

# A REVENUE MANUAL

OF THE

### BRITISH EMPIRE IN INDIA

Being an Abstract of the evidence received by the E. I. F. Committee on the various items of British Indian Revenue, supplemented by the information contained in the latest Administration Reports.

BY

## M. G. RANADE, Esq., M. A

PRINTED AT THE "DAYAN PRAKASH" PRESS

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#### PREFACE.

More than three-fourths of the matter contained in this Manual appeared in the columns of the Indu Prakash Newspaper while the East India Finance Committee was still actively engaged in its investigation. The articles were very favourably received at the time by the Indian public, and secured a flattering notice in the columns of the London Saturday Review in one of its articles on the Native Press. Now that the East India Finance Committee has been extinguished before its labours had borne any fruit, a desire has been anxiously expressed on all sides that there should be some accurate and exhaustive resume of the important mass of evidence relating to India which examined by the Committee. Mr. Eastwick, Chairman of the East India Association, and a Member of the East India Finance Committee, in the address he recently delivered in Bombay, expressed a regret that an effort made by him in the direction of publishing an abstract of the evidence had to be abandoned for wantof support. The Compiler of this Manual does not hope to succeed when his betters have failed, but, in the absence of a standard authoritative epitome of the evidence recorded in the voluminous blue-books, the Compiler has been encouraged by the good opinion of his friends to re-publish the articles, and



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he trusts that, supplemented as the abstract of the evidence has been by trustworthy information collected from the latest Administration Reports of the different provinces of India, the Manual will be found a convenient book of reference by all official and non-official persons, whose business or tastes incline them to study the present condition and the future prospects of the Finances of the Indian Empire. The Compiler claims no other merit for himself than that of being accurate and painstaking in his analysis of the evidence. The proof-sheets were submitted to the inspection of Mr. Pedder C. S., while he was Acting Secretary of the Bombay Government. He was pleased to return the proofs with the following reply:—

"I have read with much interest your analysis of the evidence before the House of Commons Finance Committee, and consider it well done and very valuable. \* \* \* From what I recollect of the latter, I think the analysis is very accurate."

If the readers of this Manual and those who have occasion to consult its pages confirm the truth of the flattering testimony given by Mr. Pedder, the Compiler will feel himself rewarded for all his troubles and the expense involved in this publication.

Poona, 1st March 1877.

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