1 0	81				0 28			
	1 0	313				0 17			
	1 0	116			0 30	8 13			
	0 0	123				0 23			
		89	137			5 24			
	2 0	41				6 2			
	3 0	89				2 5			
	3 0	240				1 9			
	1 0	103				0 26			
		75							
	3 0	267				1 0			
	3 0	36				5 11			
	15 15	890				1 26			4 5 0
		71							
	1 0	613				0 9			
		16							
		249							
	2 0	83				2 16			
	1 0	28				5 11			
	3 0	120				1 21			
	57 0	2,312				2 11			
	4 0	391				1 3			
	1 0	18				3 13			
		241				0 14			
		104							
	158 9	247				111 21			
3	2	263	7,074						
84	211 8	35				16 37	33 5		Entirely covered by sea at high tide.
	4 0	85				0 30	2 8		
	75 0	1,182				0 5	54 4		
	54 0	353				20 9	40 11		
		167					25 9		
	26 14 0				20 11	27 14	20 4		
	3 0	53				2 6			
84	109	190	11,787						
88	112	496 9	11,217-8						

B.

STATEMENT showing the Commutation Rates, per Candy,
for Rice in the Kolaba Collectorate during last 20 Years.

YEAR.	KHARAFAT RICE LAND.			
	White Rice.		Red Rice.	
	Taluka Oonderea.	Taluka Rewdunda.	Taluka Oonderea.	Taluka Rewdunda.
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
1852-53	9 8 0	10 8 0	8 8 0	9 0 0
1853-54	12 8 0	12 0 0	12 0 0	11 0 0
1854-55	10 0 0	10 0 0	9 0 0	9 0 0
1855-56	14 0 0	14 0 0	13 0 0	13 0 0
1856-57	14 0 0	14 0 0	13 0 0	13 0 0
1857-58	16 0 0	16 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0
1858-59	18 0 0	18 0 0	17 0 0	17 0 0
1859-60	23 0 0	27 0 0	22 0 0	24 0 0
1860-61	22 0 0	22 0 0	21 0 0	21 0 0
1861-62	22 0 0	...	21 0 0	...
1862-63	22 0 0	...	21 0 0	...
1863-64	31 0 0	...	30 0 0	...
1864-65	36 0 0	...	35 0 0	...
1865-66	29 0 0	...	28 0 0	...
1866-67	29 0 0	...	28 0 0	...
1867-68	24 0 0	...	23 0 0	...
1868-69	26 0 0	...	25 0 0	...
1869-70	23 0 0	...	23 0 0	...
1870-71	26 0 0	...	25 0 0	...
1871-72	27 0 0	...	25 0 0	...

In 1861-62 the two Talukas were made into one (Alibagh).

C.

STATEMENT showing the Rainfall in Alibagh from the
Year 1859 to 1872.

Year.	Inch.	Cent.	REMARKS.
1859	79	44	
1860	87	98	
1861	96	85	
1862	79	97	
1863	74	18	
1864	59	24	
1865	74	94	
1866	77	57	
1867	68	33	
1868	56	89	
1869	82	12	
1870	66	18	
1871	33	18	
1872	57	75	Up to 1st September.
Average of 14 years	71	4	

STATEMENT comparing the results of the Old and new Census.

District.	No. of Villages.	Year.	POPULATION.			HOUSES.				LIVE STOCK.						TOTAL.			
			Males.	Females.	Total.	Thatched.	Chupper.	Chorries.	Total.	Wells.	Carts.	Ploughs.	Horses.	Cows.	Buffaloes, Mich.		Goats.	Cats and Poultry, Ovens and Bunkers.	
Taluka Ailbigh	66	1872..	4,577	4,925	9,502	48	1,074	7	1,714	35	8	128	3	808	1,143	105	583	2,990	
		1862..	3,615	3,423	6,948	9	1,444	...	1,458	23	9	160	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	446
		Increase ..	1,962	1,502	2,554	39	330	7	256	12	1,944
		Decrease	62

NOTE.—In the returns of the former Census the details of live stock are not given.

11
CT

STATISTICAL TABLE No. III.

DETAILS OF CULTIVATION IN A.D. 1872.

District.	Surveyed Villages.	Crops.	Percentage of total cultivation of Government and Inam Lands.		
			Total.	Khuroof.	Bubbee.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Taluka Ailbigh.....	Khalat 66	Rice.	100	100	.....

STATISTICAL TABLE No. IV.

DETAIL OF POPULATION.

TALUKA.	CASTE.	MALES.		Total Males.	FEMALES.		Total Females.	Total of Columns V. and VIII.	CAN READ.			
		Under 15 years of age.	Above 15 years of age.		Under 15 years of age.	Above 15 years of age.			MALES.		FEMALES.	
		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	No.	Per Cent.	No.	Per Cent.
Alibagh	Christians	2	2	4	3	2	5	9	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Jews .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Jains .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Lingayets	36	52	88	29	50	79	167	4	4½	.....	.....
	Mussalmans	21	56	77	16	30	46	123	61	79	.....	.....
	Hindoo { Brahmins	1,823	2,573	4,396	1,856	2,632	4,488	8,884	213	5	.....	.....
	Others { Low Castes	6	7	12	2	3	5	17	3	25	.....	.....
		1,887	2,690	4,577	1,906	2,717	4,623	9,200	281	.....	.....	.....

STATISTICAL TABLE No. V.

OCCUPATIONS OF THE PEOPLE.

DISTRICT.	Surveyed Villages.	Occupations.	Number.
1	2	3	4
Taluka Alibagh	Khalesat 56	{ Agricultural	3,908
		{ Partly Agricultural	93
		{ Non-Agricultural	5,199

STATISTICAL TABLE NO. VI.

RETURN OF HOUSES, CHOWRIES, WELLS, &c., AND OF LIVE AND DEAD STOCK.

DISTRICT.	Surveyed Villages.	Houses.					Wells.					Cuts and Ponglas.		Live Stock.													
		Chowries.	That.	Fut-roofed.	Thatched.	Total.	For Irrigation.					Cuts.	Ponglas.	Horses and Ponies.			Female Buffaloes.			Cows.		Cattle and Ponies taken & Buffaloes.	Sheep, old and young.	Goats, old and young.	Donkeys, old and young.	Mules.	Camels.
							For Irrigation.	Drinking.	Out of repair.	Total.	Old.			Young.	Total.	Old.	Young.	Total.	Old.	Young.	Total.						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Tajuka Alibagh.	Government Es.....	7	23	..	1,574	1,714	7	15	13	26	8	128	1	1	2	628	530	1,143	124	884	608	..	..	105	..	..	..
	Alienated, partially or wholly.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

* Five built out of Local Funds. Two built by private individuals.

Classification Test Statement.

NAME OF ASSISTANT.	No. of Fields tested.	RESULTS.																REMARKS.
		ERRORS WITHIN.																
		a.	p.	a.	p.	a.	p.	a.	p.	a.	p.	a.	p.	a.	p.	a.	p.	
Mr. E. Hearn	1,714	678	400	499	116	19	2	...	...	1							

J. GIBSON,
Deputy Superintendent, Ratnagiri Survey.

No. 850 of 1853.

To

E. G. FAWCETT, ESQUIRE,

Revenue Commissioner, N. D.

*Agent's Office, Alibagh,
13th December 1851.*

SIR,

I have the honour to make the following report on the survey of the Salt Rice tract of Kolába, undertaken under the sanction of Government in Mr. Acting Secretary Courtney's letter dated 9th October 1848, No. 6100.

2. The salt water in the Nagotna Creek, which at high tide every spring is between two and three feet above the level of the whole tract, is banked out by mud embankments, extending round the edge of each "khar." Before the land was thus recovered from the sea, the creek must have inundated the whole country between Poenar and Penn.

3. The work of embanking appears to have commenced on the southern side towards Sambree, where the narrowness of ground between the hills and the creek made it comparatively an easy business; from thence it extended northward, each new "khar" being added on to the one previously completed. The exact dates of any of these gradual improvements are not known.

4. There are many customs peculiar to the people that reside in these "khars," arising from the peculiarity of the locality; such, for instance, as the manner of division of labour in making mud embankments, and payment of labour by spirits, to be consumed on the spot while at work, instead of regular wages; the various modes of responsibility of each landholder to keep his embaakments in repair, the necessity for parties to be on the look out for accidents to the embankments on spring-tide nights, &c. On establishing a new system of assessment, there are many of these old customs which should be retained, as they are suitable to the circumstances of the people, and it would be no easy matter to substitute any thing better in their stead.

5. The assessment on this description of land was, with few exceptions, taken every where in kind by the late State; the number of different rates was very great, and the trouble thereby occasioned

Old mode of assessment.

The dotted lines in the above diagram serve also to show the average amount of the old as compared with that of the new rates of assessment, which, though lower, will not fluctuate in the same manner: for there are two causes constantly at work to create the inequality, *viz.*, the variation in the commutation rates for grain rental, and the system of annual surveys of crops, both of which will be removed by the introduction of a moderate money assessment on the land.

7. The measurement of the land was managed by a number of young men who had been in the Deccan New Measurement. Survey, assisted by others who had qualified themselves here: the instruments used were the common cross-staff and 33 feet iron chain of 16 links: every day's work was carefully protracted, and every division entered in the field book was put down to a scale of 5 chains to the inch. The carkoons thus employed were forty-five in number, and they were superintended by two superiors or Sir Ameens, whose duty it was to keep the others to their business, to prevent carelessness, and to supervise the measurement by testing a portion, *i.e.*, $\frac{1}{8}$ th of each man's work.

8. Independently of the opposition to the mode of measurement by cross-staff and chain made by the natives, which delayed the business a whole Causes of delay. year, the nature of the land-holding system has done much towards retarding the completion of the survey beyond the time required, under ordinary circumstances, to measure barely twelve thousand acres of land. In the first place, operations could not commence before the end of December; and in the next, the very small portions into which the proprietorship of the land is subdivided has rendered necessary separate measurements of each of these; had it been otherwise, the surface is so level that it would have been easy for the surveyors to measure large pieces at the same time, and thereby lessen the labour by one-half at the very least. I found it impossible to avoid these minute measurements, and only adopted them because I was satisfied the survey would have been useless without them.

9. The next divisions of this land, after the separate fields, are called "kothass," and there are from Maps. 1 to 52 of these in each khar. I have, therefore, had duplicate maps made on the same scale as the field books of each "kotha." Of these, one copy is for the use of the tultatee, and the other to be kept in the district kutchery. Besides these, a map of each khar, showing only the "kotha" subdivisions, has been made on a scale of 20 chains to the inch, and another of the whole "kharapat" on a scale of 40 chains to the inch to accompany this report.

10. The whole area of the salt rice tract, according to the records, is 13,000 beegas; and the following table will show the difference between the old amount and that found on measurement. The comparison has been made easy by the facility with which beegas may be converted into acres, and *vice versa*, the puckha beega of 25 pands being equal to an acre, within so small a fraction as to make the difference immaterial:—

Beegas of 20 pands.	Equivalent in beegas of 25 pands.	Acres by measurement.	Difference in beegas of 25 pands.		Remarks.
			More.	Less.	
13,000	10,400	11,977½	1,577½	.....	This is the difference, not in the measurement, but in the actual quantity of land.

11. After the measurement, the classification of the soil was the most important part of the whole: For this purpose committees were appointed, composed of carkoons, koolkurnees, and patels, well acquainted with the nature of the land and the peculiar modes of cultivation of the different khars. To superintend these committees and test their work, were appointed superior committees, composed of the duffurdar and the mamedar of the district, assisted by my clerk, Mr. W. Hearn, who made himself useful in this department, as well as in the measurement; in the furtherance of which he was my most active assistant.

12. For the sake of classification, the khars were arranged, according to their productiveness, in proportion to their extent, ascertained from the average of the last ten years' annual surveys. Thus the—

1st class is composed of those in which 12 pands per^a beega and upwards had been recorded as productive: of this class there are twenty-two khars.

2nd class is composed of twenty-seven khars, in which from seven to twelve pands per beega of the whole extent had been found productive.

3rd, of four khars, those in which from four to seven pands per beega had been productive.

4th, of three khars, were only four pands, or one-fifth of the superficial extent had been returned as productive.

13. The rates proposed to be introduced on the acre are as follows. They should be guaranteed to remain 20 years at least unaltered :—

Class.	1st sort, i.e., "A wal."	2nd sort, i.e., "Dhoom."	3rd sort, i.e., "Seemh."	4th sort, i.e., "Char Seemh."
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
1st	3 0 0	2 8 0	2 4 0	1 0 0
2nd	2 8 0	2 4 0	2 0 0	1 0 0
3rd	2 4 0	2 0 0	1 12 0	1 0 0
4th	2 0 0	1 12 0	1 8 0	1 0 0

Of the above it will be observed that there are only seven different rates, although there are nominally sixteen varieties of soil. The first sort of land is that on which sweet rice, and the white or best description of salt rice only, is grown, owing to the soil being situated at a distance from the salt water, and not being liable to inundation (being on a higher level), and to the comparative depth of the salt moisture below the surface. When dry it is soft.

The second is that on which white rice can occasionally be grown, but which is oftener cultivated with "ratah," or red rice, owing to its being exposed to salt water, and to the soil having salt near the surface. When dry it is hard and brittle.

The third is that on which red rice only can be cultivated, and is frequently exposed to salt water, has "morum" in it, and is hard when dry.

The fourth is that which is situated near the outside embankments, and is constantly being flooded, and, consequently, hitherto uncultivated, owing to the outlay that would be necessary to render it productive. The rate is, therefore, the same to whatever class the rest of the khar may belong.

14. The following table is framed from the actual measurements, to show the manner in which the different rates are apportioned throughout to each of the four classes of khars, according to the varieties of soil found in them :—

Statement.

and Classification.						Comparison with average of last 10 years.			Remarks.
3rd sort Land.		4th sort Land.		Total.		Average of Rent from 1890-41 to 1848-80.	Less.	More.	
Extent in Acres.	Amount of Rent at Rs. 2-4-0 per Acre.	Extent in Acres.	Amount of Rent at Rs. 1 per Acre.	Of Band.	Of Rent.				
11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.
98 20	221 10 0	28 20	28 8 0	767 20	2,170 12 0	2,459 8 4	288 12 4	....
18 80	20 15 0	8 0	8 0 0	299 0	811 5 0	1,058 15 7	247 10 7	....
91 20	48 6 0	1 0	1 0 0	193 10	540 6 0	709 6 10	162 10 10	....
17 80	39 15 0	0 28	0 8 0	176 20	483 1 0	626 3 5	183 2 5	....
16 10	43 5 0	2 10	2 4 0	162 20	439 11 0	742 0 11	302 5 11	....
22 20	50 10 0	8 0	6 0 0	154 20	407 10 0	628 7 3	117 13 3	....
10 0	42 12 0	2 10	2 4 0	147 20	404 0 0	562 14 1	155 14 1	....
56 20	127 11 0	....	....	102 20	377 9 0	260 11 8	99 2 8	....
8 20	10 11 0	7 20	7 12 0	93 20	242 7 0	268 5 9	126 14 9	....
28 20	42 7 0	5 20	5 8 0	177 0	458 9 0	220 7 4	....	178 1 10	
10 20	22 10 0	1 0	1 0 0	82 20	229 8 0	268 4 1	105 14 1	....
2 20	7 12 0	....	....	86 20	99 2 0	170 12 8	71 11 8	....
1 20	3 8 0	0 5	0 2 0	26 20	101 6 0	121 9 8	20 3 8	....
1 20	3 6 0	0 20	0 12 0	41 20	114 0 0	122 5 9	12 5 9	....
3 0	6 12 0	....	....	25 10	94 4 0	110 5 0	16 1 0	....
4 20	10 2 0	0 2	0 2 0	20 25	84 2 9	122 7 10	22 2 10	....
5 10	7 8 0	0 20	0 8 0	25 10	88 11 0	74 7 7	5 12 7	....
5 0	11 4 0	....	....	22 0	62 10 0	8 8 14	25 4 0	....
0 10	9 0	....	....	10 0	22 5 0	24 4 2	24 12 2	....
0 5	4 0	....	....	5 5	14 14 6	10 10 11	....	4 3 7	
..	....	....	....	2 20	8 14 0	7 12 3	9 12 2	....
..	....	....	....	1 20	4 8 0	8 2 10	2 11 10	....
324 26	752 14 6	54 10	24 4 0	2,669 0	7,122 8 4	6,824 4 9	1,292 1 6	162 5 2	

The three Nos. 1 and 2 were brought under the 1st class because of their containing a large extent of land laid out in salt pans, and which materially lessen the proportion that the productive rice land bears to the whole extent.

1	2	3	Average land in books for the last 10 years.			By new Measurement and			
			4	5	6	1st sort Land.		2nd sort Land.	
						7	8	9	10
No. of Khar.	Number in order of extent.	Names of Khars.	Total Bega.	Productive and rent-paying land, Bega.	Proportion of Culturable land in Pands to the Bega.	Extent in Acres.	Amount of Rent at Rs. 3-0 per Acre.	Extent in Acres.	Amount of Rent at Rs. 2-0 per Acre.
II.	1	Shahpoor ..	2,409 6½	1,087 7	9	1,619 20	4,049 6 0	395 20	889 14 0
	2	Shahbahj ..	948 3½	607 7½	10½	669 20	1,881 14 0	151 0	339 15 0
	3	Sono Kotha ..	418 19	162 19½	7½	171 ..	477 8 0	88 0	88 8 0
	4	Meidhe Khar ..	385 6½	166 9½	8½	149 10	378 2 0	66 10	146 13 0
	5	Dahankee ..	368 11	174 14½	9½	106 20	266 4 0	156 0	348 13 0
	6	Dherund ..	339 19½	163 16½	10	178 20	446 14 0	78 20	177 8 0
	7	Kachlee ..	309 10	159 10½	10½	199 10	498 2 0	41 20	98 6 0
	8	Khopnai ..	285 14½	141 9	10	152 20	381 4 0	97 20	219 16 0
	9	Ransunkhar ..	278 15½	136 ½	10	77 10	193 2 0	130 20	294 3 0
	10	Phopkare ..	249 2	89 10	7½	68 20	171 14 0	63 10	119 18 0
	11	Fiskeere ..	248 2	104 12½	8½	111 20	278 13 0	108 0	231 12 0
	12	Pedhambel ..	203 16½	91 16	9	61 20	154 6 0	33 10	185 1 0
	13	Mandho Khar ..	169 17½	66 19½	17½	64 ..	136 0 0	48 10	97 5 0
	14	Waghveera ..	145 2½	88 7½	13	84 20	211 4 0	40 20	91 3 0
	15	Khatveera ..	114 16½	49 2½	2½	32 10	80 10 0	29 10	65 13 0
	16	Gophoree ..	110 11½	63 8½	9½	16 20	41 14 0	43 20	97 14 0
	17	Kandveera ..	100 5	46 2	2½	44 20	111 14 0	34 20	78 3 0
	18	Wallowdai ..	89 9½	53 14½	13	32 20	81 4 0	34 0	76 8 0
	19	Khidke ..	58 12½	30 6½	10½	23 ..	67 8 0	11 20	26 14 0
	20	Nowkhar Rindai ..	48 7½	21 16½	9	13 ..	32 8 0	16 20	37 2 0
	21	Ransur Khar Dawee ..	48 19	26 17½	12	17 10	43 3 0	14 20	33 10 0
	22	Dhoowad ..	40 3	23 17½	13	24 10	60 10 0	8 20	19 2 0
	23	Shims Dawee ..	39 0	14 16	7½	13 10	33 2 0	13 20	30 15 0
	24	Zawee Gowlee ..	19 8½	11 2½	14½	12 10	30 10 0	20 20	46 2 0
	25	Moodveera ..	18 17½	9 17½	9½	3 ..	7 8 0	6 20	14 10 0
	26	Luxmee Prusad ..	17 10½	6 11½	7½	.....	.....	9 0	20 4 0
	27	Doorg Duria ..	8 19½	6 2½	11½	4 ..	10 0 0	1 30	3 15 0
		Total ..	7,843 4½	3,486 10½	....	3,823 20	9,558 6 0	1,710 20	3,699 7 0

Classification.						Comparison with average of last 15 years.			REMARKS.
3rd sort Land.		4th sort Land.		Total.		Average of Rent from 1840-41 to 1849-50.	Less.	More.	
Extent in Acres.	Amount of Rent at Rs. 2 per Acre.	Extent in Acres.	Amount of Rent at Rs. 1 per Acre.	Of Land.	Of Rent.				
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
220 30	648 8 0	48 0	48 0 0	2,388 0	5,841 19 0	6,157 0 9	515 4 9	....
178 10	848 8 0	88 0	88 0 0	918 0	2,104 9 0	2,779 2 8	675 0 8	....
24 20	69 0 0	80 20	80 8 0	294 0	639 8 0	884 11 5	263 3 5	....
20 90	41 0 0	17 0	17 0 0	259 0	577 15 0	801 15 4	284 0 4	....
86 0	168 0 0	9 0	9 0 0	854 30	792 0 0	867 0 8	65 0 8	....
69 10	104 8 0	27 0	27 8 0	886 30	785 9 0	927 12 7	172 3 7	....
27 10	74 8 0	2 20	2 8 0	280 30	668 8 0	852 14 1	184 6 1	....
21 90	48 0 0	4 0	4 0 0	275 30	648 3 0	742 14 10	94 11 10	....
31 10	68 8 0	3 0	3 0 0	243 10	669 13 0	783 8 8	338 11 8	....
68 90	171 0 0	18 10	18 4 0	229 30	477 16 0	584 4 1	86 5 1	....
17 26	35 4 0	7 80	7 12 0	230 35	563 8 0	603 5 9	49 13 9	....
30 0	60 0 0	7 10	7 4 0	181 10	408 11 0	538 2 10	170 13 10	....
17 30	35 0 0	19 30	18 12 0	197 30	280 1 0	338 9 8	88 8 8	....
18 0	30 0 0	2 0	2 0 0	148 0	334 6 0	465 2 6	180 13 6	....
86 10	70 8 0	10 30	10 12 0	107 20	227 11 0	289 7 2	4 12 3	....
44 10	68 8 0	3 0	3 0 0	102 30	221 4 0	289 0 0	57 13 0	....
6 10	12 8 0	2 30	2 12 0	88 20	205 5 0	263 1 9	47 12 9	....
17 10	34 8 0	1 0	1 0 0	84 30	193 4 0	288 8 10	96 5 10	....
1 10	2 8 0	2 0	2 0 0	37 30	87 14 0	168 12 0	70 15 0	....
13 90	25 8 0	3 20	3 12 0	46 0	98 14 0	119 12 1	20 15 1	....
2 20	7 8 0	0 10	0 4 0	35 30	83 8 0	26 10 11	....	66 12 1	
2 20	11 0 0	2 20	2 8 0	40 30	93 4 0	130 16 11	27 11 11	....
2 0	4 0 0	0 10	0 4 0	20 10	86 5 0	21 8 6	....	46 14 4	
7 10	12 8 0	....	....	40 0	91 16 8	20 2 2	....	61 1 9	
8 30	17 0 0	....	....	19 0	38 2 0	34 2 2	....	4 15 10	
7 0	14 0 0	1 20	1 8 0	17 30	26 12 0	25 3 7	....	0 6 5	
....	....	1 0	1 0 0	6 30	14 12 6	24 1 2	19 2 2	....
1,100 36	3,201 12 0	265 20	266 12 0	6,910	15,686 5 0	18,289 8 7	2,294 7 0	176 2 2	

Half annu.

No. of Khar.	Number in order of extent.	Name of Khara.	Average land in books for the last 10 years.			By new Measurement			
			Total Bhegs.	Production and rent paying Land, Bhegs.	Production of Opium & to Column 4 in Part 2 to the Bhegs.	1st sort Land.		2nd sort Land.	
						Extent in Acres.	Amount of Rent at Rs. 2-0-0 per Acre.	Extent in Acres.	Amount of Rent at Rs. 2-0-0 per Acre.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
III.	1	Haahweera	1,629 15	517 8	6½	161 10	363 13 0	441 30	863 8 0
	2	Waghraun... ..	400 16½	129 16½	6½	115 0	258 12 0	161 10	323 8 0
	3	Laibhee	129 4½	44 4½	6½	11 10	25 5 0	54 20	109 0 0
	4	Balkhara... ..	122 16	38 5½	6½	27 30	61 14 0	18 0	* 36 0 0
		Total	2,282 10½	729 15	....	315 0	708 12 0	676 20	1,351 0 0

					By new Measurement			
					1st sort Land.		2nd sort Land.	
					Extent in Acres.	Amount of Rent at Rs. 2 per Acre.	Extent in Acres.	Amount of Rent at Rs. 1-12-0 per Acre.
IV.	1	Ram Kota	135 9½	25 10	3½	...	...	...
	2	Zawep Bapoojee	104 9½	15 14½	3	...	38 20	49 14 0
	3	Lone Kota	47 7½	9 11	6½	1 20	3 0 0	12 30 23 5 0
		Total	287 6	50 10½	....	1 20	3 0 0	41 10 73 3 0

- ABSTRACT OF

Number.	Class.								
1st	Class	2,086 16½	1,811 7½	..	1,447 5	4,341 6 0	804 0	2,010 0 0	
2nd	Ditto	7,443 4½	2,486 10½	..	3,223 30	9,569 6 0	1,719 30	3,669 7 0	
3rd	Ditto	2,282 10½	720 15	..	315 0	708 12 0	676 20	1,351 0 0	
4th	Ditto	287 6	50 10½	..	1 20	3 0 0	41 10	73 4 0	
	Total ...	13,000 0	4,078 3½	..	4,987 16	14,612 8 0	3,260 20	7,203 11 0	

The difference between the total here shown and that of acres by measurement is

and Classification.						Comparison with average of last 10 years.				REMARKS.
3rd sort Land.		4th sort Land.		Total.		Average of Rent 1890-91 to 1899-00.	Less.	More.		
Extent in Acres.	Amount of Rent at Rs. 1-12-0 per Acre.	Extent in Acres.	Amount of Rent at Rs. 1-0-0 per Acre.	Of Land.	Of Rent.					
11	19	18	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
880 0	665 0 0	313 10	313 4 0	1,193 10	2,123 9 0	2,388 11 8	263 2 8	....	
69 30	109 6 0	69 30	69 8 0	408 10	760 2 0	745 7 7	....	14 10 5	
28 10	40 11 0	18 30	18 8 0	162 30	188 8 0	306 12 11	17 4 11	....	
36 30	46 6 0	36 30	36 13 0	96 30	188 0 0	223 3 4	84 8 4	....	
492 10	661 7 0	319 0	319 0 0	1,801 30	3,840 3 0	3,560 3 1	334 10 6	14 10 5		

and Classification.									
3rd sort Land.		4th sort Land.							
Extent in Acres.	Amount of Rent at Rs. 1-8-0 per Acre.	Extent in Acres.	Amount of Rent at Rs. 1 per Acre.						
3 0	4 8 0	111 30	111 8 0	114 30	116 0 0	100 9 11	....	15 6 1	
37 30	68 10 0	14 30	14 13 0	81 0	131 4 0	58 7 2	....	65 13 10	
8 30	5 10 0	3 30	3 13 0	21 30	34 11 0	35 10 6	0 15 6	....
44 30	66 13 0	130 0	130 0 0	217 10	271 15 0	191 11 7	0 15 6	81 2 11	

THE ABOVE,

334 30	733 14 3	64 10	64 4 0	2,640 0	7,188 3 6	8,334 4 9	1,568 1 6	123 5 3	
1,100 30	2,301 13 0	265 20	265 12 0	6,910 0	15,096 5 0	18,880 8 7	3,204 7 0	170 3 5	
623 10	861 7 0	319 0	319 0 0	1,801 30	3,360 3 0	3,560 3 1	334 10 6	14 10 5	
44 30	66 11 0	130 0	130 0 0	217 10	271 15 0	191 11 7	0 15 6	81 2 11	
1,872 10	3,883 13 0	739 0	739 0 0	11,880 0	26,606 16 6	31,616 13 6	3,498 2 6	443 6 0	

Differences between (col. 18 and 19) are decrease Rs. 6,043-11-6.

paragraph 19 is the amount of waste land of 4th class, viz., 270 acres and 10 guntas.

15. In some instances the new assessment will be observed to be in excess of the average of the revenue of preceding years : this is owing to the land being held in rent free and Istawa kowls, and the period of exemption extending into the ten years on which the average is calculated.

Observation on state-
ments.

16. Kowlee land, where the rates are high, should, I think, be reduced in rent to the new standard ; and in case of the old rates being under the new, the privilege should only extend to the close of the period mentioned in the documents, after which the land should be assessed according to its classification.

Kowlee land.

17. In introducing these new rates into the district I apprehend no difficulty, since the natives themselves express a desire to have them as soon as possible. There are, however, one or two subjects which suggest themselves to me as worthy of consideration, viz., the hucks of patels and koolkurnees ; the occasional inspection of damaged crops ; field-marks ; exaction of attendance at embankment work ; and appointment of a carcoon to superintend the embankment.

Introduction of new
rates.

18. The hucks of patels should not be reduced in proportion with the assessment ; an average of the actual income enjoyed in each village for ten years should be made, and the emoluments fixed once for all, or calculated at the proportion this average bears to the year's Government revenue.

Hucks of Patels and
Koolkurnees.

19. The koolkurnees are not village accountants, as the name would import, but their duties extend over "tuppas," corresponding with the turuf of deshbandees in the Deccan. Under the late State they had the sole management of the annual settlement of the Jumma-bundy, from the estimating of damaged crops, and calculating each ryot's dues, to the preparation of the general "talebund." The accounts and general records of every village in the division were in their custody ; but they had nothing to do with the actual collection of the revenue. Their hucks are calculated on the net land rent at the rate of half maund per khandee of the Government revenue, or $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. For many years before the lapse of the State, half of the wuttun was under confiscation, and up to the present moment the huck is equally divided between the Government and the koolkurnees. There are two distinct wuttuns in the whole tract lately surveyed, viz., Oonderee in the north, and Shreegaon Tuppa in the south. The duty now exacted from them

Koolkurnees.

is to assist the mamledar's establishment by one carcoon each, paid out of the proceeds of the wuttun, besides sending a man, on the occasion of the annual inspection of damaged crops, to assist the regularly employed carcoons. The present members of the wuttun consider themselves to have been unjustly deprived of their rights by the attachment of half their income, and they are confidently expecting the whole will eventually be conceded to them. In their present state, they are of little use to Government; though, from long being in the possession of all the revenue records of the country, they have still considerable local knowledge and influence. Should the confiscated portion of their huck not be restored to them, I would beg to recommend that whenever the kooikurnees of the division in which a vacancy to a tullateeship occurs can produce a qualified member of their own family, that he be appointed to fill the situation in preference to other candidates.

20. With respect to inspection of damaged crops, the ryots have been led to understand that on the introduction of the new rates they are not to expect annual general surveys, such as they have hitherto been accustomed to; but that rules will be framed for their being relieved from rent in case of total failure of any particular field.

21. In a country where there are no trees and very few stones, it is not easy to have good field-marks; the mud banks of the present fields disappear very soon, if not constantly repaired: every precaution should be taken to ensure the punishment of persons wilfully removing field boundaries, without giving due notice and receiving permission to do so.

22. The ancient custom called here "jolee sheristah" should be kept up, as well as the penalty of a small fine attached to non-attendance at the embankments. The "jolee sheristah" consists in the obligation of every cultivator to attend, personally, at the direction of the patel of the khar or khota, whenever there is occasion for a gang to work at the outer embankments in filling up a gap or making the periodical repairs, receiving for his trouble a small quantity of spirits, to be consumed while at work. The labour is severe, but does not last more than a couple of hours at a time: it consists of forming a line of men standing in mud from the gap or place to be repaired to a spot from twenty to forty yards distant, whence long clods of mud are dug with wooden spades, and passed from man to man in quick succession. The drinking of the spirits is objectionable, but the payment of money would not prevent the custom from continuance. Besides which, the average expense of these operations in Government sillotree khars is 2½ pies per man; whereas, if each were paid

an ordinary man's hire, viz., 2 annas, the expense would be enormous, and the surplus in the hands of the "aguree" would pass into the spirit shop.

23. On the introduction of the new rates, the right to collect the one maund of batty per beega should not be interfered with, except when it is in Government sillotree land. The tax in question is the proprietary right of the sillotree or person who first embanked the land. In almost all the khars the Government rent is paid to Government, and the maund extra to the sillotree, who on his part is bound to pay all expenses of keeping outward embankments and floodgates in proper repair. In Government khars this may be considered to be included in the money rent; but in private khars it will be in excess of the Government assessment, unless it should be considered preferable to give the sillotrees compensation for the loss of the income derived from it, and take the responsibility of the repairs of all the embankments—an arrangement which the sillotrees themselves would not approve of.

24. I think also it would be advisable to have an extra carcoon attached to the mamlutdar's establishment, appointed expressly for the purpose of reporting on the state of the embankments, and enforcing any rules that may be made for their preservation.

25. The sum of Rs. 4,000 sanctioned for the expenses of the survey has all been expended, and about a hundred rupees more are required, chiefly for fixing boundary stones, for which I request the sanction of Government may be obtained.

26. Annexed are specimens of a map of a "khota" and of a "khar," an extract from a "pahanee khurda," or surveyor's book, and of a "koolghudnee," besides the map of the whole "kharapat."

I have, &c.,

E. C. JONES,

Agent at Kolaba.

Camp Dharwar, 14th June 1852.

The Revenue Survey Commissioner has the honour to submit the following remarks on the Survey and Assessment described in the accompanying papers, which he has carefully perused.

2. The land surveyed is a dead flat of salt rice ground, recovered from the sea, and, being perfectly open and free from trees or other obstructions, admitted of being measured and mapped with great facility and accuracy. The only difficulty, or rather source of delay experienced, was the extreme smallness of some of the fields. The survey was conducted according to the mode followed on the Deccan Survey, and a test of the work was taken; when all fields, in which an error of upwards of 5 per cent. was discovered, were again measured. The result of this test is not stated in Mr. Jones's report; but, from the nature of the ground, and the mode in which the Survey was conducted, there seems every reason for relying on the accuracy of the measurement.

3. The entire area of the salt rice grounds surveyed is styled the "kharapat." This is composed of 56 "khars," which are described as portions of land successively wrested from the sea, and surrounded, it would seem, with earthen embankments. The "khars" are again divided into "khotas," and the "khotas" into fields or numbers, which are the lowest sub-divisions recognised by the Survey, and have formed the basis of the operation. The "khotas" have not been made of any particular size, to suit the convenience of the Survey operation, but an ancient division of the "khars" known to the villagers, and, are probably, the original allotments made when it was first recovered from the sea. The Survey numbers are the existing holdings of the ryots within the "khota," and they have also been made into Survey sub-divisions without reference to size.

4. The lasting utility of this Survey will depend on the permanence of these Survey sub-divisions. The "khars" would appear to be enclosed within sea embankments, and, as regards their boundaries, there appears no ground for apprehending any change in future. From the observations in Mr. Jones's 21st paragraph, it would seem that the limits of the "khotas" and enclosed fields are only defined by small embankments, which are liable to disappear. In his 25th paragraph he requests sanction to a small expenditure, chiefly for fixing boundary stones, but he does not explain for what purpose these stones are required; that is to say, whether for the definition of the "khar," "khota," or number, but, probably, the "khota," which resembles the Section No. of Gujarat and Ratnagiri experimental survey operations.

5. The unequal size of the "khota" does not fit it very well for a Survey sub-division. In the map of "Khar Sambree" forwarded with Mr. Jones's report, it will be seen that the "khar" is made up of nine "khotas," of which "Khota Sambree" is more than double the size of all the other "khotas" put together. The whole "khar" contains $162\frac{1}{2}$ acres, and "Khota Sambree" contains at least 110 acres. The Survey numbers contained in this "khota" are probably very numerous, and in consequence of this the mere definition of its limits by boundary marks would not be of material assistance towards the identification of the included numbers; on the other hand, it would occasion confusion to define every minute field by boundary stones; while the expense of doing so in the first instance, and the trouble of examining the marks afterwards, would be great objections to this arrangement. There is an evident advantage in the retention of the "khota," where practicable, as a Survey sub-division, in consequence of its name and limits being known to the villagers; but the plan of operations would, in the Revenue Survey Commissioner's opinion, have been improved by a provision for dividing a "khota" of large size into Survey sections, to be defined by boundary markstones. As the matter stands, however, he is of opinion that the "khota" only should be defined by boundary marks, and that the maps should be trusted to for the identification of the included Survey numbers.

6. The system of classification described in Mr. Jones's 13th paragraph seems well adapted to the lands to which it has been applied; and the Revenue Survey Commissioner submits this opinion, with the more confidence from having been lately engaged with Lieutenant Francis, the Superintendent of the Poona Survey, and afterwards with Lieutenant Kembell, on special duty in Ratnagiri, in considering the best system of classification for rice lands, when they came to the conclusion that the particular kinds of rice grown upon the land were among the best characteristics for determining its class; and they are so used in Mr. Jones's system.

7. For the purpose of adjusting his rates of assessment, Mr. Jones has further divided the "khars" into four classes, with reference to the proportion of land recorded as productive at the annual inspection made in past years. He does not, however, explain why the crops of one "khar" should be more liable to failure than those of another, but the result of these inspections show the fact to be so; and as they are, probably, in the main trustworthy, it was apparently the safest and best plan to make them available for the adjustment of the assessment in the way Mr. Jones has done.

8. The reduction of assessment effected by the settlement is, doubtless, considerable; but not, apparently, beyond what is required to admit of the substitution of a fixed money rate for one in

kind; collected annually at the prices of the day. A rent of the latter description can never become heavier, though a permanent fall in the price of produce, such as has taken place throughout India within the last 30 years; but it is necessarily an extremely onerous one in a season of failure and consequent high price, and this may have been one cause of the plan of annual inspections and division of land into productive and unproductive. But the chief cause was, no doubt, the weight of the assessment itself, which was beyond the fair rent of the land. No doubt, in past years, the policy of the Kolába State was to collect all that could be collected without crippling the power of the ryots to continue their cultivation; but a more liberal standard of assessment is certainly requisite for a settlement that contemplates the entire discontinuance of the annual inspection and the restriction of remissions to cases of unusual hardship.

9. The Revenue Survey Commissioner is of opinion that the settlement generally is entitled to confidence, and might be sanctioned with great advantage for the term of 20 years recommended. The degree of success which may attend it would be an important guide in fixing the rates of similar land at the general Survey now about to be undertaken; and in this point of view, the introduction of the settlement acquires additional importance.

10. Mr. Jones, in paragraph 16, proposes to have Kowlee rates, which are lower than the new rates, on their present footing, till the expiration of the lease, and the Revenue Commissioner concurs in this view; but Captain Wingate thinks it would be preferable it follow the rule laid down for the treatment of Kowlee rates at the introduction of the revised Survey settlements, as sanctioned in 5th paragraph of the Government letter to the address of the Revenue Commissioner, S. D., No. 7214, dated 6th December 1849. The rule is to determine the continuance of the Kowlee rate, or not, with reference to the total assessment paid by the cultivator for his whole holding at the old rates, whether Kowlee or not. Should this assessment exceed the total new assessment on the whole holding, the Kowlee is considered to be abrogated, and the land it refers to pays the full Survey rate. Should the old assessment on the whole holding, however, be less than the new and the difference equal or exceed the difference between the Kowlee and Survey assessment of the Kowlee land, the Kowlee rate is continued on the original terms till the expiration of the lease, or till it becomes equal to the Survey rate; but should the difference be less than above stated, the sum by which it is less is added to the Kowlee rate, which, with this addition, continues as before, until it becomes equal to the full Survey rate, or the lease expires.

11. As the Revenue Commissioner has intimated his intention to call for a separate report on the mode of remunerating patals, it

seems unnecessary to consider in detail Mr. Jones's proposition regarding them, further than to record an opinion that if the hucks of these officers and of the koolkurnees have hitherto fluctuated with the revenue of the year, as they appear to have done, that it would be better to convert them into a percentage on the net revenue than into fixed payments, and that the valuation of hucks should be lower than its former amount in proportion as the new assessment is lower than the former collections.

12. The right of the Tullatee, or person who first embanked a "khar," to collect a maund of rice on each beega, and who, thereby, becomes bound to pay all expenses of keeping outward embankments and floodgates in repair, remarked upon in the 23rd paragraph of Mr. Jones's report, it does not seem expedient to interfere with in any way, unless Government is prepared to undertake the whole charge of the repairs. In the case of Government "khars," Mr. Jones recommends the cess to be given up; but this point might, perhaps with advantage, be reserved for disposal when the rules, or other arrangements that may be made for the maintenance of the embankments in an efficient condition, are finally settled. If the expenses of repairs were made to fall in part at least on the land the villagers would be likely to be more on the alert to prevent injury to the embankments than if the whole were to be borne by Government.

G. WINGATE,
Revenue Survey Commissioner.

No. 5114 of 1852.

TERRITORIAL DEPARTMENT, REVENUE.

To

THE REVENUE SURVEY COMMISSIONER.

Copy of the Resolution passed by Government, under date 31st July 1852, on a report from the Revenue Survey Commissioner, No. 173, dated 14th June 1852, on a communication from the Revenue Commissioner, N. D., No. 1123, dated 7th May 1852, with accompaniment, relative to the Survey of the salt rice land in the Kolába agency.

1. The opinions, observations, and suggestions of Captain Wingate on the subject are correct and, in so far as regards future arrangements, to be acted on. It would appear that there are no natural boundary marks by which the limits of the khotas could have been defined; but it is

Boundary marks, maintenance of—	
Agent's paragraph	21
Revenue Commissioner's paragraph	8
Captain Wingate's paragraph	4 & 5

to be regretted that they were not formed as suggested by Captain Wingate.

2. Captain Wingate is quite correct in recommending that the reservation enjoined in paragraph 5 of Government letter of 6th December 1849, No. 7214, relative to the continuance of the Kowlee assessment, should be acted on. The Revenue Commissioner, when writing his 6th paragraph, should not have overlooked the views of Government as expressed in paragraph 5 of Government letter No. 7214, dated 6th December 1849.

3. The attention of the Revenue Commissioner to be requested to correspondence ending with Government letter of 30th June 1851, No. 6789, and informed that the receipt of the further report, adverted to by him in present paper, as having been called for, will be awaited by Government.

Tullatee's fee for repairing outward embankments—		4. Captain Wingate's views are approved by Government.
Agent's paragraph	23	
Captain Wingate's paragraph	12	

Jolee Sheristhab—		5. As are the opinions of the Revenue Commissioner, N. D., regarding Jolee Sheristhab.
Agent's paragraph	22	
Revenue Commissioner's paragraph	9	

Excess of expenditure to sanction—		6. Payment of Rs. 100 incurred in excess of sanction, authorised.
Agent's paragraph	28	
Revenue Commissioner's paragraph	11	

Extra Carcoon for inspection of boundary marks—		7. Captain Wingate to be requested to give his opinion when he visits the Concan.
Agent's paragraph	24	
Revenue Commissioner's paragraph	10	

Settlement, duration of—		8. Settlement sanctioned for a period of 20 years.
Agent's paragraph	13	
Revenue Commissioner's paragraph	2	
Captain Wingate's paragraph	9	

The promised rules are awaited. In drawing them up, the Acting Agent should attend to the instructions in Government letter of 5th October, No. 3899, 1847, for districts above the Ghaut where survey assessments are being administered.

Remissions on account of failure of crops—		
Agent's paragraph	20	
Captain Wingate's paragraph	8	

9. Maps and registers to be multiplied, and distributed as directed for districts, subject to Revenue Survey operations by paragraph 9 of Government letter dated 4th July 1850, No. 5186.

A. MALET,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Tanna, 18th January 1873.

MEMO.

The accompanying report refers to the re-adjustment of the rates of assessment of 56 villages, forming what is known as the "kharapat," or salt hatty tract of the Alibágh Taluka, in the Kolába Collectorate.

2. A regular survey and classification of the lands of these villages was effected in 1852-53, under the general supervision of the then Agent or Sub-Collector of the Kolába State, Mr. E. C. Jones. A lease of twenty years' duration was given to the rates fixed. This has terminated with the past revenue year, and it is now proposed to re-adjust the rates to the standard upon which lands of the kind have meanwhile been assessed in adjoining districts, and to give a new lease for the unexpired period of the general settlement of the taluka to which the villages belong.

3. As explained by the Deputy Superintendent, a partial revision of Mr. Jones's survey was carried out a few years since. The operation was, however, confined almost entirely to the work of dividing his main survey divisions, made according to khotas,* into regular survey numbers, and erecting boundary marks upon the plan on which the measurement of such tracts had been carried out in the Penn and Uran Districts by the Tanna Survey Department. In doing this, however, the detailed field measurements were examined, and as they were found to be correct no fresh survey is necessary, and the present revision of assessment will be based upon them.

4. The system of classification adopted by Mr. Jones is explained in paragraph 17. The practical carrying out of the plan was entrusted chiefly to punchayets or committees, according to the method of fixing assessment generally adopted by Native governments in former days. The rates were fixed chiefly on the consideration of the state of cultivation in each khar, the highest being imposed in cases where the revenue accounts showed the average annual return to be large in proportion to the total culturable area. The villages were in this way arranged under four main classes, the extent of cultivation being the governing rule by which the class was determined in each case. A great disparity in the rates of adjoining villages, and unequal incidence in many cases, was the result of this system. Thus, for instance, several good khars situated on the western side, which is decidedly the best part of the tract, in which the cultivated area was small at the period, had the lowest-class rate applied to them, and others on the eastern side, border-

* An ancient division of the Khar lands.

ing on the main creeks, and subject to constant inroads of salt water, but which happened to have been well cultivated at the time, were put under the highest rate.

5. But though somewhat defective, when judged of by comparison with the classification system now in force, the settlement has nevertheless been productive of good results, and useful to us as a test for ascertaining how far certain rates can be paid by lands of the kind. We had had no experience whatever in the assessment of such lands at the time Mr. Jones's rates were fixed; and I consider him to be entitled to credit for having introduced the first fixed survey assessment for salt batty lands.

6. We have found it to be impracticable to apply any fixed scale of increase upon the basis of Mr. Jones's assessment, and have accordingly carried out an entire re-classification according to the system on which kharapat lands have been classed by the Tanna Survey Department; and it is proposed that the new rates, as before mentioned, should be assimilated to those in force in adjoining districts.

7. In regard to this, Mr. Gibson explains (paragraph 20) that he proposes to have the same rates as were introduced in the kharapat villages of the Uran Division of the Panwel Taluka, settled in 1868—Rs. 5 being the maximum for his first class, Rs. 4-8-0 for his second, and Rs. 4 for his third, as adopted in that case.

8. In making his grouping for the application of these rates, the Deputy Superintendent has taken the villages situated on the outer belt of the tract, and adjoining the sweet rice lands of the district, for his first class, and those near the creek, exposed to inundations and inroads of salt water, for his third, the intermediate villages being his second. This is the plan upon which the grouping of kharapat villages was generally carried out in the Tanna District, where it has proved to be a good practical way of adjusting the value of such lands.

9. It may be urged, perhaps, that this plan of fixing rates is not in accordance with the Joint Report Rules; but it must be borne in mind, that the chief point which the Settlement Officer has to consider in this case is, that his rates have to be adjusted so as to meet the difference in the expense of cultivation pertaining to the maintenance of embankments in different localities. For it is obvious that the same kind of land will not be so valuable for cultivation, where a large expenditure has to be incurred in the maintenance of embankments, as it is in situations where a smaller outlay will suffice for the purpose. The difference is not suscepti-

ble of adjustment by the classification, for the value of the two classes of fields, considered with reference to soil and water-supply, might, and would, frequently be the same ; whereas the circumstance of the embankment outlay being much greater in the one than in the other case, would make a material difference in their net return. This difference will, I think, be fairly met by the plan of grouping which the Deputy Superintendent has adopted.

10. As shown in the statement given in paragraph 22, the proposed rates will raise the future revenue demand from Rs. 27,650 to Rs. 38,418,* the difference of Rs. 10,768 being equivalent to an increase of nearly 39 per cent., and the average rate being Rs. 3-1-5 per acre.

11. The rise in the price of rice which has taken place in the interval since Mr. Jones's rates were introduced, would indicate a much larger increase to be appropriate. For, according to Statement B, the commutation rate for white and red rice, respectively, which was Rs. 9-8-0 and Rs. 8-8-0 in 1852, was Rs. 27 and Rs. 25 last year. It is not, however, intended that the settlement should now be regularly revised, and new rates fixed with reference to the rise in prices and other improvements effected during the interval of the first lease ; but that an *ad interim* rate, fixed in accordance with the scale adopted in adjoining districts, and to be in force for the remaining part of the general lease of the Taluka (Alibagh) should be imposed.

12. Bearing these circumstances in mind, and considering also the successful working of rates, similar to those now proposed in adjoining districts, there can, in my opinion, be no room to entertain any doubt as to the villages concerned being well able to pay the increase on their former assessment, which will be effected by Mr. Gibson's proposals.

13. That officer has given an interesting account of the state and condition of the district in the early part of his report ; and it is gratifying to find that a marked improvement in its resources has taken place in the interval since Mr. Jones's settlement was introduced.

14. The Deputy Superintendent, in forwarding to me copy of his report, advised me of his having sent it to the Collector, and I have been awaiting its receipt from that officer, with his opinion upon the settlement. I have now, however, been informed of his having sent it direct to the Revenue Commissioner nearly a month since, and as there would be considerable loss of time if I were to refer to that officer for the papers, I have thought it to be the best course for me to submit my opinion upon the settlement without

seeing what the Collector has said. If he should have disapproved of any of the proposals, the papers will, I presume, be referred to me for report before final orders are passed.

15. In drawing attention to the remarks in paragraph 28, I would suggest that Mr. Gibson should submit a report upon the rates and conditions on which he proposes to let the Rámkotá Khar, and await the orders of Government before giving out the land on lease.

J. FRANCIS, Colonel,

Survey and Settlement Commissioner, N. D.

No. 1991.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Bombay Castle, 7th April 1873.

RESOLUTION.—His Excellency the Governor in Council approves of the rates proposed for these villages. They are accordingly sanctioned, and may be guaranteed for the remaining term of the lease of the taluka to which these villages now belong, which, it is stated, will expire, for the most part, in 1886-87.

E. W. RAVENSCROFT,

Acting Chief Secretary to Government.

No. 3956.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Bombay Castle, 11th July 1873.

RESOLUTION.—On a re-consideration of the questions disposed of by Government Resolution No. 1991 of 1873, dated 7th April 1873, His Excellency in Council is of opinion that the revised rates of assessment therein sanctioned for the villages situated in the kharapat lands of the Alibágh Taluka, in the Collectorate of Kolába, in some instances require modification.

2. In the villages under report there is no appreciable difference in climate; but there can be little doubt that the occupancy

right of lands situated many miles up a tidal river, such as those in the extreme south of this tract of country, is not so valuable as that of lands at its mouth and within easy sail of Bombay.

3. For this reason His Excellency in Council is pleased to reduce the village of Jalsi from the first to the second class, and the villages noted in the margin from the second class to the third, the village of Ranjankhar Dawli being raised from the third to the second class.

Simadevikar.
Nawkhar.
Sambrikhar.
Durgdaria.

F. S. CHAPMAN,
Chief Secretary to Government.

101484

CHECKED
2003-04