

GAZETTEER

OF THE

AMRITSAR DISTRICT.

1883-4.



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PUNJAB GOVERNMENT.

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PREFACE.

THE period fixed by the Punjab Government for the compilation of the *Gazetteer* of the Province being limited to twelve months, the Editor has not been able to prepare any original matter for the present work ; and his duties have been confined to throwing the already existing material into shape, supplementing it as far as possible by contributions obtained from district officers, passing the draft through the press, circulating it for revision, altering it in accordance with the corrections and suggestions of revising officers, and printing and issuing the final edition.

The material available in print for the *Gazetteer* of this district consisted of the Settlement Reports, and a draft *Gazetteer*, compiled between 1870 and 1874 by Mr. F. Cunningham, Barrister-at-Law. Notes on certain points have been supplied by district officers ; while the report on the Census of 1881 has been utilised. Of the present volume, Section A of Chap. V (General Administration) and the whole of Chap. VI (Towns), have been for the most part supplied by the Deputy Commissioner ; while Section A of Chap. III (Statistics of Population) has been taken from the Census Report. But, with these exceptions, the great mass of the text has been taken almost if not quite verbally, from Mr. Cunningham's compilation already referred to, which again was largely based upon Sir H. Davies' Settlement Report of the district.

The report in question was written in 1856, and, modelled on the meagre lines of the older settlement reports, affords very inadequate material for an account of the district. No better or fuller material, however, was either available or procurable within the time allowed. But when the district again comes under settlement, a second and more complete edition of this *Gazetteer* will be prepared ; and

meanwhile the present edition will serve the useful purpose of collecting and publishing in a systematic form, information which had before been scattered, and in part unpublished.

The draft edition of this *Gazetteer* has been revised by Messrs. Perkins and Knox, and by the Irrigation Department so far as regards the canals of the district. The Deputy Commissioner is responsible for the spelling of vernacular names, which has been fixed throughout by him in accordance with the prescribed system of transliteration.

THE EDITOR.

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