

① Correspondence regarding the state  
of Moral and Material Progress of India

② Area, Population of each Division  
of each Presidency and the Nation

③ Memorandum re the improvements in the  
administration of Justice

④ Minutes by Marquis Dalhousie  
concerning his administration in  
India from 1848-1858

(5) Moral and Material Progress of  
India  
1864-65

1866-67

14387

1868-69

1871-72

1872-73

① V2, 8, 11, 11

1850

② U45, 2, 5, 11

17207

③ V2, 8, 11

17858

④ V2, 8, 11, 11

1848-1858

⑤ V2, 8, 11, 11

## EAST INDIES.

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### RETURN

To an Address of the House of Lords, dated 6th March 1860,

FOR

COPIES of the STATEMENT founded on DETAILED REPORTS from the several PRESIDENCIES and DISTRICTS in INDIA, and exhibiting the MORAL and MATERIAL PROGRESS of INDIA, directed to be annually prepared and laid before PARLIAMENT, under 21 & 22 Vict. Cap. 106. Sect. 53.;

AND ALSO,

Of all CORRESPONDENCE between the GOVERNMENT OF INDIA and the HOME GOVERNMENT relating thereto.

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COPIES of the STATEMENT founded on DETAILED REPORTS from the several PRESIDENCIES and DISTRICTS in INDIA, and exhibiting the MORAL and MATERIAL PROGRESS of INDIA, directed to be annually prepared and laid before PARLIAMENT, under 21st and 22d Vict. Cap. 106. Sect. 53.

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The Statement herein referred to has not yet been received from India.

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COPY of all CORRESPONDENCE between the GOVERNMENT of INDIA and the HOME GOVERNMENT relating thereto.

Financial Despatch to the Governor General of India in Council, dated  
22d September 1858, No. 7.

MY LORD,

1. In the Act of the 21st and 22d Vict. Cap. 106., recently passed, "for the better Government of India," you will observe from Clause 53. that "the Secretary of State in Council shall, within the first Fourteen Days during which Parliament may be sitting next after the First Day of May in every Year, lay before both Houses of Parliament an Account for the Financial Year preceding that last completed of the annual Produce of the Revenues of India, distinguishing the same under the respective Heads thereof, at each of the several Presidencies or Governments, and of all the annual Receipts and Disbursements at home and abroad on account of the Government of India, distinguishing the same under the respective Heads thereof, together with the latest Estimate of the same for the last Financial Year, and also the Amount of the Debts chargeable on the Revenues of India, with the Rates of Interest they respectively carry, and the annual Amount of such Interest, the State of the Effects and Credits at each Presidency or Government, and in England or elsewhere, applicable to the Purposes of the Government of India, according to the latest Advices which have been received thereof;" 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 best exhibit the Moral and Material Progress and Condition of India in each such Presidency."

2. In order to enable me to comply with this Enactment, you will issue such Instructions as may be necessary to ensure the Preparation and Transmission of the Statements of Receipts and Disbursements of the several Presidencies in

sufficient Time to allow of the Compilation in this Country of the Account required, and that the Statement exhibiting the Moral and Material Progress and Condition of India be forwarded annually in a Form suitable for Presentation to Parliament.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) STANLEY.

Financial Despatch from the Government of India to the Right Honourable Lord STANLEY, Secretary of State for India, dated 18th December 1858, No. 29.

MY LORD,

\*Act 21 & 22  
Vict. Cap.  
106. Clause  
53.

WE have the Honour to acknowledge the Receipt of your Lordship's Financial Despatch, No. 7., of the 22d September last, directing, in order to enable you to comply with the Enactment noted in the Margin\*, the Issue by this Government of such Instructions as may be necessary to ensure the Preparation and Transmission to your Lordship of the Statement of Receipts and Disbursements, and the latest Estimates of the several Indian Presidencies, in sufficient Time to allow of the Compilation in England of the Financial Returns required for Presentation to Parliament within the first Fourteen Days during which it may be sitting next after the First Day of May in every Year; and that the Statement exhibiting the moral and Material Progress and Condition of India may be forwarded annually in a Form suitable for Presentation to Parliament.

2. On Receipt of the above Despatch we addressed a Telegraphic Message to the several Accountants, reminding them that the 15th instant was the Date fixed for the Delivery at the Financial Department, Calcutta, of their Statement of Receipts and Disbursements for 1857-58, and their regular Estimate for 1858-59; and requesting them to take the necessary Measures with a view to the Observance of that Date.

3. The Accountant General, Madras, has replied, that he will send his Statements by the First Steamer of December. The Punjab Accountant reports, that he will do his best to send his Statements in Time, but that he fears that possibly some Delay will occur, in consequence of his Office having laboured under peculiar Disadvantages during the First Year of its Operations. The Accountant to the Government of Bengal and the Accountants General at Fort William and Bombay have not yet replied; but the Agra Accountant reports: "I anticipate Delay in the Submission of my Receipts and Disbursements for 1857-58; but every Effort shall be made to place you in possession of that Return by the Middle of January next, or earlier, if possible. Owing to the Disorganization of most of the Treasuries, the Treasury Accounts and other Returns have come to my Hands very late. In fact, several Treasuries have only completed their Returns for 1857-58 within the current Month (November), and at the present Moment the Accounts of Two Treasuries are wanting, besides an Account Current from the Newab of Rampore for the Period, during which the District of Moradabad was intrusted to his Management. But for this last it is not my Intention to wait, as I have no immediate Prospect of its Receipt. I hope to provide you with my regular Estimate for 1858-59 on due Date."

4. Your Lordship will thus observe that some Delay this Year in the Completion of the Financial Returns is unavoidable. The Transactions of the North-western Provinces in behalf of the Government of India, especially in regard to Military and Public Works Charges, being large, Delay in preparing the Financial Returns of these Provinces will necessarily cause Delay in the Completion of the Returns of the Accountant General at Calcutta.

5. But we expect that the whole of the Estimates, together with our Secretary's Report upon them, will be despatched by the End of January, and that the Returns of Actuals will be sent in the course of the following Month; and we trust that they will still arrive in England in Time to allow of the Compilation of the Financial Returns required for Presentation to Parliament early in May next.

6. We beg to add, that the Home Department of this Government will issue such Orders as may be necessary to ensure the Submission annually to your Lordship of the Statement exhibiting the Moral and Material Condition of British India.

Fort William,  
the 18th December 1858.

We have, &c.  
(Signed) J. P. GRANT,  
J. OUTRAM,  
H. RICKETTS,  
B. PEACOCK,

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Extract Financial Despatch to the Governor General of India in Council,  
dated 21st April 1859, No. 33.

Letter dated 18th December 1858, No. 29.

With reference to Financial Despatch, dated 22d September last, No. 7, relative to the Transmission of the Statements and Estimates of Receipts and Disbursements of the several Presidencies, state that some Delay is inevitable this Year in the Completion of the Financial Returns, but that it is expected that the whole of the Estimates, with the Secretary's Report on them, will be sent in the course of the Month of January 1859, and will arrive in England in time to allow of the Compilation of the Accounts for Presentation to Parliament early in May next.

Instructions will be issued to ensure the Submission annually of the Statement called for, exhibiting the Moral and Material Condition of British India.

7. It is of great Importance that these Statements, &c. should be forwarded to this Country at the earliest practicable Period.

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India Office,  
16th March 1860.

J. L. SECCOMBE,  
Secretary, Financial Department.



**EAST INDIES.**

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**RETURN**

To an Address of the House of Lords,  
dated 6th March 1860,

FOR

COPIES of the STATEMENT founded on DETAILED REPORTS from the several PRESIDENCIES and DISTRICTS in INDIA, and exhibiting the MORAL and MATERIAL PROGRESS of INDIA, directed to be annually prepared and laid before Parliament, under 21 & 22 Vict. Cap. 106. Sect. 53;

AND ALSO,

Of all CORRESPONDENCE between the GOVERNMENT of INDIA and the HOME GOVERNMENT relating thereto.

*(The Lord Monteagle of Brandon.)*

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Ordered to be printed 19th March 1860.

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RETURN to an Order of the Honourable The House of Commons,  
dated 9 February 1858;--for,

COPY " of a MEMORANDUM (prepared at the India House) of the  
IMPROVEMENTS in the ADMINISTRATION of INDIA during the last Thirty  
Years."

East India House, }  
1 February 1858. }

JAMES C. MELVILL.

MEMORANDUM.

At this time, when a calamity unexampled in the history of British India has excited an unusual amount of interest in Indian affairs, while the statements publicly made, and the opinions expressed, concerning the administration of the Indian Government, strikingly manifest the deficiency of correct information on the subject, a brief survey of the principal measures which have been of late adopted for improving the internal government of the country, and the physical and mental condition of its inhabitants, may be serviceable in removing false impressions, and in supplying materials for a deliberate judgment.

It may be thought that this survey would most fitly commence from the last renewal of the powers of the East India Company, with some modifications, in 1853; and it must be said that the years which have since elapsed have been marked by a degree of activity in every description of public improvement, not only greater than that exhibited previously, but unsurpassed, it is believed, in any country and in any age. An interval, however, of only four years is evidently too short to afford an intelligible view of a course of progressive improvement. The foundation of all the great measures which were in active progress during that interval, was laid at an earlier period; and the new measures which have been initiated during that brief term have not yet had time to exhibit tangible results. It is therefore necessary to trace the stream of Indian improvement from a point much higher up in its course, beginning at the origin of the measures which have contributed most, in each department, to give to the administration of India its present enlightened character.

REVENUE ADMINISTRATION, AND RIGHTS OF THE RURAL POPULATION.

In a country like India, the departments of public business on which the good government of the country, and the security and contentment of the people, principally depend, are the revenue administration and the judicial administration. The importance of a good and easily accessible administration of justice is the same in India as elsewhere; but the manner in which the entire economical condition of nearly the whole population is determined by the management of the revenue department, cannot, by persons unacquainted with India, be understood without special explanations.

Everywhere, indeed, it is of first-rate importance to a people that the taxes should be of moderate amount; that they should be certain, not arbitrary; and that they should be so assessed and levied as neither to favour one person or class at the expense of another, nor to interfere injuriously with industry. These requisites, too, are obviously of more than their ordinary importance, where the bulk of the tax-paying population consists of persons depending for subsistence on their own exertions in tilling the soil. But these general considerations afford only an imperfect conception of the relation of the tax-paying cultivator in India to the revenue system. Throughout the greater part of India there is no intermediate landlord between the immediate cultivator and the State. The cultivator does

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... in every way in which the condition of a European tenantry can be affected by a good or a bad landlord. And there is an additional fact, of greater importance than all the rest. The titles to land, and to all rights issuing out of land (that is, to all the property of the country, except a small per-centage), are in India a branch of the revenue administration. The revenue records, which show who were the persons held responsible for the revenue by the officers of former governments, are the general register of title. The yalways constitute the principal, and in many cases the sole reliable evidence of right to the land. While the British Government confined itself, as it necessarily did on the first acquisition of any district, to annual or short settlements, it had no need to look beyond the fact of actual possession; but when it began to grant leases or settlements for long terms of years, it was bound to ascertain that the persons whom it admitted to these engagements were those really entitled to the land. This could only be done by minute local inquiries; and justice required that these should be judicially made, and a full hearing given to all parties on the spot. The revenue officers of Government being thus under the necessity, for revenue purposes, of investigating and ascertaining all titles to land, it has been deemed proper that the adjudication so performed should have the force of a judicial decision; though, if any of the persons interested considers himself aggrieved by the decision, he can seek redress by a suit in the regular courts. It is hence apparent, that in India every revenue officer is also, in the most important sense of the word, a judicial officer. The security of the most important and extensive class of proprietary rights throughout the country, depends upon the manner in which the revenue branch of the Government performs its judicial functions; and the history of the revenue administration of India is the history of its landed property, and of the economical condition of the whole agricultural population.

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An important mistake, committed with the most generous intentions by the administration of Lord Cornwallis towards the end of the last century, has divested the Government, in the oldest and most fertile of its Indian possessions, of this great power of influencing beneficially the condition of the cultivators of the soil. In the provinces of Bengal and Behar, to which were subsequently added Benares, and some districts of the Madras Presidency, the Government gave away its rights over the soil to private landlords, reserving only from each estate an annual payment, which it solemnly bound itself never to increase. It is not necessary here to enter into the disputed questions respecting the original character and rights of these landlords or zemindars. There is no doubt that many of them were persons of hereditary influence and station in the country, and that their connexion with the lands, of which they were now recognised as the proprietors, had in general been of a permanent character. But their position was nevertheless essentially that of middlemen; collecting the revenue, not for themselves, but for the Mogul Government; accounting to that Government for their receipts, and remunerated by a per-centage (generally 10 per cent.) of the collections. It is now universally admitted that they never had the power of disposing arbitrarily of the land. There were, everywhere, at least large classes of tenants, whom they could not lawfully eject, except for non-payment of revenue, and from whom they could not lawfully exact more than the customary payments.

These rights of the occupying tenants it was the full intention of Lord Cornwallis to preserve. But the Government demand being now fixed in perpetuity, and claimable from the landlord only, the revenue officers had no longer any power of interposing in favour of the tenantry; and their rights were henceforth left for protection solely to the courts of justice. But the courts of justice could proceed only by regular suit, on the complaint of the injured party. The poverty of the people, their passive character, and the extreme difficulty of proving by legal evidence, before a distant tribunal, what were the customary rates, have rendered this protection illusory; the rights of the Bengal ryots have (as has been said) passed away *sub silentio*, and they have become, to all intents and purposes, tenants at will. These facts are not adverted to for the purpose of casting blame on a generation long gone by, whose mistakes are sufficiently explained and excused by the short experience they had then had of India, and the extreme difficulty which persons nurtured only in English ideas and institutions, have in correctly apprehending a state of facts so entirely unlike anything which ever existed in England, as the whole framework of Indian society presents. But justice to the subsequent Governments

Governments of India requires it. It is too good, that in the most fertile and valuable portion of the Indian territory, they inherited from their predecessors an agrarian system, consisting of great landlords and cottier tenants, forming as close a parallel as the difference between Europe and Asia will admit, to the condition of Munster and Connaught; and that the Government has had, during the last 60 years, no more power of correcting the evils of this system, than the Government of the mother country had, during the same period, of remedying the evils of a similar system in Ireland. The tenacity, however, of old impressions, which characterises the Hindoos, has kept alive the idea of a right still existing in the actual cultivator to hold his land at a rent fixed by custom, not by arbitrary will, and this traditionary feeling, from which the landlords themselves are not exempt, must form the basis of anything that can be hereafter done to improve the tenure of the Bengal ryot.

What the Government had it in its power to do, for alleviating the operation of the existing system, it has done. It takes systematic measures for the education of zemindars who are wards of Government. It has made imperative on the landlords to give to every tenant a written engagement, specifying the amount of rent and the conditions of tenure; and it has made these engagements legally binding. It has done more. Owing to the hasty and careless mode in which the permanent settlement was in the first instance conducted, the boundaries both of estates and of villages or townships were undefined, and not only the litigation but the affrays, occasioned by boundary disputes, had grown into a public evil. The revenue officers were so ill informed on the subject, that in some cases estates advertised for sale on account of arrears of revenue, were purchased, and possession was demanded, when it was found that the estate existed only in the collector's books, having been swept away by the changes in the bed of the river, or absorbed by the encroachments of the neighbouring landholders. To remedy these evils, a survey was determined on, and has been for several years in progress, for the purpose of ascertaining what estates are in existence, and determining their boundaries. This survey has already produced very appreciable benefit, and holds out the promise of much more.\*

Present improvements in Bengal.

The Governments which have administered Indian affairs in the present generation, have abstained from imitating elsewhere the errors which were committed in the permanent settlement of Bengal. Their object has been, as new provinces were successively brought under British rule, to ascertain accurately the persons, and classes of persons, who by law or usage had a beneficial interest in the land, and the nature and extent of the beneficial interest of each; and having thus determined who were the persons with whom the settlement of the revenue should be concluded, to define the demand of Government on each, and limit it to the smallest amount consistent with the public necessities.

\* See Appendix (A.)

The subsequent revenue administration of India is a succession of conscientious endeavours to fulfil these duties; endeavours which, in a large portion of India, have been rewarded by signal success, and in the remainder are in rapid progress towards it.

Nearly the whole territory of the Madras Presidency became part of the British possessions at a period subsequent to Lord Cornwallis's permanent settlement; and its revenue system was principally founded by two of the ablest men who have ever taken part in the government of India—Colonel Reade and Sir Thomas Munro. Under this system, the land is not made over to great landlords, but the actual cultivator, the peasant himself, is regarded as the proprietor of the soil, subject to the payment of the Government demand. He has the option annually of increasing or diminishing his holding; and, in the words of the Madras Government in their last general report, "has all the benefits of a perpetual lease, without its responsibilities, inasmuch as he can, at any time, throw up his lands, but cannot be ejected as long as he pays his dues." He also receives assistance, by remission of assessment in unfavourable seasons. The practical operation of this, which is known as the ryotwar system, evidently depends on the certainty and moderation of the Government demand. For many years these two conditions were very insufficiently realised. The extreme difficulty, to a European revenue officer, of ascertaining the real capabilities of each petty holding, and his unavoidable dependence, for much of his information, upon native subordinates, made it inevitable that great errors should be committed in the first assessments. Some were unnecessarily low, but a much greater number were too high; and if not so at first, many afterwards became so, when the security which our rule had given,

Ryotwar system Madras.

from the ravages of war and internal depression, had produced its natural effect in the extension of cultivation, and consequent lowering of the price of agricultural produce; whereby, notwithstanding the increased well-being of the ryots, the same money rent became a burthensome exaction, which was comparatively little felt when the produce bore a higher price. These circumstances were, as justice required, allowed for, and reductions made, but not always sufficiently early, nor to a sufficient amount. And so long as the Government demand was too heavy, it was also uncertain, owing to the necessity of an annual inquiry to test the justice of claims to remission.

Up to this time, it could not be said that the British Government in India had anywhere succeeded in establishing the revenue administration on a sound basis. But inquiries and discussions of the utmost importance were going on, and knowledge was being acquired, the want of which at former periods had led to all the mistakes. It was in the settlement of the North-western Provinces that the fruits of this increased knowledge were first gathered in.

Settlement of the  
North-western  
Provinces.

The greater part of what are called the North-western Provinces became part of the British dominions through the consequences of Lord Wellesley's Mahratta wars, in the first years of the present century. For a considerable number of years after the conquest, the revenue arrangements were of necessity provisional. Such serious consequences having been experienced in Bengal from hastening to establish a permanent system, when the knowledge acquired was not sufficient for framing it rightly, there need be no wonder if, in a new field, considerable time was in the first instance devoted to becoming acquainted with the capabilities of the country, and the prescriptive rights of the different classes of its inhabitants. The delay was amply justified by its results. The settlement of the North-western Provinces, commenced and completed between 1834 and 1844, by some of the most distinguished of the Company's servants, among whom the most conspicuous in merit was Mr. Robert Mertens Bird, is the first great monument which the British rule in India has exhibited, of wise, deliberate, but thorough reform, grounded on complete knowledge of the subject, and equally efficacious in removing present evils and in providing for future improvement.

It is now known that in the greater part of India, and without doubt originally throughout the whole, the property in the land (so far as that term is applicable at all in India) resides neither in the individual ryot, nor in the great officers who collected revenue for the former native governments, but in the village communities. The village community is not co-extensive with the cultivating inhabitants of the village: it consists of the descendants or representatives of those by whom the village was, at some remote period, conquered, or reclaimed from waste. In most cases these proprietors are a part, and in some the whole, of the agricultural population of the village. When they are only a part, the remainder consists of persons, or the descendants of persons, who have taken up their residence in the village at later periods, and had no other original right than the permission of the proprietors; but some of whom have, by grant or prescription, acquired a fixity of tenure, while others have remained tenants at will. The village proprietors formed prescriptively the municipal government of the village; a fact of great importance, village government being the only institution, properly so called, which the Hindoos possessed.

It was with the village communities, as thus defined, that the settlement of the North-western Provinces was made; with a reservation and definition of all rights which had been acquired by any of the ryots under them. The time occupied in the operation was about ten years, and the expense incurred in it was upwards of 500,000 *l.* It comprehended a detailed survey of a country about 72,000 square miles in extent, containing a population of more than 23 millions. The difficulty and complication of the process will appear from the appended note.\*

See Appendix  
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The proprietary rights, as ascertained and recorded at the survey, were confirmed in perpetuity; but the Government assessment was fixed, in some cases for 20, generally for 30, years. In a few of the districts, the term of settlement has expired, or is on the point of expiring. On resettlement, the assessment is liable to revision, and may be increased if the net produce of the land has augmented, but not proportionally to the increase of the net produce; and a pledge has besides been given, that a liberal consideration will be allowed for "improvement attributable only to the efforts of the tenant himself, and especially with regard to such as are of a comparatively recent date."

The effect of the settlement upon the general pressure of the Government demand

demand was to remove irregularities, and in general to lighten the aggregate burthen; the only exceptions being Goruckpore and Azimgurh, in which districts, though they are known to be still lightly taxed, a considerable increase was effected. —The beneficial results may be traced in the improved condition of the population, and the ease and punctuality with which a revenue of more than 4,000,000*L.* is collected, as evidenced by the small amount of outstanding balances, and the great diminution in the number of coercive processes for the enforcement of payment.

After this great economical and social reform had been for some years in operation, the important territory of the Punjab became, by the event of the Sikh war, a part of British India. This took place in 1849. And now was seen the full value of the superior knowledge of native rights and institutions, which had been acquired since the period of Lord Cornwallis's settlement. The task of bringing the Punjab under British rule was confided to men wisely selected from the body of public servants who had effected and administered the settlement of the North-western Provinces. The principles of the settlement, being grounded on a correct knowledge of the prescriptive rights of all classes, were found equally applicable to the adjacent territory of the Punjab. In India, as in other countries, great reforms have usually been of slow introduction. Our revenue improvements, so long as they were merely tentative, were necessarily slow. But their authors were now able to proceed with the ease and decision of men who thoroughly understood their work. There is something striking in the rapidity with which the latest and best principles of Indian policy, both in revenue and judicial administration, were at once applied to the Punjab by the consummate administrators to whom the discernment of the Marquis of Dalhousie had committed the government of the province. Before a year had elapsed from the first acquisition of the country, great progress had already been made in the introduction of the system of the North-western Provinces, with its most recent improvements. The greater part of the Punjab in extent, and by far the greatest in point of importance, has since been settled for terms of years. The leases were usually shorter than in the North-western Provinces; but the assessment was lowered, as compared with that of the native Government, by 72,37,244 rupees or 723,724 *L.*; being not less than 25 per cent. It has been ascertained that the Government demand does not exceed one-fifth of the gross value of the produce in rich tracts, and one-sixth, or one eighth, or even less, in poor tracts. The result has been a peace and security never before known in the province; a rapid increase of cultivation and production; and a contentment with our rule, which has enabled this newly-conquered territory, inhabited by the most warlike population of India, to become the base of our operations for the recovery of our older territories, and has made the Sikhs, so lately in arms against us, an important part of our strength for subduing the general revolt of the Bengal army.

Settlement of the Punjab.

While these great improvements were taking place in the north of India, a reform of equal magnitude was being inaugurated in the west and south. The reformed revenue administration of those territories is not grounded on the village, but on the ryotwar principle. The ryotwar system, or that which recognises the actual cultivator of the soil as its proprietor, and collects the Government revenue directly from him, is the general system of the south of India. Circumstances already mentioned had, during many years, prevented this system, even under the able management of Sir Thomas Munro, from operating beneficially on the prosperity of the people. As, in Northern India, the territories latest acquired were those which first had the benefit of our improved knowledge and experience; so, the earliest example of a successful ryotwar system was in the districts (forming the greater part of the Bombay territories) which came under British Government at the close of Lord Hastings's Mahratta war, in 1818.

Bombay ryotwar reform.

The village communities still existed in those territories; and if the village system had been as well understood in 1818 as it was in 1838, the settlement of the Deccan would probably have been made on the same principles as that of the North-western Provinces. Such, however, was not the case: Sir Thomas Munro's principles were then in the ascendant; the settlement was, for the most part, ryotwar; and until about 20 years ago, little had been done to improve the fiscal administration of these territories, beyond the removal occasionally, as they were brought to notice, of vexatious and oppressive taxes, which had been added to, or incorporated with, the land revenue, during the declining period of the Mahratta power. The assessments which we found in force were generally, even

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after these reductions, excessive; and large remissions were annually required, which necessitated every year an inquisitorial investigation into the affairs of each ryot who claimed a share in the remissions. The agricultural population, being always liable to be called on for an amount of rent which could only be paid in the most prosperous seasons, were constantly in arrear, and were therefore without any incentive to improve their condition.

To remedy these evils, a survey of the country and general revision of the assessment were undertaken. The operation commenced in the Deccan and Southern Mahratta country, where it is now nearly, if not quite, completed; and it is gradually being extended to the northern districts of the Presidency, as the experienced officers, European and native, who have been trained to this difficult duty, can be spared for the purpose. In the northern districts, however, the progress of the survey has been retarded by the greater complication of the landed tenures there prevalent, and by the existence of various classes of middlemen, who, like the talookdars of Oude, are hostile to our improvements, because, though preserving to them their pecuniary rights, they interfere with their power.

Where any ancient proprietors, either middlemen or village communities, were found in existence, and in possession of their proprietary rights, at the time of the survey, those rights have been respected; but in general the principle of the reformed Bombay system is ryotwar. The land, cultivated and waste together, is divided into portions called "fields," the extent of a field being for the most part fixed at the quantity of land which can be cultivated with one yoke of bullocks. On each field the Government demand is fixed, for a period of 30 years, at a very moderate rate. While the contract is binding on the Government, the ryot, on his side, can throw up the land at pleasure; and he is not required to pay the assessment, for any year, on any field which he has not cultivated, or undertaken to cultivate, in that year. The appended note \* explains the details of the process.

\* See Appendix  
(C.)

The fixation of the Government demand for 30 years would have been of little service to the ryot, if the demand had remained so high as to require, almost every year, remissions of uncertain amount. But it has been fixed on a very low scale, the reduction of the assessment generally exceeding considerably the average amount of remissions and balances under the former system. The effect of this reform is visible in the large increase of cultivation which has always taken place after the completion of the survey of a district; in the realisation of the revenue, with scarcely any balance remaining in arrear (in some years with absolutely none); and in the fact, that in all the surveyed districts, lands are frequently underlet. These important results have been purchased by an immediate sacrifice of revenue; but the encouragement which a fixed and moderate assessment gives to the occupation of waste land is gradually making up to Government for the loss; and in some of the surveyed districts the revenue under the new settlement already exceeds that under the old.

The eminent success of the reformed ryotwar system of Bombay has established the fact, which many Indian authorities trained in a different system had doubted, that the ryotwar, or peasant-proprietary system, may be so organised, and so worked, as to be neither oppressive nor arbitrary; and that, when so organised and worked, it brings the motives to exertion, and to the exercise of intelligence, which property gives, to bear upon those on whom the prosperity of agriculture most depends—the actual cultivators of the soil. In all those parts of India, therefore, in which the village communities have been broken up by the distracted state of the country for generations, or in which the exclusive title of the representatives of the old proprietors has been superseded by the prescriptive rights acquired by the actual cultivators, ryotwar is now the recognised system of revenue management.

Madras improve-  
ments.

In the Madras Presidency considerable improvements in the detail of the revenue system preceded the steps recently taken for a general revision. The most important of these are the two following. In 1837 it was adopted as an universal rule, that no land should be more heavily taxed in consequence of its being applied to the cultivation of a more valuable description of produce. The demand was thenceforth fixed on a general estimate of the productive power of the land, with reference to the staple productions of the country; and the ryot was left perfectly free to cultivate whatever he pleased, without being in any case liable, on that account, to an increased demand. From this time, therefore, there has not been even the semblance of foundation for the statement often made, that the  
land

land assessment is a discouragement to the growth of the more valuable products, and, in particular, of cotton. To go any further would be to demand a lower rent from lands on which cotton is grown, than from land devoted to other cultivation; which would be to give a bounty on the production of cotton.

The other great improvement was the establishment of the rule, that no ryot should be required to pay an additional tax (or rent) for his land, in consideration of increased value derived from improvements made by himself. If, therefore, a proprietor, by labour or outlay of his own, sinks wells, constructs tanks, or plants valuable trees, he enjoys, not for the duration of any settlement, but in perpetuity, the full benefit of the increased value which he has given to the land; an assurance which no private tenant in any country, even of Europe, has obtained.\*

\* See Appendix (D.)

Large reductions of the assessment have also been made in the most heavily-taxed districts, which have in general produced so great an extension of cultivation, that the revenue has scarcely suffered.

In 1855, the present enlightened Governor of Madras submitted a plan for a survey and revised assessment of the whole of the Madras territory, on the Bombay principle, to the consideration of the Governor-general in Council. Having obtained the approval of that authority, it was laid before the Court of Directors, and received their formal sanction in a despatch dated the 17th of December 1856; in which also several improvements were indicated, of which the scheme appeared to be susceptible. A commencement has thus been made in removing the last remaining blot in the administration of the land revenue of British India; for the social and economical condition of the Lower Provinces of Bengal is, for reasons already explained, no longer dependent upon the revenue system.

Ryotwar reform in progress at Madras.

Under both the reformed modes of revenue administration, the village system of the North-west Provinces and the Punjab (the introduction of which into the more recent acquisitions of Nagpore and Oude has been sanctioned) and the ryotwar system of the Bombay and Madras Presidencies, the agricultural population either have, or will shortly have, the benefits of tenures and rights perfectly defined and secured, and moderate rents fixed for a sufficient term to afford, in full strength, the natural incentives to improvement. It should be remembered also, that on the expiration of the 30 years' settlements, the holders will not be liable to be ejected. They will only be liable to a revision of the amount of the rent paid to Government; and it is the declared intention of the authorities, that not merely the same, but a still greater degree of moderation shall be observed in the future, than in the past, settlements.

A further exemplification of the manner in which the Indian authorities now take advantage of the latest experience for purposes of improvement, is afforded by recent proceedings in two limited portions of the territory of India. Cuttack is a portion of the Lower Bengal Provinces, to which the permanent settlements of Lord Cornwallis were never extended. The revenue system of Cuttack is ryotwar; but the attempt has lately been made to combine the advantages of the ryotwar principle with a portion of those of the system of the North-west Provinces. The assessment is made on each holding, and the payment to be made by each ryot is fixed by the Government officers; but the collection of it from the individual ryots by native revenue officers, with the opportunities it affords for vexation and corruption, is done away with; the ryots elect a few of their number to represent the rest; these become responsible to Government for the whole revenue of the village, and take on themselves the recovery from the other ryots of their portion of the payment, according to the terms of the settlement; having recourse to the tribunals, if (which is not a common occurrence) such aid is required. This mixed system of ryotwar and village management, having been successful in Cuttack, is in course of introduction into one of our latest acquisitions, the districts made over to our permanent administration by the Nizam; and the plan has been recommended by the home authorities to the attention of the Madras Government, with a view to eventual application to that presidency.

After this review of the present revenue administration of India in its bearing on the social relations, proprietary rights, and economical condition of the mass of the people, it remains to speak of it as a merely fiscal system.

Fiscal system of India.

Nearly two-thirds of the revenue of India consist of the rent of land. So far as this resource extends in any country, the public necessities of the country may be said to be provided for, at no expense to the people at large. Where the original right of the State to the land of the country has been reserved, and its natural, but no more than its natural, rents made available to meet the public

Land revenue.

expenditure,



expenditure, the people may be said to be so far untaxed; because the Government only takes from them as a tax what they would otherwise have paid as rent to a private landlord. This proposition undoubtedly requires modification in the case of a ryot or peasant cultivating his own land; but even in his case, if the Government demand does not exceed the amount which the land could pay as rent if let to a solvent tenant (that is, the price of its peculiar advantages of fertility or situation), the Government only reserves to itself, instead of conceding to the cultivator, the profit of a kind of natural monopoly, leaving to him the same reward of his labour and capital which is obtained by the remainder of the industrious population.

Any amount whatever of revenue, therefore, derived from the rent of land, cannot be regarded, generally speaking, as a burthen on the tax-paying community. But to this it is of course essential that the demand of revenue should be kept within the limits of a fair rent. Under the native Governments, and in the earlier periods of our own, this limit was often exceeded. But under the British rule, in every instance in which the fact of excessive assessment was proved by large outstanding balances and increased difficulty of realisation, the Government has, when the fact was ascertained, taken measures for reducing the assessment. The history of our government in India has been a continued series of reductions of taxation; and in all the improved systems of revenue administration, of which an account has been given in the preceding part of this paper, the object has been not merely to keep the Government demand within the limits of a fair rent, but to leave a large portion of the rent to the proprietors. In the settlement of the North-west Provinces, the demand was limited to two-thirds of the amount which it appeared, from the best attainable information, that the land could afford to pay as rent. The principle which has been laid down for the next settlement, and acted on wherever resettlement has commenced, is still more liberal: the Government demand is fixed at one-half, instead of two-thirds, of the average net produce; that is, of a fair rent. The same general standard has been adopted for guidance in the new assessment of the Madras territory. In Bombay no fixed proportion has been kept in view; but the object has been, that land should possess a saleable value. That this object has been attained throughout the surveyed districts of Bombay, there is full evidence: and as the ryots have been secured from increase of revenue for the space of 30 years, the value of land may be expected, from the progress of improvement, to be constantly on the increase.

Opium.

It has been shown above, that by far the largest item in the public revenue of India is obtained virtually without taxation, because obtained by the mere interception of a payment, which, if not made to the State for public uses, would generally be made to individuals for their private use. A similar remark, though for a different reason, is applicable to the second in amount of the sources of Indian revenue,—that of opium. The opium revenue is not derived from the taxation of any class of Her Majesty's subjects, but is (as far as this can be truly said of any impost) paid wholly by foreigners. It cannot reasonably be contended that this is an improper source of revenue, or that the burthening of an article considered to be noxious, with an amount of taxation which has sometimes caused it to be sold for its weight in silver, can be liable to objection as encouraging the consumption of the article. Whether this revenue, of between four and five millions sterling, should be levied as it is at present in Bengal (though not in Bombay) by a Government monopoly, or in the more usual form of an excise duty, is a question of detail on which opinions differ, and which is open to consideration. The former mode has hitherto been retained, under the belief that the unrestricted production and sale of the article would give such facilities to smuggling, as would render the realisation of anything like the present amount of revenue impossible. It might, however, be practicable—though this is doubtful—to maintain the price in the foreign market by restrictions on exportation; but it is matter for serious consideration whether any system involving the free cultivation of the poppy, would not expose India itself, which has hitherto been comparatively free from this kind of hurtful indulgence, to be flooded with the article at a low price.

Salt.

The third item, in point of amount, of the revenue of India, is that from salt. This is the only considerable tax existing in India which can be regarded as objectionable in principle, and the entire abandonment of which, if financially practicable, would be a benefit to the people at large. It is impossible, however, to look upon this impost in the same light in which it would deserve to be considered

considered

sidered if it were levied in addition to other heavy burthens. We must bear in mind, in extenuation of the objections to a tax on salt, that it is, speaking generally, the only tax which the labouring ryot of India pays.

The revenue from salt is commonly said to be obtained by means of a monopoly. This, however (as will be seen by the appended note\*), is strictly true only of the Madras Presidency; and even there, the monopoly is of a very qualified description, since the importation of the commodity is free, subject to a duty considered equivalent to the profit charged by Government on the salt produced by it. In the Bombay territory there never has been a monopoly, or even a Government manufacture. There is an excise duty, imposed to compensate for other more objectionable taxes, yielding a far greater amount of revenue, which have been abolished. The Government of India, in 1844, fixed this excise duty at one rupee per maund of 82½ lbs.; but before this rate had come into operation, it was reduced by the Court of Directors to twelve annas (three-fourths of a rupee). In the same year, and for a similar reason—namely, to compensate for other taxes then abolished—the Government of India fixed the selling price of the monopoly salt in the Madras Presidency, at one and a half rupees per maund; but the Court of Directors immediately reduced it to one rupee.

\* See Appendix (E.)

In Bengal, up to 1836, there was a real monopoly. In that year, in anticipation of the subsequent recommendation of a Committee of the House of Commons, the Bengal system was fundamentally modified. The present system is, to ascertain the actual cost to Government of all descriptions of salt manufactured at the Government works, and to issue it to dealers in any quantity applied for, at a price equal to the cost with the addition of a fixed duty. Importation is free, subject to the payment of the same duty. The duty has been gradually lowered from three sicca rupees per maund (equivalent to 3½ Company's rupees) to 2½ Company's rupees (about three farthings per pound); while the Madras duty is only ⅓ of a rupee, and the Bombay only ¼ (less than a farthing per pound). The reduction in Bengal, not having been attended with the hoped-for increase of consumption, has not been carried further. Even if the revenue derived from salt were not required for the necessary purposes of government, it is still conceived that more good would be done to the people by retaining the tax, and expending its proceeds in roads and works of irrigation, than could possibly be done by its remission.

Within the last three years, the manufacture of salt in the districts round Calcutta has been laid open to all who are willing to engage in it, subject to excise regulations. Very little use, however, has been made of this liberty, the quantity of salt manufactured under licence having only amounted to from 20,000 to 25,000 maunds. It is hoped that the quantity will increase, and that private enterprise may in time supersede Government agency. But the small amount of response made to the encouragement held out, is a presumption that the Government arrangements for the manufacture and sale afford as marketable an article, at as low a cost, as could be produced by private manufacturers.

The tobacco monopoly which formerly existed in the Malabar provinces of the Madras Presidency, and which yielded an annual revenue of about six lacs of rupees (60,000 L.), was abolished in 1852, without equivalent; and this article is now wholly untaxed.

Tobacco monopoly abolished.

The customs, in India, are not a very productive source of revenue, the classes who consume any considerable amount of foreign productions being comparatively limited. There is no branch of taxation in which the burthens of the people have been more conspicuously lightened by the British Government. The most important taxes levied on commodities by the native Governments of India, were the inland customs, or transit duties. Every petty chief whose territory was situated on any of the great lines of commerce, made use of his position to extort from traders the largest sums which they could be induced to pay. In the British territories, these duties have been entirely abolished: in the Lower Bengal Provinces, as early as the administration of Lord Cornwallis (reimposed in a modified form in 1801, and finally abolished in 1836); in the North-western Provinces from 1834 to 1836; in the Bombay Presidency in 1837; in Madras in 1844; and in our other possessions immediately after their acquisition. This was not a small sacrifice of revenue. The transit duties in Madras alone yielded a net revenue of about 31 lacs of rupees, or 310,000 L. sterling. Several of the native princes have, with praiseworthy liberality, followed the example of the British Government, by abolishing, or greatly lowering, their transit duties; and the diplomatic influence

Customs.

influence of our Government is freely used to encourage this policy. In cases in which the duties levied by some particular chief have been an obstruction to important lines of mercantile communication, and in which it was not probable that the chief would be indemnified for their loss by the increase of his other sources of revenue, our Government has even purchased his assent by pecuniary compensation.

Besides these duties, the sale of goods was, under the native Governments, hampered by innumerable exactions, laid on under various pretences, most of which we have, on every occasion of coming into possession of a new territory, abolished or commuted. But some taxes on internal trade still remained even in the British territories. The last of these has been swept away less than two years ago, by an order from the home authorities, bearing date the 5th November 1856, for the abolition of the Mohturfa, or tax on houses, trades, and professions, in the Madras Presidency. There are now no internal customs in British India, except, in some cases, town duties; and these, not for general, but for local purposes, and as far as possible under local management; though the exertions of the Indian Governments to foster a municipal spirit, and induce the inhabitants of towns to take an active part in the management of town affairs, are only beginning, and very slowly, to be successful.

There has been similar activity in reducing the duties on the external commerce of India, and extending the principles of free trade. In the recent acquisitions of Sind and the Punjab, the frontier duties have been entirely abolished, and those territories are outside our customs line. On the frontier line between the Punjab and the North-western Provinces, customs are paid on salt and sugar only. In Southern India the land tariff is the same as that on imports by sea. The discriminating duties on goods carried in foreign vessels were abolished in 1848; and in 1850 the coasting trade was thrown open to the ships of all nations. In thus abolishing the navigation laws, the Government of India preceded the Imperial Government. The three presidencies were formerly, in regard to commerce, treated as distinct settlements, and the trade between them subjected to the same duties as that between India and Great Britain. In 1848 this trade was completely thrown open, and the whole of British India treated, for customs purposes, as one empire; and great success has attended the efforts of the Company to obtain for the produce of native states in dependent alliance with us, the privilege of admission into the ports of the United Kingdom at the rates of duty chargeable on goods of British origin. The duty levied on British goods imported into India is five per cent. *ad valorem*. There is still a distinctive double duty on many articles imported from foreign countries; and a general export duty of three per cent. (from which however cotton is exempt) on the produce and manufactures of India. These are admitted defects; and the export duties were marked out by the home authorities, in a despatch of 1846, to be dispensed with at the earliest period which financial considerations may permit.

st-office.

The post-office in India, as in England, is maintained more for public convenience than as a source of revenue. Its improvement in India has fully kept pace with that in England. Reductions of postage, and the removal of practical impediments and imperfections, may be said to have been constantly in progress; and the great change recently made in the post-office system of this country has been imitated, with equal success, in India. The principle of uniform postage, without reference to distance, has been adopted, and letters and newspapers are conveyed from Cape Comorin to Peshawur at the same charge as for the shortest distance. The lowest rate is half an anna, or three farthings, for a letter a quarter of a tola in weight (equivalent to about one-tenth of an ounce); it having been found by experiment that the average weight of native letters is considerably below this limit. There is an ascending scale of charges up to 12 tolas, above which weight letters are not conveyed by the ordinary post; but a parcel post is also maintained by Government, which they are prepared to abandon whenever the duty shall be undertaken by private enterprise. Newspapers are conveyed at a charge of one anna, or three halfpence each. The postage on letters and newspapers must be prepaid by stamps, under penalty of double postage on delivery.

There is also a book post, at a minimum rate of one anna per twenty tolas (about half a pound), and an ascending scale up to 120 tolas, or three pounds. Arrangements have been made with Her Majesty's Government for the conveyance of letters, newspapers, and books from any part of England to any part of India, at low rates of postage, payable in one sum, either on despatch or receipt.

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The Post-office department for all India is under the control of a Director-general at Calcutta, immediately under the Government of India. The progress of improvements in every branch of the details has been very striking, and it is believed that the department will not suffer by a comparison with that of any other country.

The pecuniary results of the change to a low uniform postage have been as satisfactory as in England. It had been doubted whether such a population as that of India would take advantage of the facilities afforded for correspondence, to the extent necessary to make up, in any considerable degree, to the revenue, for the diminution of the rate. At the close, however, of 1855-56 (the first complete year of the new system), the number of chargeable letters had increased 101 per cent. as compared with the preceding year, and 142 per cent. as compared with 1849-50. The loss of revenue, which, if there had been no increase of correspondence, would have been 9,12,000 rupees, is only 3,01,869 rupees, and may be expected yearly to diminish.

The general result of all these improvements in administration, combined with the security which our rule has for the first time given to property against the ravages of war and fiscal rapacity, has been a great and rapid growth of general prosperity. Besides the remarkable increase of cultivation and population, the cheapening of agricultural produce, and the recovery of the revenue after great reductions, which have been already commemorated, there has been an enormous increase in the external commerce of India. The exports have risen from 7,993,420*l.* in 1834-5, to 23,039,268 *l.* in 1855-6, being 188 per cent. The export of cotton amounted in the former year to 98,320,050 lbs., and in the latter to 237,179,949 lbs., being an increase of 141 per cent.; but the quantity exported to England has increased in a much greater ratio, namely, from 38,268,402 lbs. to 170,771,510 lbs. or 346 per cent. The export of rice, chiefly from the east coast of the Bay of Bengal, has so vastly increased that labour can scarcely be found to transport it to the coast; the wages of labourers have risen to an unexampled height, and the agricultural population of large districts are, for the first time in memory, out of debt to money-lenders and to their landlords. During the same period of twenty-one years, the imports into India have risen from 4,261,106 *l.* to 13,447,027 *l.*, or upwards of 227 per cent., the great excess of exports above imports being regularly liquidated in silver.

General prosperity.

#### JUDICATURE AND LEGISLATION.

The history of the judicial administration of British India bears a striking analogy to that of the revenue administration. It began with well-intended, but premature and ill-considered measures, which produced many evils, and but a small part of the good which their authors expected from them. When experience had disclosed the faults of the system at first adopted, similar errors were avoided, and a better system introduced into our later acquisitions; while palliatives of great value, though falling short of the full exigencies of the case, were adopted in the older provinces. Last came the plans, now in an advanced stage of their progress, for effecting a complete reform.

Judicial arrangements of Lord Cornwallis.

At the period at which the judicial arrangements of Lord Cornwallis were made, the ideas of civil judicature entertained in England still partook of an almost barbarous character. The English courts of law were still encumbered with all the technicalities, and disgraced by all the delay and expense, which had descended from the middle ages, or grown up in the attempt to make the institutions of the middle ages suffice for the wants of modern society; and unfortunately these courts, far from being considered defective, were looked upon as the models to be imitated in every other place, departure from which was regarded as an imperfection, in all cases to be regretted, though not always to be avoided. The Legislature, however, had recognised that forms of procedure more simple and expeditious might possibly be necessary in India; and power had been given to the judges of Her Majesty's Supreme Court to modify the procedure of that court, so as to meet the exigency; but the power was never acted on. It is, therefore, not surprising that Lord Cornwallis's courts were greatly infected (though in a far less degree than the courts in England then were) with technicalities of procedure calculated both to defeat justice, and to obstruct the access to it by needless delay and expense. But the arrangements had a still more fatal defect; the judicial establishment was totally inadequate to the wants of the country. The attempt

to administer justice (except in the most trifling cases) wholly by European agency, made it impossible to defray the expense of the number of courts necessary to render justice accessible; and if the benefits of judicature were to be afforded at all to the mass of the people, the intrusting, under proper securities, of the greatest portion of it to native functionaries, was not a question of expediency, but of necessity.

Subsequent im-  
provements.

The creation of native courts of justice, and (as the experiment succeeded) the progressive extension of their powers, has been the greatest practical improvement made in the administration of justice in our older provinces during the last and present generation. The foundation for the present extensive employment of uncovenanted and native agency in the judicial department, was laid by the administration of Lord William Bentinck in 1831. At present, in the Bengal and Bombay presidencies, the entire original jurisdiction in civil suits is in the hands of the native judges, the covenanted Europeans being only judges of appeal; and the same thing is true of the Madras Presidency, in regard to all suits below the value of 10,000 rupees. The employment of uncovenanted agency has also been greatly extended in the administration of criminal justice, and in the revenue department. Deputy magistrates (in some instances exercising judicial powers equal to those of the district magistrate) and deputy collectors, discharge important functions, and afford material assistance to the head authorities of the district. Most of these are natives, and some of them natives of high rank and influence.

The movement towards reform in legal affairs generally, also dates from the administration of Lord William Bentinck. At Bombay, indeed, the regulations of Government, comprising the penal law and the law of procedure actually in force, and as much of the civil law as had been introduced by our own Government, had already, under Mr. Elphinstone's administration, been consolidated into what is called the Bombay Code. But it was on the recommendation of Lord William Bentinck's Government that, by the Act of 1833, the present ample legislative powers for all India were conferred on the Governor-General in Council; a barrister appointed from England being added to the Council, for the express purpose of aiding the Government in its legislative functions. By the Act of 1853, the Legislative Council was further enlarged by the addition of the Chief Justice and one puisne judge of Her Majesty's Supreme Court, two members representing Madras and Bombay, and selected by those Governments, and two representing Bengal and the North-western Provinces, and appointed by the Lieutenant-Governors; to whom the Governor-General has the power of adding two other civil servants of Government, selected at his discretion. The Legislative Council now holds its sittings in public, and its debates are regularly reported and published.

Since the first institution of the Legislative Council, few years have passed in which there have not been one or two legislative measures for the improvement of the procedure of the civil courts. The object of some has been to facilitate the progress of suits through their various stages; of others, to secure the correct recording of the judgment, by prescribing that it shall be made by the judge himself; of others, to insure a more speedy and certain execution of judgments; of others, to render more efficient the systems of regular and special appeals. Legislative measures have also been taken for reforming the law of evidence; for the abolition of Persian as the language of record; and for putting the office of native pleader on a more efficient and respectable footing. The defects of the criminal courts have likewise largely engaged the attention of the Legislature, and much has been done for their improvement. But notwithstanding these partial amendments, it cannot be said that the courts, in what are called the Regulation Provinces, have yet been freed from their radical defects. The principal impediments to a good administration of justice, are the complicated and technical system of pleading in the civil courts, and in the criminal courts the character of the police.

The New Codes.

By the Act of 1833, a Law Commission was appointed to sit in Calcutta, and inquire into the jurisdiction and procedure of the courts of justice and police establishments, and into the operation of the laws, civil and criminal. The declared purpose of Parliament in creating the Law Commission, as well as in the new constitution given at the same time to the Legislative Council, was to facilitate measures for bringing Europeans and natives under the same courts of justice, civil and criminal. The machinery constructed for this purpose has been employed to lay the foundation for correcting all the principal defects of the laws  
and

and of the tribunals. The Commission prepared a penal code of great merit, and made many reports full of valuable suggestions on other branches of legal administration, some of which have been acted on. But it was important that any new system, before being brought into practical effect, should be well understood by those who would have to apply it, and should be approved by those whose authority would carry the greatest weight. Opinion could not be expected to ripen all at once on so great a subject as the reconstruction of the legal and judicial system of a vast country; and the suggestions of the Law Commissioners, being referred to various authorities, elicited great varieties of judgment. By the Act of 1853, a Commission was appointed to sit in London, for considering and reporting on the recommendations of the Indian Law Commissioners. The wants of India as to codes, both of substantive law and of procedure, civil and criminal, have been fully considered by the Commissioners so appointed. They have recorded a strong recommendation in favour of the preparation of a code of civil law for India; and they have prepared complete codes of civil and criminal procedure, grounded on a rare combination of appropriate local knowledge with the matured views of enlightened jurists. These codes, together with the penal code passed by the earlier commission, are in progress through the Legislative Council of India, and would probably by this time have been law, but for the calamitous events by which the attention of all Indian authorities has of late been engrossed.

These codes, when enacted, will constitute the most thorough reform probably ever yet made in the judicial administration of a country. The code of civil procedure entirely sweeps away the present cumbersome and complicated system of pleading, and substitutes the *viva voce* examination of the parties; and in all other respects, as compared with the previous practice, it is of great simplicity, and eminently free from delay and expense. As Mr. Colvin, the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-western Provinces, observed in his last general report, "It is not alone, as the Lieutenant-Governor apprehends, that by the new code of procedure the practice of the courts will be made more simple and rapid, and the costs of a suit be diminished; it is because, as he hopes, the judges will be brought much more frequently into direct communication with the parties in suits and their witnesses, without any intervention of agents or pleaders, that he looks to the public becoming satisfied that the courts are to be trusted as a means for obtaining substantial justice, and not dreaded as an engine capable of being readily perverted to the working of fraud and wrong under the forms of law. It is not, he fears, to be denied that low classes of practitioners and unscrupulous habits of chicane have grown up about our courts, with their old complex and artificial pleadings and rules: and this being the case, it cannot be matter of surprise that, among a population so generally ignorant and helpless, discredit and dislike should have extensively attached to our judicial institutions." Under the new code, if not materially altered by the Legislative Council, India is likely to possess, so far as judicial institutions can secure that blessing, as good and as accessible an administration of civil justice as the lights of the age are capable of conferring on it.

It was only the Regulation Provinces which stood in need of such a reform; for the Non-regulation Provinces have had (generally from their first acquisition) the benefit of a cheap, accessible, and expeditious administration of justice, free from all such formalities and technicalities as either defeat justice or add needlessly to the difficulty and expense of obtaining it. The following are the terms in which the eminent Sir John Lawrence, in his last general report, describes the judicial system of the Punjab, which has been the model of those introduced into all the other recently-acquired territories, as well as into our older possessions of Saugor and Bundelcund:--

Judicial System of  
the Non-regulation  
Provinces.

"In former reports it has been shown how the system of civil judicature in the Punjab has been founded and erected; how that no effort has been spared to render justice cheap, quick, sure, simple, and substantial; how every other consideration has been rendered subordinate to these cardinal points. We are, indeed, without elaborate laws, but we have brief rules, explaining, in an accessible form, the main provisions of the several systems of native law on such matters as inheritance, marriage, adoption, testamentary or other disposition of property; and setting forth the chief principles to be observed in other branches of law; such as contracts, sale, mortgage, debt, commercial usage. We have the most open and liberal provisions for the admission of evidence. We have

“ complete arrangements for reference to arbitration, and for the ascertainment of local custom. We have a procedure, without any pretension to technical exactitude ; but a procedure which provides for the litigants and their respective witnesses being confronted in open court, for a decision being arrived at immediately after this brief forensic controversy, and for judgment being delivered to the parties then and there. We have a method of executing decrees, which, while it allows no door to be opened for evasion or delay on the part of defendant, and thus renders a decree really valuable to plaintiff, as being capable of ready enforcement, and gives him his right free from lien, encumbrance, or doubt ; yet, on the other hand, prevents the defendant from being hastily dealt with, or from being placed at the mercy of his creditor. We have Small-cause Courts scattered all over the country, and several regular courts at every central station ; so that everywhere justice is near. Our civil system may appear rough and ready ; whether it would be suited to other provinces, in a different stage of civilization and with a different machinery at command, may be a question ; but in the Punjab it attains the broad and plain object aimed at, and without doubt gives satisfaction to the people.

“ But in order to regulate the administration of justice, a complete system of reporting has been established. Month by month, the reports of every court are transmitted to the judicial department at head-quarters, and are there criticised. At the close of each year, these reports, and the figures embodied in them, are collated, averages are struck, division is compared with division, and district with district, and the general result, with a brief critique by superior authority, indicating the defects to be avoided and the reforms to be emulated, is published for the information of all officers concerned. - It is believed that many improvements in the working of the courts are traceable to this system. Every court works under a constant sense of supervision, and with the great objects to be aimed at perpetually in view, and standing out in strong relief.

“ In respect of speed, the average duration of a suit in 1854 was 28 days, and in 1855, 23 days. This average has been becoming laudably lower year after year ; it is now nearly as low as it can be, consistently with due inquiry and deliberation ; and as the above average includes all those cases which for any special cause may be protracted, it is evident that the trial of most suits can only extend over a very few days. In respect to cheapness, the cost averages only Rs. 5. 0. 1. per cent. on value of suits during 1854, and Rs. 4. 13. 3. per cent. during 1855. As a proof of the entire absence of technicalities, it is to be observed that only 5.19 per cent. of the suits were nonsuited during 1854, and 5.42 per cent. during 1855. The small number of nonsuits which are ordered are probably real and honest ones.”

#### Prison Discipline.

In the course of the last few years the system of prison discipline in India has undergone a complete and most salutary revolution. The origin of this reform may be dated from the report of a committee appointed in Calcutta in 1838, composed chiefly of the principal members and secretary of the Indian Law Commission.

Up to this time, those inmates of jails who were under sentence of labour, were employed almost exclusively (in fetters) on the roads : which rendered prison discipline almost impossible, as the prisoners could nearly always, by the connivance of their guards, command intercourse with friends and relations ; and the engineer officers, in their anxiety to obtain efficient work, fed them highly, and treated them in other respects with an indulgence entirely inconsistent with the purposes of punishment. At the same time, the mortality from exposure and unhealthy localities was great. The committee showed that the State were absolute losers by employing convict labour on the roads ; that it would be a positive saving to keep them in idleness in the jails, as the cost of extra superintendence and guards considerably exceeded the expense at which the work they did could be executed by hired labour. Since this time out-door convict labour has been abandoned, and the prisoners are employed within the jails in various manufactures ; and this employment, which commenced in 1843, has every year become more profitable, until, in 1855-56, the profit in the 55 jails of the Lower Provinces of Bengal reached the large sum of Rs. 1,11,582 (11,000 L.) This profit now forms a fund for the execution of the public works formerly performed by the convicts themselves. The jail manufactures, too, are of such improved quality, that some of them have acquired a high character



character in foreign markets; and public exhibitions of them are now held in the Town Hall of Calcutta.

Prisoners sentenced for long terms of years are now removed to large central jails; and the change has been attended with great improvement in general management and discipline. There is an inspector of jails for each presidency and sub-presidency. These officers are most active in discovering and correcting defects, and increasing the effectiveness of the jails, both as reformatories and as places of punishment.

The reform of the police of India is not yet in so advanced a state; but the present disturbances found the authorities in the very crisis of their deliberations on the subject. The police has hitherto remained the most faulty part of our system in India, and it is the part which it is by far the most difficult to reform effectually. The peculiar difficulty of administering criminal justice in India arises from the character and habits of the people. In most countries, the voluntary and active co-operation of the people may be looked for in bringing criminals to justice. In India, rather than incur the trouble and annoyance of appearing as a prosecutor or as a witness, a man will even forswear himself to screen the man who has robbed him. The injury he has suffered is looked upon as the decree of destiny, and he has no disposition to add to the inconvenience by incurring exertion and expense, and perhaps exposing himself to the further vengeance of the criminal. Among such a people there is only the police who can be looked to for bringing criminals to justice. The great powers which must be intrusted to the police of such a country, and that police necessarily composed principally of natives, give rise, when combined with the passive and slavish character of the people of many parts of India (especially of Bengal), to evils with which the Government has hitherto struggled with very imperfect success.

The police of India, up to a very recent date, consisted of native establishments, under the control and orders of the European magistrate. Each zillah, or judicial district, is formed into subdivisions (more or fewer, according to the size of the district), each of which is under the charge of a local stipendiary police, consisting of a head native officer and his subordinate clerks, sergeants, and constables. The native police in the Bengal Presidency is (with the partial exception of the tehsildars in the North-western Provinces) separate from the body of revenue officers. In the Presidency of Madras, the same officers discharge both revenue and police functions; and, until recently, this was also the case at Bombay. Police.

The recognised defects of the system are, the low rate of pay, and the consequent inferiority of the class of men who enter the police, and also the disproportion of the strength of the force to the density of the population, and to the extent of country committed to their charge. With a view to the correction of these evils in Bengal, higher grades of sub-divisional police officers have of late years been created, and their pay has been increased. Deputy magistrates have also been appointed, and invested with the judicial and police charge of subdivisions. The former measure has been productive of some good, by inducing a more trustworthy class to enter the service; the latter has not yet been carried to a sufficient extent to effect any practical improvement of a general character.

The state of the police of the North-western Provinces had deeply engaged the attention of the late Lieutenant-governor, the lamented Mr. Colvin. That distinguished functionary conducted, through the district commissioners, a general revision of the local police establishments; reducing the number of officers in some of the districts, but increasing the salaries, and holding out the sure prospect of promotion as the reward of good conduct and efficient service. These measures were the best that could be adopted with the then available materials; but they did not at all touch the essential constitution of the police. With regard to the village police, the ancient and indigenous police of the country; in the North-western Provinces, its proper maintenance by the villages themselves is provided for by the conditions of the settlement. In the Lower Provinces, the terms of the permanent settlement have unfortunately deprived the Government of the power of enforcing this obligation. An Act has, however, been passed for the maintenance of an improved city police, by an assessment on the occupiers of houses; and this plan has been introduced into several large cities and towns.

It is in the Bombay Presidency that the greatest improvements have been actually effected in police administration. The measures for this purpose were commenced under Sir George Clerk's administration, in 1848. Under the new system, revenue and police functions have ceased to be combined in the same native officers. The



powers of punishment previously exercised by police officers have been taken away. To each district has been appointed a European superintendent of police (either a military or an uncovenanted officer), under whose command the police force of the district, both village and stipendiary, is placed, and who exercises the functions of an assistant to the magistrate in his police duties. This functionary, again, has the aid, in each subdivision under his orders, of an officer called joint police amildar, who has the more immediate charge of the preservation of the public peace, and the preliminary investigation into crimes of a serious nature. Active measures have been set on foot for reorganising the village police, by ascertaining the assignments formerly made in lands and money for the purpose, and requiring that the duties for which these assignments were the remuneration, be really performed. The general control and direction of the police of the whole presidency, except the island of Bombay, is concentrated in one chief officer, under the title of Commissioner of Police. These measures are believed to be already effecting a great improvement in the police of the presidency.

In the Punjab, a police system had to be, not reformed, but created; and this task has been fulfilled with the same efficiency with which every other part of the administration of that territory has been organised. As the Punjab police may not improbably form a model for other parts of India, it is well to note the general features of its constitution.

The police establishments consist of two parts; the preventive police with a military organisation, and the detective with a civil organisation.

The preventive police consists of foot and horse; each regiment has its own native commandant, and the whole force is superintended by four European officers. Both arms of the service are regularly armed and equipped, and are ready at a moment's notice to reinforce the civil police.

The civil police consists, first, of a regular establishment, paid by the State; secondly, of the city watchmen, paid from a fund raised by the levy of town duties; and, thirdly, of the village police, nominated by the landholders, confirmed in their offices by the magistrate, and paid by the villagers.

The infantry of the military preventive police furnish guards for jails, treasuries, frontier posts, and city gates, and escorts for treasure. The cavalry are posted in detachments at the civil stations; and smaller parties, stationed at convenient intervals along the grand lines of road, serve as mounted patrols. The general duties of the civil police consist in reporting crimes, tracking and arresting criminals, and procuring evidence against them.

The police of the Punjab have been eminently successful in repressing crimes of a violent nature, in breaking up gangs of murderers and robbers, and in bringing criminals to justice; and in no part of India is the authority of the Government more thoroughly respected than in the Punjab.

In 1856, the Court of Directors, in a despatch which has been laid before Parliament, discussed at some length the defects of the police of India, and the means available for their correction, and proposed for the consideration of the Government of India a plan of thorough reform, grounded on the three principles, of European command, unity of action throughout the country, and complete separation between revenue and police duties.

This plan has undergone careful deliberation from the Government of India. The various members of that Government, and the Lieutenant-governor of Bengal, have individually recorded their sentiments, in minutes characterised by a frank recognition of existing defects, an earnest desire of improvement, a remarkable amount of knowledge and understanding of the subject, and great ability in the statement and discussion of the merits and defects of the various plans advocated. For the present, so far as regards the Bengal Presidency (including the North-western Provinces), the recommendations of the Government of India are limited to a better choice and ampler remuneration of the native police, and to the aiding and strengthening them, in certain localities, by police corps of a semi-military character. These measures have been sanctioned; and until their effect has been tried, the Court of Directors have consented to put in abeyance the more fundamental changes which they had recommended. But authority has at the same time been given to the Government of India, should the present state of the country in their opinion render it expedient, to organise the police of Bengal on the model of that of the Punjab.

In the Madras Presidency, the opinion of the local Government was favourable to the Court's original views; and in September last authority was finally given to

to that Government for the thorough reorganisation of the police system. The leading features of the scheme which has been sanctioned are as follows:—

The appointment of a chief commissioner of police for the whole presidency, in whom will be vested, in direct communication with the Chief Secretary to Government, the direction, discipline, and internal economy of the police force:

The appointment in each district of a European deputy commissioner of police, with a sufficient number of subordinate officers and peons or constables:

The entire separation of the police from all connexion with the revenue branch of administration, and of the magistrate (who will now be a purely judicial officer) from the properly police duty of the prevention and detection of crime:

And, finally, measures for reorganising, and, it may almost be said, reviving, the village police, which, from its close connexion with the localities, must necessarily constitute the last (and a most important) link in any police system really efficient, or willingly supported by the people.

The imperfections of the general police of India have not prevented some results from being attained in the way of suppression of crime, sufficiently remarkable to have attracted an amount of European notice seldom accorded to Indian affairs. The most memorable of these is the suppression of the Thugs. This singular association, which, though recruited from all castes, and even from Mussulmans, was held together by a religious tie, and a common worship of the Hindoo goddess of destruction, infested all the roads in India; and from their universal practice of murdering all they robbed, it was not only almost impossible to obtain evidence for their conviction, but the extent of their crimes was greatly underrated, and their very existence in many parts of India, disbelieved in. A separate police was organised specially against them. The gangs were broken up in the only manner in which this could possibly have been effected—by encouraging some of them to denounce the rest. From the narratives of these approvers, taken separately from one another and with the utmost precautions against the possibility of concert, lists of all the Thugs in India were obtained, and the particulars of the crimes committed by each. These were then traced to their haunts, identified, tried, and convicted, on the evidence of their accomplices, confirmed by the finding of bodies, the identification of property, or other corroborative evidence. Many suffered death, a much greater number transportation for life, and, in a few years from the commencement of the operations, all India was cleared of these criminals. The pardoned accomplices remain under surveillance at Jubbulpore, in Central India, where they and the children of the captured Thugs have been taught several useful branches of manufacture. The Jubbulpore School of Industry now supplies to Government and the public many valuable carpets and linen cloths, and a great proportion of all the tents used in India.

When the work of the Thuggee Suppression Department was nearly completed as far as regarded the Thugs, its operations were extended to the still more prevalent crime of dacoity, or robbery and burglary on a large scale by organised gangs of professional banditti. The mode of breaking up the gangs by means of approvers, which had been so successful against the Thugs, has been put in practice with equal success against dacoits; and this crime, so far as it was perpetrated by large associations ranging over a wide extent of country, has now been almost as completely rooted out as Thuggee. Dacoitee had been almost entirely suppressed in the North-western Provinces and in Bombay, before the occurrence of the recent disasters. In the Lower Provinces of Bengal the crime has been greatly reduced within the last three or four years. In seven large districts surrounding Calcutta, where it was lamentably prevalent, the number of dacoitees has been progressively reduced from 524 in 1851, to 111 in 1855. In some of the districts of the Madras Presidency, dacoitees of a local character, by small gangs, to which the approver system is not equally applicable, are still frequent; but the improvement in the police, and other measures in contemplation, will, it is hoped, speedily reduce their number.

The piracies which formerly made the navigation of the Arabian seas unsafe for commerce, have been so effectually suppressed by the East India Company's

Thuggee and Dacoitee suppression

Suppression of Piracy.

cruisers, that there is now hardly any part of the world in which trading vessels are more secure against depredation. The formerly piratical tribes have been bound by engagements to abstain not only from piracy, but from maritime war, which affords opportunities and pretexts for piracy: and for the first time probably in history, a perpetual peace, guaranteed by treaties, and enforced by superior naval strength, reigns in the Persian Gulf.

Infanticide.

Equal vigour has been displayed against many barbarous usages of the natives. Special measures have been carried on during a long series of years, for the suppression of female infanticide, a crime which had become a positive custom among several of the higher castes in various parts of India, from motives, not of religion, but of family pride. The co-operation of the native princes has been urgently invited, and to a great extent obtained, for the suppression of this practice. In the places, and among the castes, in which the practice was ascertained to exist, means were taken to obtain an annual census of female children. A report of all births, of all deaths of infants, and of the causes of deaths, was required, under stringent regulations and penalties. Engagements were taken from the influential persons of the castes to preserve their own children, and to aid in enforcing the same conduct on others. Honorary rewards and marks of distinction have been conferred on chiefs and others who have exerted themselves for the promotion of the object. By great efforts of persuasion and address, the heads of castes and tribes have been prevailed on to agree to a limitation of that favourite subject of vanity, marriage expenses: and grants of money are regularly made to poor persons of the castes, in aid of the marriages of their daughters. These efforts have been rewarded by a continual diminution of the number of infanticides, evidenced by a constant increase in the number of females in existence of the formerly delinquent castes.

Suttee.

Suttee, or the voluntary burning of widows on the funeral piles of their husbands, after having been long discouraged by every means short of positive prohibition, was finally made a criminal offence in all who abetted it, by a legislative Act of Lord W. Bentinck's administration, and has now entirely ceased in the provinces subject to British administration. Unremitting efforts have been used to induce the native princes to follow the example, and have been at last successful with all of them except one, the Maharana of Odeypore, the representative of the oldest and proudest dynasty in India: and this prince professes himself willing to abolish the rite, when the cessation of existing differences between himself and his feudatory chiefs shall enable him to obtain their concurrence in the measure. Various other modes of self-immolation practised in India,—by drowning, burying alive, or starvation,—have been, with equal success, prohibited and suppressed.

Witchcraft.

The pretence of supernatural powers was a source of great evil in India, not only as a means of extortion and intimidation, but also by the numerous murders perpetrated on persons suspected of practising on the lives or health of others by magical arts. These acts of fancied retaliation have been, with a gentle but powerful hand, repressed, and great progress has been made towards their extinction. The fraudulent pretence is now punished as a substantive crime.

Tragga.

The insecurity of rights, and the imperfection of the tribunals, under the native Governments, had introduced, on the part of those who were, or believed themselves to be, injured, a singular mode of extorting redress. They hired a person of one of the religious classes to threaten that unless the demand, whatever it might be, was complied with, he would kill or wound himself or some one else; thereby, it was supposed, entailing the guilt of murder or of wounding on the person whose alleged injustice was the original cause of the act. If the threat proved ineffectual, the honour of the threatener was engaged to carry it into practical effect; and many suicides or murders were committed from this cause. This barbarous practice, known by the name of Tragga, has been almost entirely suppressed, partly by penal laws, and partly by affording more legitimate means of enforcing just claims.

Human sacrifices.

Among the barbarous tribes who occupy the hill tracts of Orissa, on the southwest frontier of Bengal, human sacrifices prevailed until a very recent period. By a well-devised and judicious series of conciliatory measures, worthy of a more lengthened record than can be given to them in this place, the extinction of this enormity has been effected.

Abolition of slavery.

After a full consideration of the subject of slavery in India, by the India Law Commissioners and by the Government of India, an Act was passed in 1843,

which entirely abolished slavery as a legal status. The courts of justice are forbidden to recognise it; no fugitive, claimed as a slave, can be forcibly restored; and every act which would be an offence if done to a free person, is now equally an offence when done to the persons formerly considered slaves.

One of the most oppressive of the burthens on the agricultural and labouring classes under the native Governments, was compulsory labour, not only for the repair of roads where any existed, but for the purpose of carrying the abundant baggage of Government officers or powerful individuals when journeying from one place to another. This practice has been abolished. The last vestige of it, in a licensed form, is believed to have been in the construction of the Thibet road through the Himalaya Mountains, and orders have recently been issued for its discontinuance there.

Vet Begaree, or forced labour.

By an Act passed in 1850, the principle already laid down in a Bengal Regulation of 1832, that change of religion should not involve loss of property or civil rights, was extended to the whole of the territories subject to the British Government of India. The religious and civil laws of the Hindoos have in this point been completely set aside; and converts to Christianity have been shielded, as far as law can shield them, against temporal ill consequences from their change of faith.

Civil rights of religious converts.

By an Act passed in 1856, another great inroad has been made on Hindoo prejudices, by legalizing the re-marriage of widows.

Re-marriage of widows.

An Act passed in 1840 gave effect to instructions issued by the home authorities in 1833, on the subject of pilgrim taxes, and the superintendence of native festivals. The instructions directed that the interference of British functionaries in the interior management of native temples, in the customs, habits, and religious proceedings of their priests and attendants, in the arrangement of their ceremonies, rites, and festivals, and generally in the conduct of their interior economy, should cease; that the pilgrim tax should everywhere be abolished; and that in all matters relating to their temples, their worship, their festivals, their religious practices, and their ceremonial observances, our native subjects be left entirely to themselves. Property held in trust for religious uses of course cannot be diverted from them by any act of the Government; but if such trusts are infringed, redress must be sought, as in all other cases, from the tribunals. In 1841 the home authorities sent out further instructions, that no troops or military bands of music be called out, and no salutes fired, in honour of native festivals; and all such acts have since been regarded as strictly prohibited. When any case of infringement of these principles is found to have been overlooked, it is, on being brought to notice, immediately corrected.

Discontinuance of connexion with the religious ceremonies of the natives.

#### IMPROVEMENT OF THE COUNTRY BY PUBLIC WORKS.

THE measures which have now been briefly described, for fixing and moderating the demands of Government on the tax-paying population, and securing to every one the full enjoyment of the fruits of his industry, are in themselves the most effectual means which could have been adopted for improving the productive resources of the country. In a country like India, however, the direct aid of Government to industry is required, for a variety of purposes which, in more advanced countries, are sufficiently, and even better, provided for by private enterprise. The principal of these are, irrigation, and the means of communication by roads and canals.

The British Government in India has frequently been charged with niggardliness in incurring expense for these purposes. There was some, at least apparent, ground for the charge, in former generations; though even then, the truth fell far short of the current representations. It is often asserted that the country is covered with the remains of tanks and other works of irrigation, which the native rulers constructed, and which the British Government has allowed to decay. The fact is overlooked, that most of these were already in a state of decay before the country came into our possession; long periods of disorder and military devastation having destroyed the funds which should have repaired them, and the security which would have admitted of their repair. Many works which are supposed to have fallen into decay, never were completed: many were allowed to decay by the native sovereigns; for it was only occasionally that a prince, of unusual talents

Irrigation Works.

and vigilant economy, had funds to spare for such purposes; and the same prince who would commence new works with which his own name was to be connected, would often neglect to keep up those of his predecessors. Whether it is a just subject of censure, that the restoration of these old works was not commenced earlier, is a question depending on many and various considerations; but the activity in this department for many years past has been exemplary.

#### Jumna Canals.

The Western and Eastern Jumna canals were of ancient construction, but had fallen into disrepair and become useless to the country, until again brought into activity by the labours of the Company's officers at a sufficiently early date to admit of a full estimation of the benefits which the country has reaped from their restoration. The main line of the Western Jumna Canal is in length 445 miles. In the famine year 1837-38, the gross value of the crops saved by the water of this canal was estimated at 1,462,800*l.*; of which about one-tenth was paid to Government as land and water rent; while the remainder supported, during a year of devastating famine in other districts, the inhabitants of nearly 500 villages.

The works originally projected for the restoration of the Eastern Jumna Canal were completed in 1830; but considerable improvements have been effected since that date at a large expense. In 1853 the Court of Directors sanctioned an expenditure of 15,276*l.* for improving this canal, so as to economise the water, facilitate its distribution, and correct the malarious state of the country on its banks. It is stated, that on the 1st of May 1852, the clear profit to Government on this canal had been 9,759*l.*

Up to 1847-48, the expenditure incurred on these and some minor works in the North-western Provinces had amounted to about 557,000*l.*, while the amount received in direct canal revenue was in all 546,000*l.* The quantity of land brought under the influence of irrigation was 1,300,000 acres, yielding produce of the annual value of 2,500,000*l.*, and supporting a population of 600,000 souls.

#### Ganges Canal.

The history of the Ganges Canal, the greatest work of irrigation ever constructed, belongs to a more recent period. The employment of the water of the Ganges for irrigation purposes appears to have been first contemplated by Colonel Colvin, who, on delivering charge of his office of superintendent of canals to his successor, the present Sir Proby Cautley, recommended the project to his consideration. Colonel Cautley carefully examined the country through which the canal would pass, and the scheme was, in 1841, brought under the consideration of the home authorities, who gave it their cordial support, subject to a further examination of the project by a committee of engineer officers. The committee's report was favourable; but various difficulties intervened, and the work cannot be said to have been fairly commenced, on a scale commensurate with its importance, till the year 1848.

The total length of the Ganges Canal and its branches, when completed, will be 898½ miles, and it will furnish abundant irrigation for an area of 4,500,000 acres. The canal, in the words of the Lieutenant-governor of the North-western Provinces, "presents a system of irrigation unequalled in vastness throughout the world; while the dimensions of the main channel, and the stupendous works of masonry which occur in its course, more particularly in the section between Roorkee and Hurdwar, render the work eminently one of national distinction and honour." The amount expended on it up to the 1st of May 1856, had reached the sum of 1,560,000*l.*; and when completed, the total cost will fall little short of 2,000,000*l.* The canal has but just begun to be brought into operation; but it is estimated by Colonel Baird Smith, the director, that the annual produce of the land already watered by it is of the value of from 150,000*l.* to 200,000*l.*; and that when the canal is in full operation, the value will ultimately reach the enormous sum of 7,000,000*l.*

On the 30th April 1856, the canal had been carried so far that the water flowed continuously through 449½ miles of the main trunk and terminal branches. The extent of main channels of distribution (rajubhas) completed, was 435½ miles, and 817 miles more were in active progress.

The canal is fitted also for purposes of navigation, but it has not yet been made available to the public for this purpose, although extensively used by the Government for the transport of materials. Colonel Baird Smith states that the canal closes its first year of work (1855-56) with an aggregate revenue, from all sources, of rather more than Rs. 60,000, having watered during the year about 55,000 acres

acres of land, and having placed beyond the risk of serious damage from drought, an area of cultivation extending over about 160,000 acres, distributed among 1,134 villages.

In the Punjab, the canals are of two kinds, inundation canals and permanent canals. The inundation canals are cuts from the rivers, which are empty during the winter, because the water is not then high enough to enter them; but as the water rises in the spring, from the melting of the snows, these channels fill, and remain full until late in autumn. The fertility of the South-western Punjab mainly depends on these canals, and in a former age they appear to have been conducted from all the rivers; their course being traceable by the ruins not only of villages but of cities and public buildings, which depended for existence on their fertilising influence. Such of these canals as were found in working order at the annexation have been maintained, improved, and enlarged; and plans and estimates have been formed for the restoration of others. As yet, however, the greater part of the funds which could be spared for the purpose have been devoted to the construction and improvement of permanent canals. In 1849, the enlargement and extension of the Huslee Canal, stated to be capable of irrigating 70,000 beghas of land, was sanctioned, and it is now in good working order. But this will ultimately be superseded by the Baree Doab Canal for irrigation and navigation. The length of this new work is about 450 miles; the original estimate of the cost was 530,000 *l.*; but more extensive works than were at first expected having been found necessary, and the rates of labour having proved much dearer than those calculated, the ultimate cost will fall little short of a million sterling. In May 1856, more than 325 miles had been excavated; and it was hoped that the canal would be opened in 1859. The expected return is 12 lacs of rupees, or 120,000 *l.* per annum.

Punjab Canals.

The cultivation of the province of Sind is dependent on the rise of the river Indus, whose waters are distributed over the face of the country by a network of canals of greater or smaller dimensions. About two and a half lacs (25,000 *l.*) are annually expended in clearing these canals from the deposits of silt left in them by the receding waters. The principal works which have received special sanction are the widening and deepening of the Bageree Canal in Upper Sind, at a cost of 13,000 *l.* (expected return 11,900 *l.* per annum), and the improvement and extension of the Foolalie Canal, at a cost of 15,083 *l.*

Sind Canals.

In the Madras Presidency, the means of artificial irrigation are chiefly obtained by the construction of tanks or reservoirs for preserving the monsoon rains, and storing them up for use in the dry season, and of "anicutts," or dams across the beds of rivers, by which the waters are maintained at a level higher than that of the country, in order to be from thence conducted over its surface. Of the latter class of works, the most worthy of notice are those which have been constructed on the Coleroon, the Godavery, and the Kistna.

The commencement of the Coleroon works is said to be traceable to the second century of our era. Imperfectly executed in the first instance, they were found, when the country came into our possession in 1801, to be very defective; and notwithstanding the remedial measures adopted, the bed of the river continued to rise, from the deposit of silt; the extent of land which the means of irrigation could reach, diminished; the revenue fell off, and the condition of the people was gradually deteriorating. This state of things appears to have reached its acme about 1829-30. Plans and estimates were then framed, and from 1836 the work was regularly and vigorously prosecuted. The total expenditure on the Upper and Lower Coleroon anicutts, up to their completion, amounted, as far as can be ascertained, to upwards of 80,000 *l.* In addition to this sum, subsidiary works for conveying irrigation over the districts of Tanjore, and portions of Trichinopoly and South Arcot, were constructed, at a cost of about 100,000 *l.*

Coleroon Works.

The average quantity of land watered annually from the Coleroon and Cauvery prior to 1836, is given at 630,613 acres. Since the improvements, the average (up to 1850) was 716,524 acres; being an increase of 85,911. The annual increase of revenue has been about 44,000 *l.*; and it may be assumed that the agricultural community have benefited to the extent of at least 66,000 *l.* per annum, from the extension of the area of irrigation. It is further calculated that at least an equal amount is added to the value of the annual produce, by the better irrigation of the lands which the waters already reached.

**Godavery Anicut.** An expenditure of 47,575 *l.* for the construction of the Godavery anicut was sanctioned in 1846. It was then anticipated that the total cost, with compound interest at 5 per cent., would be recovered in 10 years, and that thenceforward a clear profit would be returned of at least 9,000 *l.* per annum. The work has, however, proved much more costly than was expected. Up to 1852, the amount expended was 130,000 *l.*, and a further outlay of 110,000 *l.* was expected to be required, which, with 24,000 *l.* allowed for annual repairs during its completion, would raise the total expenditure on the works (including a system of roads and an important line of inland navigation) to 264,000 *l.* The amount expended has, it is stated, been already repaid by the increased receipts; and the Madras Public Works Commissioners of 1852 (to one of whom, Colonel Cottou, the merit of this important work is in a great measure due) estimate that when the works shall be in full operation, the total increase of revenue will not be less than 300,000 *l.* per annum, while the gain to the people, by enabling them to cultivate the more valuable products, such as sugar-cane, rice, &c., instead of the ordinary dry crops, will exceed 3,000,000 *l.* per annum.

**Kistna Anicut.** The anicut across the Kistna river was commenced in 1853. The original estimate of the cost was 155,000 *l.*; but it is probable that this amount will be to some extent exceeded. It is intended, by 290 miles of irrigation channels distributed on both sides of the river, to supply water sufficient for 280,000 acres of rice cultivation, or 350,000 of rice, sugar, and possibly cotton, combined. The results anticipated are, an increase of 60,000 *l.* in the revenue of Government, and a gain of 90,000 *l.* per annum to the agricultural community.

**Palar Anicut.** In 1854, sanction was given to an expenditure of 86,611 *l.* for the construction of an anicut across the Palar river, in North Arcot, and of the works subsidiary to it. The expected increase of revenue was stated at 18,470 *l.* per annum, or, deducting 10 per cent. for repairs, 16,623 *l.*

Very large sums have in the aggregate been spent in the construction of new, and still more in the repair and restoration of old, tanks and wells, both in the Madras Presidency and in the other parts of India which depend on works of that description for water supply. In some hill districts, ravines have been dammed up, and a head of water obtained for the irrigation of the adjacent valleys or plains. This was the plan of Colonel Dixon's irrigation works in Mhairwarra; and a system of such works had begun to be executed in Bundelcund, when the disturbances broke out.

A disposition has been of late shown to form companies for the execution of profitable works of irrigation, on certain conditions to be granted by the State. In September last, the Indian Governments were directed to take this subject into deliberate consideration, and to frame rules under which the aid of private companies in the construction of such works might most beneficially be employed; and readiness was expressed to give to such companies a guarantee of interest, on the same footing as railway companies.

**Roads and navigable canals.**

Next in importance to irrigation works, are the means of internal communication. Whatever may have been the degree of care bestowed by the Hindoo and Mahomedan Governments on the former object, it has not been pretended that they did anything for the latter. It was never their practice to lay out money in the construction of permanent roads, or in the formation of canals for navigation. The plains of India are traversable by carts, and even by armies, without made roads, throughout the dry season; and neither (in general) military movements, nor commercial transport, were carried on during the rains. Roads, therefore, in India, were not, as in some countries, a matter of absolute necessity; and in this respect, whatever has been done at all, has been done by the British Government.

**Grand Trunk Road.**

The most important line of road in India is the Grand Trunk road from Calcutta to Delhi, through Hooghly, Burdwan, and Benares, and including either in the main line, or by means of branches, all the principal cities of the North-west Provinces. This road, 387 miles in extent, has been gradually brought to its present state of a thoroughly well-formed road, metalled and bridged, except a few of the larger rivers, which are still crossed by ferries; but over all these (it is believed), except the Ganges and the Soane, bridges are in course of construction. This road, with its continuation to Kurnal (and now to Lahore, which is in course of completion), has been divided into different portions, each under the charge of a separate

a separate engineer officer, with an establishment for the purposes of construction, or of maintenance and protection, as the case may be. The cost of the Grand Trunk Road as far as Delhi had been, up to the year 1848, 489,100 £, and the annual expense of maintaining it was then estimated at 35,000 £.

Since the annexation of the Punjab, a continuation of the Grand Trunk Road from Lahore to Peshawur, a distance of 275 miles, has been in progress. This road also is to be completely metalled and bridged throughout. The cost was estimated, when the work was sanctioned in 1852, at 154,848 £. By means of this road a direct line of communication will have been established between Calcutta and the extreme boundary of the British territory to the north-west, a distance of 1,500 miles. Besides this, many other roads in the Punjab, and among them roads from Jullundur to Lahore, and from Lahore to Mooltan, have been undertaken.

The sea has been mainly relied on for communication with Madras; but roads are now in course of formation, which will provide a line of continuous communication by land.

The land communication with Western India is carried on by way of the Grand Trunk Road to Benares, onward by Mirzapore and Jubbulpore to Nagpore, and thence to Bombay. The road beyond Mirzapore, under the name of the Great Deccan Road, was commenced thirty years ago, but was kept up only as a fair-weather road till within the last few years, when arrangements were made for its being thoroughly raised, metalled, and bridged. The distance from Mirzapore to Nagpore or Kamptee, is nearly four hundred miles. Estimates amounting to 11,659 £ were sanctioned by the Court of Directors in 1856, for bridging the portion of road between Mirzapore and Jubbulpore, which had been already metalled; 25,084 £ were also sanctioned for raising and metalling the portion between Jubbulpore and Kamptee, and measures were further authorised to bridge this portion of the road.

Great Deccan Road.

Another great and important line, the Agra and Bombay Road, 735 miles in length, was commenced in 1840. In 1854, the Court sanctioned an annual expenditure of 9,880 £ for the maintenance and improvement of the portion of this road between Agra and the frontier of the Bombay Presidency.

Agra and Bombay Road.

After the annexation of Pegu, roads were projected by way of Dacca to Arracan, from which province a road was to be carried over the mountains to Prome. Great difficulty was experienced in laying out a road from Calcutta to Dacca, and it is probable that this part of the project will not be carried into effect; the traffic of this district, so intersected by tidal channels, being left to be carried on by water, unless it shall be found practicable to form a railway. A road to Jessore (the line of communication with Assam and Burmah) was, however, sanctioned, at a cost of 41,720 £, on a rough estimate. From Dacca to Chittagong considerable progress has been made in the formation of a road, or rather in the completion, as a first-class road, of the road which, though in a most inefficient state, previously existed. From Arracan into Pegu, the task of forming a road across the mountains by the Toungoop Pass has been most successfully accomplished by Lieutenant Forlong.

Dacca and Chittagong Road.

In Pegu itself no time was lost, after the acquisition of the province, in commencing improved means of communication. The sanction of the home authorities was sought and given to roads from Rangoon to Prome, a distance of nearly two hundred miles, at an estimated cost of 160,000 £, and from Martaban to Toungoo, *via* Sitang.

Pegu Roads.

Besides the great lines of communication above enumerated, a multitude of shorter lines have been constructed, at the entire cost of Government, in Bengal, the North-western Provinces, and the Punjab, while considerable sums have annually been expended in the two former divisions of territory from local funds. Among the roads either completed or under construction at the expense of Government, is one from a point on the East India Railway to Darjeeling (roughly estimated at about 200,000 £); another from Doobee, on the Grand Trunk Road, to Patna (cost 115,000 £); numerous roads in the Saugor and Nerbudda territories; and a road from the plains to Simla and the other hill stations, continued through the mountains to Chini in Thibet. The district roads were, until within the last few years, maintained from the profits of the ferries kept up by Government; but there are now also appropriated to this purpose, in Bengal, the surplus

Miscellaneous Roads.



tolls on the Nuddea rivers and the Calcutta canals, amounting altogether to 50,000 *l.*, and the surplus proceeds of various local funds established for other purposes. In the North-western Provinces, one per cent. on the land revenue is contributed in equal portions by the Government and by the landowners, for the purpose of district roads; the landowners being thus freed from the obligation which previously lay on them, of keeping in repair the public roads which passed through their lands. In these provinces, as in Bengal, the ferry funds are appropriated to district roads, and they amount to about 20,000 *l.*

#### Madras Roads.

The first step to the systematic prosecution of road-making in the Madras Presidency was taken in 1845, by the appointment of an officer to the charge of the main or trunk lines of road, and the appropriation to the maintenance and improvement of the roads, of the annual sum of 40,000 *l.* The roads under the charge of the superintendent were, the Western Road, to the Mysore frontier towards Bangalore (200 miles); the Southern Road, to Trichinopoly (205 miles); the Northern Road, to the Bengal frontier, with a branch to Cuddapah (785 miles); and the Sumpajee Ghaut Road, from the western frontier of Mysore to Mangalore (105 miles). Up to May 1851, 37,121 *l.* had been expended on the Western Road, exclusive of the cost of superintendence; and the road had been made passable for travelling carriages at the rate of six miles an hour. Besides the road department under the charge of the superintendent, the civil engineers of districts were charged with the improvement of the district roads, under the orders of the Collectors; and the care of roads in some districts was under the officers of the Military Board. The expenditure on roads, bridges, and ghauts, under the Madras Presidency, increased in the five years from 1846 to 1850, from an average of 16,179 *l.* to one of 42,076 *l.* The expenditure in 1849, 1850, and 1851, was respectively 45,149 *l.*, 58,197 *l.*, and 59,680 *l.* In the succeeding year the department came under an improved organisation; and the outlay in 1855-56, the last year for which it can be ascertained, was 193,930 *l.*; to which may be added 30,957 *l.* for navigable canals—in all, 224,887 *l.*

Among the works in progress in the Madras Presidency, for the improvement of the means of communication, is the formation of the East Coast Canal, to be effected by the junction of the various back-waters, and of the local canals which in several places already exist, completed by entirely new channels to be excavated. The expenditure on this work, up to 1855-56, amounted to 14,171 *l.*

#### Bombay Roads.

The made roads in the Bombay Presidency, twenty-five years ago, were almost entirely limited to the presidency town and its immediate neighbourhood; the road from Bombay (or rather Panwell, on the other side of the harbour) to Poonah, being the only road to a distant place on which any considerable expenditure had taken place. This road has since been greatly improved, and supplied with bridges. The Bhoze Ghaut, or pass, on this road, formerly accessible only to bullocks, and coolies (or porters), had in 1830, at an expense of about 13,000 *l.*, been made easy for carriages: the Thull Ghaut, on the Bombay and Agra road, has since been similarly improved; and roads over the Khoonda Ghaut, the Tulkut Ghaut, and the Koomtudee Ghaut, to the southward, have since been put under construction, to facilitate the communications between the coast and the interior of the country.

The portion of the Agra and Bombay road within the jurisdiction of the Bombay Government is 270 miles in length: the expenditure on it had amounted, in 1848, to 75,390 *l.*; and since that time a considerable outlay has taken place, especially on the improvement of the Thull Ghaut and the road below it.

#### Sind Roads.

A system of roads for Sind, at an estimated cost of from 20,000 *l.* to 30,000 *l.*, received the sanction of the home authorities in 1854, and is in progress.

#### New organisation of public works.

From the preceding details it will be seen that very considerable sums had been expended on the construction and improvement of roads in India at a much earlier period than is frequently represented. But the extraordinary activity with which these operations have been carried on dates from 1856. In January of that year, the home authorities, being dissatisfied with the progress made in the prosecution of public works throughout India, deliberately reviewed, in a despatch to the Government of India, the system under which such works had, up to that time, been carried on, and found, in the division of responsibility and the absence of unity of action, ground for the opinion that a great change was required. In consequence of the orders contained in that despatch, a Commission was appointed

in each presidency, to consider and report on the subject. Their investigations have led to the formation of a separate department of Public Works in each presidency, based on one uniform plan, and to the addition of a secretary in the department of Public Works to the secretariat of the Government of India. From this period to the commencement of the present unhappy disturbances, the activity of the department has been incessant; the engineer officers of the three Indian armies supplying the higher order of professional skill, and the subordinate European superintendence being afforded by numerous non-commissioned officers possessing the requisite qualifications, and latterly by a considerable number of civil engineers, engaged in England, who have proved in many cases of the greatest value to the department. As a means of supplying well-qualified subordinates for the purpose of public works, a college for instruction in civil engineering was established in 1847. It was fixed at Roorkee, near the head of the Ganges Canal, the works and establishments at that place affording peculiar facilities for combining practical with theoretical instruction. The plan of the college was greatly enlarged in 1852; and its annual charge is about 7,000 *l*. The establishment of colleges of civil engineering at Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay, has subsequently been sanctioned.

Colleges of civil engineering.

The preceding statements relate only to works constructed by public money. The construction of railways is carried on by private capital, with a guarantee of interest by the Government. It is proper to give a brief summary of the railway-works which have been sanctioned and commenced.

Railways.

Four thousand one hundred and fifty-eight miles of railway have been sanctioned, and measures are being taken for their construction under a guarantee of interest, viz.:—

By the *East-Indian* Railway Company, from Calcutta to Delhi, with branches from Burdwan to Raneegunge, and from Mirzapore to Jubbulpore, 1,400 miles.

By the *Eastern Bengal* Railway Company, from Calcutta to the Ganges at at Koostree, near Pubnah (130 miles), being the first section of a line to Dacca, with a branch to Jessore; which, when completed, will form the basis of a system of railways for Eastern Bengal.

By the *Madras* Company, from Madras to the western coast at Beypore, 430 miles; and

From Madras, *via* Cuddapah and Bellary, to meet a line from Bombay at or near the river Kistna, 310 miles.

By the *Great Indian Peninsula* Company, from Bombay to Callian, thirty-three miles, with extensions,

North-east to Jubbulpore, to meet the line from Mirzapore, with a branch to Oomrawuttee and Nagpore, 818 miles; and south-east, *via* Poonah and Sholapore, to the Kistna river, to meet the line from Madras, 357 miles.

By the *Sind and Punjab* Company, from Kurrachee to a point on the Indus, at or near to Kotree, 120 miles; and from Moultan to Lahore and Amritsir in the Punjab, 230 miles.

By the *Bombay, Baroda, and Central India* Company, from Bombay to Surat, Baroda, and Ahmedabad, 330 miles.

The following statement shows the amount of capital which, it is estimated, will be required for the above extent of lines, and the amount of capital already issued:—

RAILWAY COMPANY.	Estimated Outlay required to complete the several Lines sanctioned.	Total Amount of Capital at present issued with the sanction of the East India Company.
	£	£.
East Indian - - - - -	12,731,000	8,731,000
Eastern Bengal - - - - -	1,000,000	1,000,000
Madras - - - - -	6,000,000	4,000,000
Great Indian Peninsula - - - - -	10,000,000	6,833,300
Sind and Punjab - - - - -	2,500,000	1,000,000
Bombay, Baroda, and Central India - - - - -	2,000,000	1,750,000
£.	34,231,000	22,814,000

## MEMORANDUM OF THE IMPROVEMENTS

In addition to this assistance by way of guarantee, the land for the railways (including compensation for all buildings thereon), and for their termini, has been given by Government. The value of this may be estimated at more than 1,000,000 £. for the above extent of line.

The lines in course of construction have been chosen for commercial, quite as much as for military and political, objects. In every case the existing channels of trade have been followed. The chief cotton producing districts are provided with railway accommodation; and in one or two instances, such as the railway which connects the great cotton field of Berar with Bombay, and the railway through Surat and Guzerat, the principal object is to develop the agricultural resources of those districts, and to bring their produce into communication with the sea.

At present only a small section is open in each Presidency, making about 400 miles in all; but 3,600 more are being constructed almost simultaneously. The following statement will show the sections now open, the periods at which other sections are to be opened, and at which the whole will be completed:—

RAILWAY COMPANY.	Total Length of Lines.	Experimental Line.	Periods at which it is estimated that the remaining Works on the Lines will be completed.			
<b>EAST INDIAN:</b>	<i>Miles.</i>					
Calcutta to Delhi, say - - -	1,100	Calcutta to Burdwan, and branch to Raneegeunge, 121 miles; commenced 1850, completed 1855.	Burdwan to Rajmahal (130 miles), 240 from Calcutta; December 1859.*	Between Rajmahal and Allahabad, 440 miles; 1860.	Between Allahabad and Cawnpore (1st section N. W. P. division), 126 miles; nearly ready for opening.†	Cawnpore to Delhi, 260 miles, October 1858, (excepting the bridge over the Jumna).
Mirzapore to Jubbulpore (a) - -	300					
(a) <i>Note.</i> —No period yet specified for the completion of the line.	1,400					
<b>GREAT INDIAN PENINSULA:</b>			<b>N. E. LINE.</b>			
Bombay to Callian - - - -	33	Bombay to Callian, 33 miles; commenced 1850, completed 1854.	Callian to Bhosawal, 241 miles; October 1859.	Bhosawal to Oomrawuttee, 125 miles; December 1860.	Oomrawuttee to Nagpore, 138 miles; March 1861.	Bhosawal to Jubbulpore; not yet estimated, probably the end of 1861.
Callian to Jubbulpore, with branch to Nagpore, via Oomrawuttee - -	818					
<b>S. E. LINE.</b>			<b>S. E. LINE.</b>			
Callian to the Krishna, via Poonah and Sholapore - - - -	357	Sections N. E. to Wassind (16 miles) and S. E. to Campoolie (38 miles) have subsequently been opened. Now open, 87 miles.	Callian to Poonah, 91 miles; February 1858.	Poonah to Sholapore, 165 miles; 1860.	Sholapore to Krishna; not estimated, probably the end of 1861.	
	1,208					
<b>MADRAS:</b>						
Madras to Beynore - - - -	430	Madras to Vellore, 81 miles; commenced 1853, completed to Arcot 1856, and to Vellore in 1857.		Vellore to Vaniambuddy, 125 miles from Madras; January 1858. To Beynore on the western coast; March 1859.		The line to the Krishna not yet estimated; probably to Bellary in 1861, and to the Krishna in 1863.
Madras via Cuddapah and Bellary, to the Krishna, about - - - -	310					
	740					
<b>SIND:</b>						
Kurrachee to the Indus, at or near to Kotree - - - -	120	Estimated to be completed by October 1859.				
<b>BOMBAY, BARODA, and CENTRAL INDIA:</b>						
Bombay to Surat, Baroda, and Ahmedabad - - - -	330	Estimated to be completed from Surat to Baroda in 1858, and to Ahmedabad in 1859. The tion between Bombay and Surat not yet estimated.				

\* Delays have occurred in this district, in consequence of the Sonthal insurrection and the subsequent disturbances in Bengal.

† Would have been opened by December 1857, but for delays occasioned by the mutiny.

The works for the trunk lines above described have been made suitable for locomotive engines, and are of a solid and permanent character, so that an uninterrupted communication will be maintained throughout the year.

The mileage cost of the lines which have been completed has been :—

*East Indian.*—Calcutta to Raneegunge, 121 miles (including double line to Burdwan, and terminal stations), about 12,000 *l.* per mile.

*Madras.*—Madras to Arcot, 65 miles, about 5,500 *l.* per mile.

The data in respect to the line now open in the Bombay Presidency, constructed by the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company, are not sufficiently complete to enable the actual mileage cost to be ascertained.

It is, perhaps, premature to judge of the success of Indian railways as commercial undertakings; but the line from Calcutta to Raneegunge is already earning a profit of nearly seven per cent., being two per cent. beyond the guaranteed rate of interest. The following table will show the extent of traffic on the East Indian Railway for the year ending 31st December 1856 :—

P E R I O D.	NUMBER OF PASSENGERS CONVEYED.			
	1st Class.	2d Class.	3d Class.	TOTAL.
Six months ending 30 June 1856 - -	6,466	23,256	402,599	432,321
Six months ending 31 December 1856 - -	6,639	25,877	432,605	465,121
TOTAL - -	13,105	49,133	835,204	895,442

P E R I O D.	Goods.	RECEIPTS.		
	Tons.	£.	s.	d.
Six months ending 30 June 1856 - -	33,010	95,188	16	4
Six months ending 31 December 1856 - -	44,075			
TOTAL - -	77,085	95,188	16	4

It may be observed that these are the results of the traffic on a line where the amount of merchandise conveyed is very small, compared with what it will become when the railway is continued to the Ganges at Rajmahal.

The numbers stated under the head of "Third Class" in the above table will in some degree indicate the extent to which the natives use the railway. The receipts from this class are nearly four times as great as from the two higher classes combined; the receipts from passenger traffic in the half year ending 30 June 1856 having been :

1st Class - - - - -	Rs. 27,986
2d " - - - - -	29,589
3d " - - - - -	1,99,883

In addition to the lines specified above, the Court have sanctioned the construction of one by the Calcutta and South Eastern Railway Company, from Calcutta to the Mutlah river, upon the same terms as to the provision of land, but without any guarantee of interest.

Even more important as a means of communication than railways is the electric telegraph, the use of which at the commencement of the late disturbances may be said, with scarcely any exaggeration, to have saved our empire. Having already, in a wonderfully short space of time, connected the seats of the different governments

governments by lines of telegraph upwards of 3,000 miles in length, the Government of India is now engaged in establishing additional lines of about the same extent, through which the most important places will be brought into communication with each other by alternative routes.

The lines established, and in course of construction, are :

- 1st. From Calcutta, *viâ* Benares, Cawnpore, Agra, Meerut, Delhi, Umritsir, and Lahore, to Peshawur; with a branch to Lucknow.
- 2d. From Bombay to Agra, *viâ* Indore and Gwalior.
- 3d. From Bombay to Madras, *viâ* Sattara, Bellary, and Bangalore.
- 4th. From Bombay along the coast, by Vingorla and Mangalore, to Cananore.
- 5th. From Bangalore to Ootacamund and Mahableswar.
- 6th. From Benares, through the centre of the Peninsula, by Mirzapore, Jubbulpore, Nagpore, and Hyderabad, to Bellary.
- 7th. From Bombay, by Surat and Baroda, to Kurrachee.
- 8th. From Kurrachee, by Hyderabad (Sind) and Moulton, to Lahore.
- 9th. From Calcutta, by Dacca, Akyal, and Promc, to Pegu and Rangoon.
- 10th. From Calcutta to Madras, by the coast; and,
- 11th. From Madras, along the coast, by Pondicherry, Tranquebar, and Rannad, to Ceylon.

The lines already established have cost upon an average about 50*l.* per mile. Besides their inappreciable value to the Government for political and military purposes, they are freely used by the mercantile community. Though the charges are very moderate, the revenue, in the first year of working the lines, exceeded the expenses, and since then the receipts have been steadily increasing.

#### EDUCATION.

Early educational proceedings.

THE first measures of the English Government for aiding education in India were directed to the preservation of Oriental learning from decay, and several institutions, supported or endowed by Government, were maintained for that special purpose. A secondary object was the training, for the service of Government, of men acquainted with the systems of law followed by the various religious communities, and constituting, on certain subjects, the rule binding on our tribunals.

The views of the Government, however, gradually underwent a great change, and, partly from the spontaneous action of the Government and its officers, partly by directions from home, the basis of the Government measures for promoting education was greatly widened, on the one hand by introducing the study of English into all the higher places of instruction under Government influence, and, on the other, by giving a much wider range and greater practical utility to the studies carried on in the vernacular or other Oriental languages.

Government Colleges.

All the Government educational institutions in Bengal have been either gradually brought within the scope of these principles, or were originally founded on them. Those institutions consisted, previously to 1854, of the Hooghly, Dacca, and Kishnagur provincial colleges, with the schools attached to them; to these has since been added a college at Berhampore. At Calcutta itself, the Government contributed to the funds for the support of the Hindoo College and of the Mahomedan Madrissa, but there was no institution at the Presidency town open to all classes and creeds at which an education of a high order was imparted. This deficiency was supplied in 1854, an arrangement being made by which the Hindoo College, as an exclusive institution, was abolished, and a Presidency College established, calculated to afford an education of the highest order, and open without restriction to all sections of the community. The cost of this institution will amount to above 10,000*l.* when all the arrangements shall be complete. It amounted in 1855-56 to between 7,000*l.* and 8,000*l.* In addition to general education, provision is made in this institution for instruction in law and jurisprudence; medicine and civil engineering are otherwise provided for.

The Government colleges in the North-western Provinces consisted, in 1854, of those at Benares, Agra, Delhi, and Bareilly. In these, as at the Bengal colleges, education was imparted through the medium both of English and of the vernacular.

vernacular. The education given was of a very efficient character, and the students generally obtained employment in the service of Government, in which many of them fill situations of responsibility.

For a considerable period the direct aid of Government to education, both in Bengal and in the North-western Provinces, was principally confined to the Government colleges, and to the schools which were attached or affiliated to them for the purpose of supplying them with students. In 1846, however, Mr. Thomason, the Lieutenant-governor of the North-western Provinces, proposed a plan for the establishment throughout those provinces of a system of village schools, by means of an assignment of land by Government for the support of a schoolmaster in each village. In 1848 Mr. Thomason submitted amended proposals, confined to the establishment by Government of one school in each tehsel, as a model for the village schools, and the institution of a visiting agency, which, with a visitor-general at its head, should not only superintend the Government schools, but visit the village schools generally for the purpose of assisting and aiding the masters, and rewarding the most deserving. The cost of this scheme, for all the districts of the North-western Provinces, was estimated at upwards of 20,000*l.*; but it was considered best to introduce the plan experimentally in eight districts, at a cost of 3,600*l.* per annum (exclusive of the salary of the visitor-general); and this measure proved so successful in the selected districts, that its extension to all the 31 districts of the North-western Provinces was subsequently sanctioned, at a total cost of 17,207*l.*

Village Schools.

But valuable as were the general results of this scheme, and useful as were the tehsel schools to the inhabitants of the towns, the village schools (though the numbers attending them had considerably increased) did not improve as had been hoped; and a new plan was accordingly devised, with the best prospects of success, to meet the wants of the agricultural population; this is the establishment of hulkabundee or circle schools. Several villages conveniently situated for the purpose are grouped together, and in a central situation a school is established, at the joint cost of all the villages, none of which is more than two miles from the central school. For the support of these schools the consent of landowners was sought to the appropriation of a small per-centage on the amount of the Government revenue (one per cent. being the amount fixed), of which half is contributed by Government and half by the landowners. The assent of the landowners to this plan has been obtained in many districts; and it will be made a condition of all future settlements, and has been so made as re-settlements have taken place. It is estimated that when all the districts shall have been re-settled (which will not be till 1874), 40,000*l.* per annum will be thus available; of which 20,000*l.* will be at the expense of Government and 20,000*l.* at that of the landowners.

Hulkabundee or Circle Schools.

In Bengal the establishment of 101 vernacular schools had been authorised by the Government in 1844, shortly before the first proposals of Mr. Thomason. The schools were established at the places where they were thought most likely to succeed; but, except in a very few cases, they failed to attract scholars, the old indigenous schools, where nothing worthy of the name of education was afforded, proving more popular. In 1853 and 1854, accordingly, this system was superseded in favour of the plan already adopted in the North-western Provinces, of a visitorial staff, model schools, and aid and encouragement to indigenous schools. The estimate for the plan, on the experimental scale proposed, amounted to about 7,000*l.* per annum.

There was a normal school for the masters of vernacular schools at this time at Agra, which was working very well. At Calcutta the Sanscrit College furnished a considerable number of masters suited for village schools.

Schools for Teachers.

Thus stood the arrangements of the Government for native education in India, when a new impulse was given to the subject by the orders from home in 1854. Before adverting to these something must be said of what had previously been done in the two subordinate presidencies.

The history of education at Madras, up to a recent period, presents little beyond a record of failures. A plan was proposed by Sir Thomas Munro in 1822, and approved by the home authorities, for the establishment of provincial, district, and tehsel schools throughout the Presidency, at an estimated cost of 5,000*l.* per annum. Schools were established, but they proved failures, and were abolished. The University of Madras was nominally established by Lord Elphinstone's Government;

Government; but in the only department of it which was really proceeded with—the lower department, or “high school”—the success was by no means great, and the number of pupils was quite disproportionate to the expense. The whole subject of education came under reconsideration in 1852, when a plan was laid down by the Government, which provided for the education of all classes in a way very much in accordance with that which has since been laid down for adoption throughout India; comprising a central institution at the Presidency, provincial colleges or high schools, zillah and tehseelee schools, with a system of inspection or visitation, and grants in aid. The University at Madras was at once remodelled; but little progress had been made up to 1854 in carrying out the other parts of the plan, beyond the establishment of provincial schools at Cuddalore and Rajahmundry.

Colleges and  
Schools in West-  
ern India.

The principal places of education in the Bombay Presidency are the Elphinstone Institution at Bombay and the college at Poonah. These institutions, partly founded by native subscriptions and partly by the Government, were designed to afford a collegiate education of a high class through the medium of the English language, a staff of professors being maintained for giving instruction in mathematics, English literature, natural philosophy, logic, mental and moral philosophy, political economy, &c. A high school was attached to the Elphinstone Institution, and a Sanscrit department to the Poonah College. In 1854-55 there was only one district of the Presidency in which there was not a Government English school. Vernacular schools had been established in many places at the expense of Government, but as the plan had not long been adopted of requiring any part of the cost to be defrayed from local resources, operations in this direction had been much limited by want of funds. Under a plan brought into operation shortly before 1854 the establishment of a school by Government was made conditional on a portion of the expense being defrayed by the inhabitants; and under this rule vernacular education was in course of steady extension up to 1854. A normal class for masters of Mahrattce schools existed at Poonah, and one for masters of Guzerattee schools at Surat.

Education  
Despatch of 1854.

It is now time to advert to the despatch from the home authorities of the 19th of July 1854, which was designed to give as great an additional impulse to the operations of Government in the promotion of education as had already been given to the department of Public Works. This despatch directed that the previous Boards of Education, which consisted of private persons and of Government officers in their private capacity, should be abolished, and that a department of Education, under a director, should be appointed in each Presidency and sub-Presidency. The limits which had previously been placed upon the total expenditure of each Government for educational purposes were removed; the establishment of universities at the Presidency towns was directed, and minute instructions were given respecting the mode of their constitution. A great extension of vernacular education was contemplated, and orders were given for introducing the system of grants in aid to private institutions, dependent on the quality of the secular instruction given, as ascertained by a Government inspection.

Directors of  
Public Instruction.

Effect was immediately given to these instructions, so far as regards the formation of the controlling establishments. Directors of Public Instruction were appointed in Bengal, the North-western Provinces, Madras, Bombay, and the Punjab, and under them inspectors and sub-inspectors of different grades, and in numbers proportioned to the territories to be superintended. Rules for regulating grants in aid have been laid down, and considerable grants have been made under all the Governments. The amount of these grants was at first limited by the authorities in India to a certain per-centage on the expenditure on Government institutions; but this limit has been taken off by instructions from home. Universities have been constituted, under Acts of the Legislature of India, at Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay. Measures are also in progress for carrying out the objects of the despatch of 1854, as regards vernacular education in Bengal, Madras, and Bombay. In the North-western Provinces it has only been necessary to give greater extension, as had been previously intended, to the measures already introduced.

Grants in aid.

Universities.

Medical schools  
and colleges.

In addition to the institutions for giving a general education to the different classes of the community, either through English or the vernacular, colleges or schools for several branches of professional education are maintained at the different presidencies. Of the engineering colleges mention has already been made.

made. Medical schools had from an early period been maintained at all the Presidencies, to train persons for employment in the subordinate branches of the medical service, as compounders, dressers, native doctors, &c. These institutions were gradually raised in character, and for many years past have held the rank of colleges, in which medical education of a first-class character is afforded. They have in consequence received the "recognition" of the College of Surgeons in London; and the graduates of these colleges are entitled to all privileges which are conferred by the College of Surgeons on the members of the colonial medical institutions recognised by them.

The graduates almost invariably enter the service of Government, though some few, especially at Bombay, prefer private practice. To afford encouragement to the graduates of the colleges, and meet the want of well-qualified medical officers for the service of Government, a special native medical service has been created, under the title of Sub-assistant Surgeons, for which a degree in one of the medical colleges of India is a necessary qualification. These officers are divided into three grades, promotion being regulated by the joint consideration of length of service and professional qualification, as ascertained by special examination. The principal use which has been made of this class has been in connexion with the Government dispensaries, but some few have been appointed to the charge of the smaller stations. Their professional qualifications are, in many cases, of a high order; and the triumph which has been effected over the religious prejudices of the natives in popularising the dissection of dead bodies, is a proof that this indirect mode of correcting their superstitions, by the influence of useful knowledge, is a highly effectual one.

Native Medical Service.

The important subject of school books has been for many years attended to. In the North-western Provinces a very large number of vernacular books, either originals or translations, have been prepared under the auspices of the Director of Education, and a highly efficient system is in force for their sale and distribution among the schools of all classes. At Calcutta and Bombay much has also been done, and arrangements have more recently been made for the supply of school books in the difficult vernacular languages of the Madras Presidency.

School books.

As a powerful stimulus to the general population to avail themselves of the means of education now placed so generally within their reach, rules have been laid down absolutely requiring a certain amount of education in all persons employed in the public service, except in situations of the lowest class. Even for those lower employments the officers intrusted with the appointments are expected to select persons capable of reading and writing, provided they are qualified in other respects; and returns are required, under most of the Governments, of appointments made, with special reference to this point.

Educational test for public employment.

An inroad has begun to be made upon native prejudices even in the department of female education. The late Mr. Drinkwater Bethune benevolently established a school for Hindoo girls at Calcutta, which, after his death, was adopted by the Marchioness of Dalhousie, supported by the Marquis of Dalhousie until he left India, and is now maintained as a Government institution under the special orders of the home authorities.

Female education.

A highly satisfactory commencement of female education in the North-western Provinces was made in 1856, by the exertions of a meritorious native functionary, the sub-inspector of schools, Pundit Gopal Sing. By his influence 97 female schools were established in the city and district of Agra, and each school was attended, on an average, by 20 pupils. The good example has been followed by the formation of female schools in the zillahs of Muttra and Mynpooree. In the Bombay Presidency, schools for females have been established by natives at Poonah, which are stated to be in satisfactory operation; and some native ladies of wealth and influence at Ahmedabad have lately endowed a female school at that city.

Female education is included within the operations of the enlarged Government scheme of education, and it is hoped that progress will be gradually made in its diffusion.



## MISCELLANEOUS IMPROVEMENTS.

VARIOUS important measures have been adopted within the last twenty years, both for the improvement of the productions of India, and for the introduction of new products.

Cotton experi-  
ments.

In 1840, ten experienced cotton-planters from the United States were engaged, and proceeded to India to conduct, on account of Government, the experimental cultivation of superior kinds of cotton. In the majority of the districts the experiment failed, from unsuitability of climate, but in parts of South-western India it was successful, and a large cultivation of American cotton in those districts now takes place. It is to be remarked that these districts are near the coast, and united with it by improved roads: and, indeed, with the exception of Berar (into the heart of which a line of railway will shortly be carried), all the principal cotton districts of India have ready access to water-carriage, and are not materially impeded by the remaining imperfections of the internal communications.

A most complete body of information on the cotton cultivation of India, and on the suitableness of the various local soils and climates to the cultivation both of the native and the foreign varieties of the plant, has been obtained through the exertions of the American planters and of the servants of Government, and has been condensed and made public in the two works entitled, "On the Culture and Commerce of Cotton in India," and "Review of the Measures which have been adopted in India for the Improved Culture of Cotton," by an eminent officer of the East-India Company, the late lamented Dr. Royle, so distinguished as a man of science, and whose thorough knowledge and understanding both of the Indian climates, and of general climatology in its relation to vegetable productions, has never been excelled, if equalled.

Indian fibrous  
productions.

The same eminent authority, in his work entitled, "The Fibrous Productions of India," has made known an amount of internal resources, of the greatest value to this country (especially in the contingency of a Russian war,) of which no one even of those who had the strongest private interest in the subject, had a suspicion. The collection of raw products, brought together from all parts of India for the Paris Exhibition of 1855, has vastly extended the knowledge accessible to manufacturers and merchants, of the numerous articles suited to the European market, and capable of being imported in any quantity, which only await the necessary attention and the necessary funds on the part of enterprising individuals. An Industrial Museum has recently been formed at the India House for the reception of these and other choice specimens of Indian produce and manufactures.

## Tea cultivation.

The Assam tea has been brought into regular cultivation; and the teas of China have been introduced as a staple product of agriculture, at the expense of Government, into the parts of the Himalayas which are suitable in point of climate. Mr. Fortune was employed in China to obtain a large quantity of the best seeds, and to engage Chinese experienced in the growth and preparation of the article. There is already a considerable production of the higher qualities of tea in these mountains; large tracts of waste land suited to the cultivation are now placed at the disposal of persons desirous of engaging in it, and seeds and plants are given largely and gratuitously from the Government experimental establishments, to all who apply for them with a view to cultivation.

Hospitals and  
dispensaries.

The Indian Governments have long been active in placing the means of medical relief within reach of the population. The rules in force provide for the establishment of a civil hospital or a dispensary, in every town the inhabitants of which have shown their appreciation of the benefit by either providing funds for the erection of a building, or contributing towards the support of the necessary establishments, or by having for some time actually supported a dispensary on a limited scale from their own resources. These institutions are mostly managed by natives trained at the medical colleges; a general superintendence resting with the civil surgeons of the different stations. Their success has been very great. The number of hospitals and dispensaries, and of the patients treated in the during the last year for which returns have been received, was as follows:

	Number of Institutions.	Number of Patients.
Bengal - - - -	43 - - -	153,161
North-west Provinces - - -	47 - - -	245,171
Madras - - - -	35 - - -	184,069
Bombay - - - -	17 - - -	88,793
	<hr/> 142 <hr/>	<hr/> 671,194 <hr/>

Measures have also been taken for many years, and with much success, for the diffusion of vaccination, not only in the British territories, but also in the native states. Vaccination.

Of late years, the establishment of public libraries in the provincial towns has been commenced. The assistance of Government is usually given in the form of a donation of books, and a regular supply of the publications issued by Government, which now include all the most interesting and important papers on the public records, relating to the condition and administration of the country. Libraries.

Independently of what has been done for the benefit of our own subjects, much has also been effected, through the influence of the British Government and its diplomatic officers, to improve the administration of native states. It is hardly possible to exaggerate the disorder and confusion in which most of these were plunged at the time when they first became connected with the British Government. Those among the Mahratta states which had any considerable military strength, made annual expeditions, called Mooluckgheery circuits, for the purpose of conquering or devastating the possessions of their weaker neighbours; and hordes of undisciplined adventurers, known by the name of Pindarries, ranged with fire and sword from one end to the other of the part of India which was under native rule, occasionally invading and ravaging even the British possessions. All this is at an end. The native states are as safe from one another, and from invaders and plunderers from without, as the British dominions. The princes and chiefs are bound by treaties to refer to our arbitration all their differences; and experience has given them the fullest reliance on our impartiality and justice. Boundary disputes between villages of different states, and complaints from the subjects of one against those of another for robberies or other injuries, are adjudicated either by a British officer, or by Courts of Vakeels, composed of representatives of the neighbouring chiefs, presided over by a British functionary. In some parts of India, and particularly of Guzerat, which are divided among a great number of petty chiefs, two weak or two little civilised to control effectually their turbulent subjects, criminal courts have been established, consisting of a British diplomatic officer and assessors selected from among the native chiefs or nobles, for the trial of offences against the general peace of the country. These courts are a powerful agent of civilisation. They are gradually weaning a very backward portion of the natives of India from their barbarous usages. They have nearly suppressed all the classes of crimes which arose out of a generally disturbed state of society; and in dealing with offences which originate in real or supposed grievances, they make due allowance for provocation, and redress the wrongs even of those whom they are obliged to punish for seeking justice by unlawful means. In the more considerable native states, our influence is exerted on the side of good, in every mode permitted by positive engagement. Not only have the British representatives incessantly, and to a great degree successfully, incited native princes to prohibit and suppress the barbarous usages which we have ceased to tolerate in our own territories; but defects have been pointed out, and improvements suggested, in their revenue and judicial administrations. Financial disorder and general misgovernment have been the subject of grave remonstrance, followed up by such positive marks of displeasure as were consistent with the respective treaties. The minorities, which so often occur in native states, have been made use of to appoint capable ministers, to reform abuses, and restore the country in an improved condition to the young chiefs; who, having been in the meantime for the most part educated in European knowledge, and initiated into public business under the eye of a British officer, are often grateful for the care taken of their interest, and continue, after their accession to power, the improved systems commenced during their Improvement of native states.

their minority. The present Scindia and Holkar, and the Rao of Kutch, as well as many others, may be cited as instances. One native ruler, the late Nuwab of Rampore, had actually been a deputy-collector in the service of the British Government. Another, the Rao of Ulwur, on his accession, invited some of our native functionaries to conduct his administration, and reform it after the English model. The Rajpoot states, formerly almost in a state of chronic anarchy, have been rendered peaceful and prosperous, by judicious mediation between the princes and their feudatories, and judicious guidance of both, through advice and influence.

Protection and improvement of the oppressed races.

There still remain to be commemorated a set of proceedings, among the most interesting and the most honourable to our Government, which have distinguished the present century—the measures for raising and civilising the oppressed races.

There are numerous hill tribes in various parts of India, known under the names of Bheels, Coolies, Goands, Mhairs, Meenas, Mhangs, Ramoosees, and others, who are believed to have been the aboriginal population of the country, driven from the plains by the invasion of the Hindoos. These people had been treated like wild beasts by the native Governments, and, by a natural consequence, had become the scourge of the country. Whenever the Government was weak, they destroyed all security in the neighbouring plains by their depredations, and had universally acquired the character of irreclaimable robbers.

The first person who is known to have tried the effect of justice and conciliation on any of these tribes was Mr. Cleveland, an officer high in the civil service of the Company in the latter part of the last century. The scene of his benevolent exertions was the Bhaugulpore Hills, in the north-east of Bengal; and the feelings which he left behind him among the rude people of the district were such, that they long continued to pay religious honours to his tomb. The example thus set has been largely followed in the present generation. One of the first signal instances of success was in the case of the Mhairs, who inhabit a hill district near Ajmere. Colonel Hall, now on the Company's retired list, originated the movement, and it was worthily carried on by Colonel Dixon, recently deceased. In Western India, the honour of the initiative belongs to Mr. J. P. Willoughby, then a very young officer, who by similar means established peace and order among the Bheels of Rajppeepla, a wild district of Guzerat. The next instance was that of the Bheels of the Adjuntee range, in Southern Candeish, through the agency chiefly of Colonel Ovans, and of the present Sir James Outram; and the measures which proved successful with these Bheels were successively extended to many similar tribes in different parts of Central India. Another example is that of the Khoonds in Orissa, among whom a policy of the same general character was carried into practice by Major Macpherson. This was the tribe who, as mentioned in a previous part of the present paper, have been induced to abolish human sacrifices.

The mode in which these objects were accomplished was in all cases fundamentally the same; they were effected by the admirable power of individual character. Into fastnesses, through which bodies even of disciplined troops had vainly endeavoured to force their way, these officers penetrated, in some cases almost unattended. They trusted themselves to the people. By their courage and frankness, they gained their confidence. They made them understand that they were not considered as wild animals, to be hunted down; that nothing but their good was intended, and the object which had for years been vainly sought by force was accomplished by explanation and persuasion. The robber tribes were induced to settle as peaceful cultivators; lands were assigned to them, tools supplied, and money advanced, for cultivation. In Mhairwarra, the Government also constructed important works of irrigation. The more daring spirits were formed into irregular corps, under British officers, and employed to preserve the peace of the districts of which they had once been the principal disturbers. In no single instance has this policy failed. The agricultural colonies composed of these people have all prospered, and the districts which they formerly devastated have become, and remained, among the most free from crime to be found in India. In the late disturbances, not one of the corps composed of these people is known to have mutinied. The Mhairwarra battalion has not only remained faithful, but is, in the present crisis, a valuable part of our local military strength, and there has been no disturbance whatever in that district. Among the Bheels of Candeish there has been a rising, which, by showing that the predatory spirit is not yet thoroughly extinct, enhances the merit of the system of measures by which for nearly

nearly a quarter of a century, it has been kept dormant; but the corps formed from among these very people by Sir James Outram has done useful service to Government in the present emergency.

The last great example of the success of this policy was given by Colonel John Jacob in Sind, and only differs from the others because the tribes with whom he had to do were not oppressed aborigines, but the proud and warlike mountaineers of the Afghan and Beloochee frontier. The success has been among the most striking yet experienced. For some time after the conquest of Sind the frontier forays of these tribes kept the country in a perpetual state of disturbance. The attempts to retaliate on them in their hills had been failures, sometimes almost disasters, but had laid the foundation of that knowledge of our power which enabled subsequent conciliatory measures to have their full effect. Colonel Jacob applied to these people the principles of Mhairwarra and Candeish. He settled on land those who were willing to cultivate, and organised from among the remainder a local military police. The effect is, that in the frontier districts what was lately a desert waste, is now in great part a thriving agricultural country, yielding a rapidly increasing revenue. For some years there has been scarcely a crime of magnitude on the entire Sind frontier; and the corps which was raised partly from the former devastators of the country, is the celebrated Jacob's Horse.

The preceding review of the improvements in Indian administration, completed or commenced during the present generation, cannot more properly terminate than with this interesting piece of history. It is not pretended that the enumeration approaches to completeness. The instances given are merely some of the most important achievements of a Government of which perpetual striving towards improvement is the vital principle. But it is believed that even so imperfect a summary is sufficient to justify the assertion that few governments, even under far more favourable circumstances, have attempted so much for the good of their subjects, or carried so many of their attempts to a successful and beneficial issue. A Government of foreigners over a people most difficult to be understood, and still more difficult to be improved,—a Government which has had all its knowledge to acquire by a slow process of study and experience, and often by a succession of failures (generally, however, leading to ultimate success), has a right to take pride to itself for having accomplished so much; and most certainly cannot be justly reproached by any existing Government or people with not having effected more.

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## APPENDIX.

### Appendix (A.)

#### BENGAL SURVEY.

In answer to inquiries made by the Court of Directors in 1854 respecting the effects hitherto produced by the survey on litigation, crime, and the value of landed property, the Sudder Court say, in regard to "those classes of offences which would be likely to be influenced by the completion of the survey," that "it is satisfactory to observe" the "concurrent testimony" of the criminal judges "to the diminution which has taken place in this description of crime." This result is partly attributed to the successful operation of Act IV. of 1840, which enables the magistrate to give an effectual remedy in cases of dis-possession or ejection; but, they add, "the evidence of the survey papers must have greatly facilitated the proceedings of the magistrate, whose proceedings under the Act in question are determined solely by possession."

In regard to the effect on litigation, the judges say, "The ordinary result of the survey has been to elicit many local differences and disputes which were lying dormant, until the survey award presented an opportunity to gain an advantage over his adversary;" "but as, under Act XIII. of 1848, such suits must be instituted within three years from the final award of the revenue authorities, the litigation thus incidentally raised is afterwards almost entirely brought to an end."

On the question as to the "result of the survey in giving further security to the titles of estates, and generally increasing the value of landed property, the opinions of the local

“officers are, on the whole, satisfactory. The testimony of all is strongly in favour of the additional security now given to title; and the judge of Shahabad observes, that on the whole, the survey is felt to be a blessing to the community.”

The Board of Revenue, Lower Provinces, state that “it is quite clear that the value of the survey records as a basis for butwarrah and settlement proceedings is generally acknowledged. In some districts, butwarrah is applied for without any new measurement solely on the data furnished by the survey. Their utility in the decision of boundary disputes, also, is universally admitted.” In regard to the effect of the survey on the repression of affrays, the Board quote the opinion of Mr. Elliott, Commissioner of Burdwan, that, “by removing the cause of affrays, the survey cannot fail to produce an effect greater even than the most stringent legislation.”

In the province of Cuttack (not permanently settled) the survey and settlement operations were combined, and there “the improvement is very perceptible. In Cuttack\* the value of landed property is said to have increased 25 per cent., and 50 per cent. in Balasore;\* but Pooree,\* owing to frequent droughts and inundations, is an exception.” The “survey,” the Commissioner (of Cuttack) remarks, “is worth much more to Government and the people than it has cost.”

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### Appendix (B.)

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#### SURVEY AND ASSESSMENT OF THE NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES.

THE objects of the survey were, first, to fix on each mehal or estate an assessment “calculated so as to leave a fair surplus profit;” and “for the punctual payment of that sum, the land is held to be perpetually hypothecated to the Government;” secondly, to determine who are the “person or persons entitled to receive this surplus profit. The right thus determined is declared to be heritable and transferable, and the persons entitled to it are considered the proprietors of the land, from whom the engagements for the annual payment of the sum assessed by Government on the mehal are taken.” The proprietors, when there are more than one, being jointly and severally responsible for the sum assessed on each mehal, it also became necessary to determine the rule according to which they should share the profits, or make good the losses on the estate. When the proprietors were numerous, as was generally the case, engagements were taken only from a few of the body (lumberdars), who, for themselves and their co-proprietors, undertook to manage the mehal, and pay the sum assessed on it.

The first step in the process was to adjust the boundaries of each mouzah, or village, and to prepare a map, showing each field comprised in the mouzah. This being completed, the settlement officer proceeded to determine the assessment to be fixed on the land, by estimating, with as near an approach to accuracy as the means at his disposal would permit, what might be expected to be the net produce † to the proprietor during the period of settlement; and of this amount about two-thirds was fixed as the demand of Government. The village was then offered on these terms to the proprietors, and if they considered them too high, and declined to engage, the Government either leased the estate to a farmer, or collected the rents direct from the cultivators; the excluded proprietors being entitled to a per-centage (called malikana) at no less than five per cent on the revenue, and also having the right, at the expiration of 12 years, of claiming to be readmitted to the management.

The fiscal operation of fixing the amount of revenue to be paid by the village being completed, the next process was to ascertain and record the rights possessed by all parties, whether called proprietors or not. When discordant claims were put forward, the question at issue was determined judicially on the spot. Provision is also made for maintaining the “Record of Rights” in a correct condition, by causing registers of all changes in the village to be kept by the putwarree, or village accountant, copies of which are annually forwarded to the collector’s office.

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\* The three collectorates of the province of Cuttack proper.

† “By net produce is meant the surplus which the estate may yield after deducting the expenses of cultivation, including the profits of stock and wages of labour.”

## Appendix (C.)

## SURVEY AND ASSESSMENT OF THE BOMBAY TERRITORY.

The first step in the process is to determine the boundaries of the village. The area is then measured and mapped off into survey fields. If the land is unoccupied, no division of a field is afterwards permitted. When a survey field actually occupied is owned by several proprietors or sharers, no joint responsibility is admitted, but the sharers of each are separately shown in the map, and the separate proprietorship continues until one of the sharers dies without heirs, or otherwise vacates his share; on which event the vacated share must be taken up by the remaining sharers, or, on their refusal, the whole field must be relinquished. The object of these rules is to consolidate the small holdings, and set limits to the minute subdivision of landed property naturally arising from the Hindoo law of inheritance. But it is believed that, in practice, no difficulty has in such cases been found in inducing the remaining sharers to undertake the responsibility.

The fields of the village being thus measured and mapped, the next process is that of classification, for the purpose of determining the relative values of the fields into which the land is divided. After a minute examination of the physical characters of the soil, its depth, composition, &c., the following considerations are taken into account as regards the fields of the same village; viz. "their natural productive capabilities; their position with respect to the village, as affording facilities or otherwise for agricultural operations; and, in the case of garden or rice lands, the supply of water for irrigation."

The measurement of the fields having been completed, and their classification determined, the amount of the assessment is next to be fixed. This operation is not performed by inquiring into the actual produce of the fields, but rather by an examination into the previous fiscal history of such groups of villages as are distinguished by similar physical characteristics. The statements of former collections, remissions, and balances, are collated, and compared with the existing rates of assessment. The "climate, position with respect to markets, agricultural skill, and the actual condition of the cultivators," are taken into account; and from a consideration of these combined circumstances, rates are determined for each class of land; the object being to keep those rates within the limit of the natural rent.

The rates, being thus fixed, have only to be applied to the surveyed fields. Thus a field of eight acres, in a class rated at 12 annas an acre, is assessed at six rupees. The assessment thus fixed is declared to be not liable to increase for "30 years, during which period the full benefit of every improvement, such as the conversion of dry into irrigated land by the digging of wells and tanks, the planting of fruit-trees, &c., will be secured to the incumbent of the land, and no extra assessment levied on that account."

The registered occupiers of fields are held to be the proprietors, so long as they pay the fixed assessment. They have full liberty annually to resign any portion of their holdings, or to increase them by the occupation of waste fields, on giving due notice, and are thus enabled to extend or contract their cultivation according to their means of tillage. In either case, they are responsible only for the assessment of the fields which they actually hold, those relinquished by them being at the disposal of Government, to assign to any one willing to engage for them.

The annual settlement, as it is called, which still takes place in the surveyed districts of the Bombay Presidency, is now limited to an inspection of the fields by the village officers, to ascertain how many are cultivated and how many not. All those that are engaged for, whether cultivated or not, are liable to the payment of the assessment, and those not engaged for, if cultivated, are also liable. The plan of giving remissions for failure of crops, for lands taken but unsown, &c., is abolished; and it is now expressly made known that remissions are not claimable in individual cases, and will never be allowed unless under circumstances of calamity affecting whole districts.

## Appendix (D.)

## EXEMPTION OF LANDS IMPROVED BY THE RYOTS FROM EXTRA ASSESSMENT.

The general rule in force for many years in the Madras Presidency, was to make, in each case of a ryot improving his lands by digging a well or otherwise, an arrangement under which no increase of assessment was imposed until the expiration of a term sufficiently long, not only amply to compensate, but liberally to reward him for the labour and expenditure he might have applied.

After considerable correspondence, however, the Court of Directors determined (2d June 1852) "to allow to the ryots the full benefit of their own improvements; the land so improved being subjected to no additional assessment on that account, so long as the general rates of the district remain unaltered."

The Circular Order of the Madras Government, publishing this rule, and announcing that in any general revision of the rates, "any modification in the assessment of lands so improved will be irrespective of the increased value conferred upon them by their holders," was approved by the Court on the 20th April 1854.

A rule proposed by the Board of Revenue, requiring ryots proposing to sink wells to give notice to the collector, was disallowed, as tending "to cause delay and obstruction, and to give an opening for exaction to the native servants."

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### Appendix (E.)

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#### SALT REVENUE.

THE system actually in operation throughout India is as follows, viz. :

*Lower Provinces of Bengal.*—Rate of duty  $2\frac{1}{2}$  rupees per maund of 82½ lbs. avoirdupois; Government salt sold to the people at cost price added to the duty; importation unrestricted, and facilities given to persons willing to manufacture salt under excise regulations.

*North-western Provinces.*—Manufacture (from saliferous earths) prohibited. Duty on passing the frontier line, two rupees per maund, and eight annas additional on crossing the Allahabad special line of chokeys.

*Punjab.*—Salt-mines worked by the Government, and the salt sold at the mines at two rupees per maund.

*Fort St. George.*—The manufacture of salt a Government monopoly, the price charged to purchasers being one rupee per maund. Importation permitted, on payment of a duty of 14 annas (seven-eighths of a rupee) per maund, supposed to be equivalent to the profit obtained on the monopoly of salt.

*Bombay.*—No manufacture on the part of Government. An excise duty of 12 annas per maund levied on home-made salt, and a customs duty of equal amount on imported salt.

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**EAST INDIA (IMPROVEMENTS IN  
ADMINISTRATION).**

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**COPY of a MEMORANDUM (prepared at the India  
House) of the IMPROVEMENTS in the ADMINIS-  
TRATION of INDIA during the last Thirty Years.**

*(Mr. Gregson.)*

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*Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,  
12 February 1858.*

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EAST INDIA (AREA, POPULATION, &c.)

RETURN to an Order of the Honourable The House of Commons,  
dated 23 July 1857;—for,

A RETURN “of the AREA and POPULATION of each Division of each Presidency  
of *India*, from the latest Inquiries; comprising, also, the Area and estimated  
Population of Native States.”

East India House, }  
27 July 1857. }

JAMES C. MELVILL,  
Secretary.

*(Colonel Sykes.)*

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,  
28 July 1857.

## RETURN OF THE AREA AND POPULATION OF

## BRITISH STATES.

UNDER THE ADMINISTRATION OF	DIVISION.	DISTRICT.	AREA		POPULATION.			
			Of each District.	Of each Division.	Hindoo.			
					Agricultural.		Non-Agricultural.	
					Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
The Governor-Gen- eral of India in Council.	Punjab—Lahore	Lahore - - -	Sq. Miles. 2,823	- - -	60,371	42,873	67,521	41,060
		Umritsur - - -	2,024	- - -	130,449	88,847	115,007	86,098
		Goordaspoor - - -	1,675	- - -	120,245	83,521	112,380	90,521
		Goojranwalla - - -	3,752	- - -	41,632	29,227	58,623	47,348
		Sealkote - - -	1,350	- - -	62,321	45,871	96,765	66,063
	Jhelum	Rawul Pindee - - -	5,996	- - -	8,431	7,347	34,364	23,124
		Jhelum - - -	5,350	- - -	6,980	5,751	28,383	22,351
		Goojrat - - -	1,916	- - -	29,230	22,821	24,921	20,426
		Shahpore - - -	3,500	- - -	3,032	2,703	20,904	18,691
	Mooltan	Mooltan - - -	5,634	- - -	10,783	8,872	37,005	25,940
		Jhung - - -	5,718	- - -	10,856	8,720	14,006	11,929
		Googaira - - -	4,142	- - -	23,212	18,056	18,000	14,051
	Leia -	Leia - - -	6,122	- - -	8,668	7,461	14,260	12,140
		Khangurh - - -	1,027	- - -	8,529	6,943	10,990	8,625
		Dehra Gazeer Khan - - -	4,000	- - -	6,743	5,802	16,047	10,806
		Dehra Ismael Khan - - -	4,123	- - -	6,899	5,338	15,574	11,159
	Peshawur	Peshawur - - -	2,324	- - -	346	228	34,446	11,545
		Hazarah - - -	2,424	- - -	1,887	1,803	10,124	6,623
		Kohat - - -	2,840	- - -	253	20	3,993	1,364
	Jullundur	Jullundur - - -	1,381	- - -	107,891	77,560	114,796	90,252
		Hoshyarpoor - - -	2,204	- - -	201,102	160,576	110,360	98,455
		Kangra - - -	3,207	- - -	284,045	241,679	79,124	63,398
				78,585				
	Cis-Sutlej States	Umballah - - -	1,832	- - -	170,917	126,396	147,236	117,898
		Thaneysur - - -	2,336	- - -	123,780	95,719	79,691	72,437
		Loodiana - - -	1,377	- - -	108,091	83,849	77,525	62,346
		Ferozepore - - -	2,545	- - -	111,441	87,234	41,844	25,626
				8,090				
	Oude - - -	- - -	- - -	25,000	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
	Nagpore, or Berar - - -	- - -	- - -	76,432	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
	Pegu - - -	Rangoon - - -	9,800	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
		Bassein - - -	8,900	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
		Prome - - -	5,500	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Henzadu - - -		2,200	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	
Toungoo - - -		3,950	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	
Tharawaddy - - -		1,950	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	
			32,250					
Tenasserim Pro- vinces.	Amherst - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	
	Tavoy - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	
	Ye - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	
	Mergui - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	
			29,168					
EASTERN STRAITS SETTLE- MENTS.								
Penang - - -	- - -	160	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	
Prov. Wellesley - - -	- - -	140	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	
Singapore - - -	- - -	- - -	300	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	
Malacca - - -	- - -	- - -	275	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	
			1,000	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	
				1,575				
TOTAL under the direct administration of the Governor-General of India in Council - - - - -				246,050				

BRITISH STATES.

POPULATION.

Mahomedan; and others not Hindoo.				TOTAL.				TOTAL.		TOTAL	TOTAL
Agricultural.		Non-Agricultural.		Agricultural.		Non-Agricultural.		TOTAL.		of each	of each
es.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	District.	Division.
103	68,426	126,748	101,561	142,874	111,299	194,269	143,241	337,148	254,540	591,688	
118	69,089	168,643	141,218	214,767	157,886	283,650	228,126	498,417	386,012	884,429	
148	84,376	103,464	90,962	221,893	167,897	216,844	181,763	487,737	349,660	787,417	
197	72,956	114,229	98,671	132,329	102,188	172,852	146,019	305,181	248,202	553,383	
100	93,707	84,988	81,562	172,821	139,578	181,753	147,630	354,574	287,208	641,782	
116	163,836	77,675	56,661	190,747	171,183	112,039	79,781	302,786	250,964	553,750	
195	120,915	61,652	54,283	186,084	126,666	90,095	76,635	226,119	203,301	429,420	
100	161,405	38,086	33,433	216,530	184,226	63,007	53,863	279,537	238,069	517,606	
229	49,818	55,388	50,926	63,262	52,521	76,202	69,617	139,554	122,188	261,692	
192	75,984	87,043	71,167	105,375	84,856	124,048	97,107	229,423	181,963	411,386	
172	62,549	33,715	29,422	91,428	71,269	47,721	41,351	139,149	112,620	251,769	
175	51,173	62,256	49,107	95,287	69,229	80,346	63,158	175,633	132,367	308,020	
209	70,632	61,580	62,656	90,967	78,093	75,840	64,706	166,807	142,889	309,696	
274	49,477	37,812	30,470	67,803	56,420	48,602	39,095	116,405	95,515	211,920	
179	53,065	46,362	34,660	72,222	58,867	62,409	45,466	134,681	104,333	238,964	
147	98,376	82,978	53,570	116,046	103,714	78,552	64,729	193,598	168,443	362,041	
171	100,259	104,718	83,086	115,817	100,487	139,164	94,631	254,981	195,118	450,099	
277	95,360	42,573	31,717	109,164	67,163	52,697	37,340	161,861	134,503	296,364	
170	32,236	15,740	10,656	37,223	22,256	19,733	12,020	66,956	44,276	101,232	
106	81,763	75,527	66,033	202,797	159,323	190,323	156,285	393,120	315,606	708,726	
110	75,263	61,342	54,446	280,912	235,839	171,702	147,901	461,614	383,740	845,354	
176	7,338	16,544	15,151	292,721	249,017	98,663	78,549	391,389	327,566	718,955	
											10,435,710
347	51,909	58,559	45,255	234,764	178,305	205,795	163,153	440,559	341,458	782,017	
252	32,046	29,808	25,217	163,032	127,765	109,297	97,654	271,329	225,419	496,748	
117	43,202	64,866	46,126	180,508	126,551	132,191	108,472	292,699	235,923	527,722	
796	56,170	49,629	37,864	177,237	143,404	91,473	63,510	268,710	206,914	475,624	
											2,282,111
											5,000,000
											4,650,000
											187,130
											128,189
											100,000
											103,775
											34,957
											66,129
											570,180
											116,431
											91,008
											57,421
											54,021
											202,540
											23,255,973

## RETURN OF THE AREA AND POPULATION OF

## BENGAL.

UNDER THE ADMINISTRATION OF	DIVISION.	DISTRICT.	AREA		POPULATION.				
			Of each District.	Of each Division.	Males.	Females.	Total of each District.	Total of each Division.	
			<i>Sq. Miles.</i>	<i>Sq. Miles.</i>					
The Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.	Patna - -	Patna - - - -	1,828				1,200,000		
		Shahabad - - - -	4,403				1,600,000		
		Behar - - - -	5,694				2,500,000		
		Sarun with Chumparun -	6,394				1,700,000		
					18,319			7,000,000	
	Bhaugulpore -	Bhaugulpore - - - -	7,803					2,000,000	
		Dinajpore - - - -	3,820					1,200,000	
		Monghyr - - - -	3,592					800,000	
		Poorneah - - - -	5,712					1,600,000	
		Tirhoot - - - -	6,114					2,400,000	
		Maldah - - - -	1,288					431,000	
					28,320			8,431,000	
	Moorshedabad	Moorshedabad - - - -	1,856					1,045,000	
		Ragoorah - - - -	2,160					900,000	
		Rungpore - - - -	4,130					2,559,000	
		Rajshahye - - - -	2,084					671,000	
		Pubna - - - -	2,606					600,000	
		Beerbhoom - - - -	3,114					1,040,876	
					15,950			6,815,876	
	Dacca - -	Dacca - - - -	1,960					600,000	
		Furreedpore - - - -	2,052					855,000	
		Mymensing - - - -	4,712					1,487,000	
		Sylhet, including Jyntea -	8,424					380,000	
		Backergunge - - - -	3,794					733,800	
					20,942			4,055,800	
	Jessore - -	Jessore - - - -	3,512					381,744	
		Twenty-four Pergunnahs, including City of Calcutta -	2,277					701,182	
Burdwan - - - -		2,224					1,854,152		
Hooghly - - - -		2,007					1,520,840		
Nuddea - - - -		2,942					208,736		
Bancoorah - - - -		1,476					480,000		
Baraset - - - -		1,424					522,000		
					15,862			6,768,654	

UNDER THE ADMINISTRATION OF	DIVISION.	DISTRICT.	AREA		POPULATION.			
			Of each District.	Of each Division.	Males.	Females.	Total of each District.	Total of each Division.
BENGAL—continued.			<i>Sq. Miles.</i>	<i>Sq. Miles.</i>				
The Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.	Sunderbunds -	From Saugor Island on the west, to the Ratanabad Channel on the east	- -	6,500	- -	- -	- -	not known.
	Chittagong -	Chittagong	2,717	- -	- -	- -	1,000,000	
		Tipperah and	4,850	- -	- -	- -	806,950	
		Bulloah		- -	- -	- -	600,000	
				7,567			2,408,950	
	Cuttaek -	Cuttaek and Pooree	4,829	- -	- -	- -	1,900,000	
		Balasore	1,876	- -	- -	- -	556,895	
		Koordah	980	- -	- -	- -	571,160	
		Midnapore with Hidgellee	5,029	- -	- -	- -	666,328	
				12,664			2,793,883	
NON-REGULATION PROVINCES.				126,133			37,262,163	
Assam -	Upper.	Joorhat, or Seehpoor	2,825	- -	- -	- -	200,000	
		Luckimpoer	2,050	- -	- -	- -	80,000	
		Sudhiya, including Muttruck	6,942	- -	- -	- -	80,000	
	Lower.	Kamroop	2,788	- -	- -	- -	300,000	
		Nowgong	4,160	- -	- -	- -	70,000	
		Durrung	2,000	- -	- -	- -	60,000	
	Goalpara	2,866	- -	- -	- -	80,836		
			24,531			740,835		
Cachar				4,000			60,000	
		Territory resumed from Toola Ram Senahputtee		2,160			5,015.	
South-West Frontier.	Ramgurh	6,524	- -	- -	- -	372,216		
	Palamow	3,468	- -	- -	- -	482,000		
	Chota Nagpore	5,308	- -	- -	- -	772,340		
	Pacheta	4,792	- -	- -	- -	200,000		
	Barabhoom	660	- -	- -	- -	274,000		
	Singbhoom	2,944	- -	- -	- -	133,748		
	Sumbulpore	4,693	- -	- -	- -			
	Odeypore	2,306	- -	- -	- -			
			32,895			2,235,204		
Arracan	Akyab		- -	- -	- -			
	Sundoway		- -	- -	- -		640,180	
	Ramree		- -	- -	- -			
TOTAL under the administration of the Lieut.-Governor of Bengal				221,969			40,852,307	

## NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES.

UNDER THE ADMINISTRATION OF	DIVISION	DISTRICT.	AREA		POPULATION.			
			Of each District.	Of each Division.	Hindoo.			
					Agricultural.		Non-Agricultural.	
					Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Sq. Miles.	Sq. Miles.							
The Lieut.-Governor of the North-Western Provinces.	Delhi	Paneeput	1,270	8,633	94,360	73,397	49,252	38,802
		Hissar	3,294		113,974	93,170	23,555	17,207
		Delhi	790		93,963	77,731	78,912	65,459
		Rhotuck	1,340		117,168	102,275	61,770	50,610
		Goorgaon	1,939		174,457	147,726	73,138	65,453
	Meerut	Suharunpore	2,162	9,985	155,176	109,146	165,789	125,629
		Mozuffernuggur	1,646		135,478	105,768	133,273	115,652
		Meerut	2,200		237,105	190,680	246,814	211,639
		Bolundshuhur	1,824		182,783	152,925	154,520	143,468
		Allyghur	2,153		273,368	229,145	269,663	241,198
	Rohilound	Bijnor	1,900	12,423	126,819	98,796	128,377	110,802
		Moradabad	2,699		273,881	228,450	139,417	124,246
		Budaon	2,402		386,097	321,094	92,372	77,946
		Bareilly	3,119		462,647	398,764	110,757	97,169
		Shahjahanpore	2,308		380,372	317,803	85,589	74,763
	Agra	Muttra	1,613	9,298	274,285	231,893	152,452	134,929
		Agra	1,865		315,239	256,987	177,098	146,714
		Furruckabad	2,123		329,191	306,376	130,324	110,356
		Mynpoorie	2,020		347,819	271,840	89,684	71,738
		Etawah	1,077		225,376	175,991	96,249	80,542
	Allahabad	Cawnpore	2,348	11,971	361,396	316,720	213,925	193,091
		Futtehpore	1,583		193,857	168,302	127,106	121,172
		Humeerpoor	2,242		205,013	175,086	67,863	60,618
		Banda	3,010		253,153	222,162	105,835	97,541
		Allahabad	2,788		431,873	375,459	208,232	194,313
	Benares	Goruckpore	7,340	19,737	1,184,934	1,082,559	236,681	212,581
		Azingurh	2,516		646,984	552,356	120,288	107,302
		Jounpore	1,552		442,429	378,734	108,690	101,735
Mirzapore		5,152	336,134		312,986	193,935	186,793	
Benares		996	220,243		197,909	181,768	169,196	
Ghazeepore		2,181	516,593		467,798	231,525	222,229	
NON-REGULATION PROVINCES:				72,052				
	Kumson, including Ghurwal			6,962				
	Jaunsar and Bawar			579				
	Dehra Dhoon			673				
	Khote Kasim			70				
	Bhutty Territory			3,017				
	Jaloun and Jansi			4,405				
	Ajmere			2,029				
	British Mhairwarrah			282				
Saugor and Nerbudda.	Saugor			1,857				
	Jubbulpore			6,237				
	Hoshungabad			1,916				
	Seonee			1,459				
	Dumoh			2,428				
	Nursingpore			501				
	Baitool			990				
				15,388				
British Nimaur				302				
TOTAL under Lieut.-Governor of the North-Western Provinces -				105,759				

NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES.

POPULATION.

Mahomedan, and others not Hindoo.				TOTAL.				TOTAL.		TOTAL of each District.	TOTAL of each Division.
Agricultural.		Non-Agricultural.		Agricultural.		Non-Agricultural.		TOTAL.			
Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.		
20,411	16,809	51,643	44,351	114,771	90,266	100,895	83,153	215,666	173,419	389,085	
33,638	28,189	12,044	9,075	147,612	121,359	35,599	26,382	183,211	147,641	330,852	
10,036	8,881	52,292	46,470	103,999	86,812	131,204	113,920	235,203	200,541	435,744	
11,890	12,050	11,451	8,790	120,058	114,334	73,221	60,400	202,279	174,734	377,013	
85,814	73,057	22,107	21,234	259,771	220,783	95,345	86,687	355,016	307,470	662,486	
										2,105,180	
53,281	44,833	79,840	67,431	208,457	153,979	245,629	193,260	454,086	347,239	801,325	
44,336	39,607	51,072	47,075	179,814	145,375	184,945	162,727	364,759	308,102	672,861	
43,996	38,354	88,386	79,098	281,101	229,034	334,200	290,737	615,301	519,771	1,135,072	
24,512	23,259	49,164	47,711	207,295	176,184	203,684	191,179	410,979	367,363	778,342	
15,475	14,047	47,369	44,300	288,843	243,192	317,032	285,498	605,875	528,690	1,134,565	
										4,522,166	
25,613	22,811	96,425	85,878	152,432	121,607	224,802	196,680	377,234	318,287	695,521	
95,925	80,842	97,249	92,451	369,806	315,292	236,666	216,697	606,472	531,989	1,138,461	
40,792	36,678	88,674	30,508	426,889	357,772	126,046	108,454	552,935	466,226	1,019,161	
75,540	67,921	84,481	80,989	538,187	466,685	195,338	178,158	733,425	644,843	1,378,268	
27,434	25,099	36,354	38,677	407,806	342,902	121,043	113,445	529,749	456,347	986,096	
										5,217,507	
14,004	11,909	23,226	20,811	288,289	243,802	175,678	155,140	463,967	398,942	862,909	
13,551	11,521	42,593	38,316	328,790	268,508	219,631	185,032	548,421	453,540	1,001,961	
24,861	20,747	41,013	41,230	414,052	327,123	171,837	151,595	585,889	478,718	1,064,607	
10,637	9,456	16,738	14,802	358,456	281,296	106,422	86,540	464,878	367,836	832,714	
4,848	4,484	12,166	11,314	230,219	180,475	108,415	91,856	338,684	272,331	610,965	
										4,373,156	
10,158	9,732	36,614	32,920	371,554	326,452	250,539	225,011	622,093	552,463	1,174,556	
14,435	13,571	19,904	19,440	210,292	181,873	147,010	140,612	357,302	322,485	679,787	
7,595	7,084	13,102	12,288	212,613	182,170	80,965	72,856	293,578	255,026	548,604	
11,872	11,175	14,298	12,836	270,025	243,337	120,138	110,377	390,158	353,714	743,872	
33,464	31,857	59,180	55,361	455,327	407,316	267,471	249,674	722,798	656,990	1,379,788	
										4,526,607	
136,121	126,012	57,284	51,732	1,321,076	1,208,571	293,915	264,313	1,614,990	1,472,884	3,087,874	
54,922	50,781	62,940	57,678	701,906	603,137	183,228	164,980	885,134	768,117	1,653,251	
22,350	20,892	34,732	34,081	464,785	399,726	143,422	135,816	608,207	535,542	1,143,749	
7,906	7,458	30,724	28,329	344,040	320,444	224,709	215,122	568,749	535,666	1,104,415	
4,515	4,512	38,252	35,362	224,758	202,421	220,020	204,558	444,778	406,979	851,757	
17,527	17,523	63,128	60,061	584,120	465,261	294,653	282,290	828,773	767,551	1,596,324	
										9,437,270	
										30,271,485	
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	315,112	290,798	605,910	
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24,684	
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32,083	
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13,767	
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	112,974	
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	376,297	
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	224,891	
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	87,715	
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	305,594	
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	442,771	
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	242,641	
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	227,070	
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	303,584	
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	254,480	
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	93,441	
										1,029,587	
										25,400	
										33,655,193	

## MADRAS.

UNDER THE ADMINISTRATION OF	DISTRICT.	AREA		POPULATION.			
		Of each District.	TOTAL.	Hindoo.			
				Agricultural.		Non-Agricultural.	
				Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
		<i>Sq. Miles.</i>	<i>Sq. Miles.</i>				
Government of Madras.	Rajahmundry - - - - -	4,501		306,104	279,685	198,084	207,337
	Masulipatam - - - - -	4,711		164,771	137,106	102,445	93,474
	Guntoor - - - - -	4,752		176,660	164,546	95,745	97,774
	Kurnool - - - - -	3,278		81,498	74,968	36,064	35,552
	Cuddapah - - - - -	13,298		491,869	440,928	217,101	205,906
	Nellore - - - - -	7,959		255,619	221,386	208,019	208,510
	Bellary - - - - -	12,101		370,780	323,232	225,774	219,430
	Arcot, N. - - - - -	6,580		498,810	459,505	227,870	227,653
	Arcot, S. - - - - -	6,020		422,845	379,798	88,879	75,476
	Chingleput - - - - -	2,717		204,973	185,564	88,915	85,123
	Madras City - - - - -	27		-	-	-	-
	Salem - - - - -	7,499		430,319	403,780	163,326	166,651
	Coimbatore - - - - -	8,161		337,443	325,170	226,534	238,767
	Canara - - - - -	7,152		425,250	396,905	61,386	63,541
	Malabar - - - - -	6,050		300,650	293,327	258,534	259,701
	Trichinopoly - - - - -	2,922		207,283	197,214	65,883	67,674
	Tanjore - - - - -	3,781		502,653	480,840	271,251	283,447
	Madura - - - - -	13,545		687,430	675,010	113,782	117,709
	Tinnevely - - - - -	5,482		408,760	393,440	160,374	171,074
				119,526			
NON-REGULATION DISTRICTS.							
	Ganjam - - - - -	5,758		258,806	236,299	214,178	212,549
	Vizugapatam - - - - -	4,600		367,313	355,685	250,169	245,423
	Coorg - - - - -	2,116		-	-	-	-
			12,564				
TOTAL under Madras Government - -			132,090				



## MADRAS.

## POPULATION.

Mahomedans, and others not Hindoo.				TOTAL.				TOTAL.		TOTAL of each District.	TOTAL of each Division.
Agricultural.		Non-Agricultural.		Agricultural.		Non-Agricultural.		Males.	Females.		
Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.		
2,690	2,553	7,825	7,758	308,794	282,238	205,909	215,095	514,703	497,333	1,012,036	
3,802	3,058	8,186	8,024	168,573	140,164	110,681	101,498	279,204	241,662	520,866	
9,227	8,403	8,894	8,834	185,887	172,949	104,639	108,608	290,526	270,557	570,083	
9,221	7,979	13,746	14,162	90,719	82,947	49,910	49,714	140,529	132,661	273,190	
21,087	18,415	29,064	27,551	512,958	459,343	246,165	233,457	759,121	692,800	1,451,921	
7,092	5,716	14,688	13,160	262,711	227,602	222,707	222,670	485,418	450,272	935,690	
12,691	11,137	34,126	32,429	383,471	334,369	259,900	251,859	643,371	586,228	1,229,599	
10,357	9,186	25,678	42,814	509,167	468,691	253,548	270,467	762,715	723,158	1,485,873	
13,999	12,742	6,864	5,902	436,844	392,540	95,243	81,378	532,087	473,918	1,006,005	
5,384	4,897	4,433	4,173	210,357	190,461	93,348	89,296	303,705	279,757	583,462	
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	720,000	
4,870	4,373	11,348	10,701	435,198	408,153	174,674	177,352	609,872	585,505	1,195,377	
5,254	4,980	7,897	7,817	342,097	330,150	234,431	246,684	577,128	570,734	1,147,862	
43,953	41,108	12,175	12,010	469,208	438,013	73,561	75,551	542,769	513,564	1,056,333	
10,308	102,653	94,440	95,096	410,958	396,180	352,974	354,797	763,932	750,977	1,514,909	
62,270	58,468	24,889	25,515	269,553	255,682	99,772	93,189	369,325	348,871	709,196	
31,292	30,273	35,924	40,406	533,945	511,113	307,175	323,853	641,120	634,966	1,276,086	
59,925	58,608	21,986	22,341	747,355	733,618	135,768	140,050	883,123	873,668	1,756,791	
23,734	22,637	43,855	45,343	432,494	416,077	204,229	216,416	630,723	632,493	1,263,216	
										20,120,495	
44	41	2,417	2,596	258,850	236,340	216,595	215,145	475,445	451,485	926,930	
1,849	1,727	5,992	6,114	389,162	357,412	256,161	251,537	645,323	608,949	1,254,272	
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	135,600	
										2,316,802	
										22,437,297	



BOMBAY.

POPULATION.

	CLASS V. NGAYETS.			CLASS VI. MUSSULMANS, to include SEEDERS.			CLASS VII. PARSEES.			CLASS VIII. JEWS.			CLASS IX. CHRISTIANS.			GRAND TOTAL POPULATION.			
	Females.	Total.		Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
58	1,436	3,204		33,521	33,754	69,275	88	68	156	-	-	-	41	36	77	356,300	293,923	650,223	
	-	-		28,826	24,715	53,541	3	2	5	-	-	-	38	33	71	326,755	254,876	580,631	
15	9	24		29,225	28,047	57,272	1,185	1,367	2,552	-	-	-	19	7	26	152,282	138,702	290,984	
	-	-		23,351	23,257	46,608	6,285	6,378	12,663	-	-	-	84	62	146	234,570	236,114	492,684	
49	1,105	2,354		20,613	19,011	39,624	1,152	1,061	2,213	1,205	1,235	2,440	16,598	15,540	32,138	454,460	420,110	874,570	
03	1,975	4,078		25,935	24,944	50,879	22	3	25	1	3	4	29	34	63	405,996	372,116	778,112	
	-	-		77,359	46,796	124,155	60,967	53,731	114,698	612	520	1,132	12,348	6,946	19,294	354,090	212,029	566,119	
581	4,290	6,871		12,632	11,972	24,604	67	40	107	2	1	3	121	107	228	346,556	319,450	666,006	
230	4,069	8,299		26,580	24,940	51,520	39	26	65	-	-	-	163	144	307	516,191	479,394	995,585	
4605	40,924	83,529		31,467	29,735	61,202	8	10	18	-	-	-	8	6	16	348,635	326,460	675,115	
842	2,539	5,381		24,110	21,913	46,023	10	9	19	20	9	29	1,054	914	1,968	350,151	315,087	665,238	
13,289	112,440	235,729		37,740	34,582	72,322	24	11	35	-	-	-	1,536	1,515	3,051	534,369	491,513	1,025,882	
10,364	103,614	213,978		42,621	39,618	82,239	4	3	7	-	-	-	219	162	381	387,950	366,435	754,385	
																		9,015,534	
OTHER RELIGIONS.				TOTAL OF EACH DISTRICT.															
Males.		Females.		Males.			Females.			TOTAL.									
-		-		-			-			-			-			-			1,005,771
3,203		2,428		359,463			290,841			650,304									
77		13		25,951			17,004			42,955									
20,264		15,796		391,756			311,540			703,296									
4,574		4,196		183,002			138,107			321,109									
-		-		29,160			21,913			51,073									1,766,737
																		11,790,042	

## NATIVE STATES.

NAME.	LOCALITY.	Area in Square Miles.	Population.
<b>B E N G A L.</b>			
Allee Mohun, or Rajpoor Ali	Malwa, or Central India	708	69,884
Amjherra	ditto	584	57,232
Bahadoorgurh	Adjacent to Delhi	48	14,400
Bhawlpore	Cis-Sutlej	25,200	925,000
Bhopal	Central India	6,764	663,656
Bhurtpore	Adjacent to Agra	1,978	600,000
Bullubgurh	Adjacent to Delhi	190	57,000
<b>Bundelcund :</b>			
Adiyghur	Central India	340	45,000
Allypoora	ditto	85	9,000
Behree	ditto	30	2,500
Behut	ditto	15	2,500
Berounda	ditto	275	24,000
Baonee	ditto	127	18,000
Bhysonda	ditto	8	2,000
Bijawur	ditto	920	90,000
Bijna	ditto	27	2,800
Chirkaree	ditto	860	81,000
Chutterpore	ditto	1,240	12,000
Dutteah	ditto	850	120,000
Doorwae	ditto	18	8,000
Gurowlee	ditto	50	5,000
Gorihar	ditto	76	7,500
Jignee	ditto	27	2,800
Jusso	ditto	180	24,000
Kampta	ditto	1	300
Logasee	ditto	29	3,500
Muckree	ditto	10	1,600
Nowagaon, or Nygowan	ditto	16	1,800
Nyagaon	ditto	30	5,000
Oorcha, or Tehree	ditto	2,160	240,000
Punna	ditto	686	67,500
Puharee, or Puharee	ditto	4	800
Pahrah	ditto	10	1,600
Paldeo	ditto	26	3,500
Poorwa	ditto	12	1,800
Sumptur	ditto	175	28,000
Surelah	ditto	35	4,500
Tohree Futtepore	ditto	36	6,000
Turaon	ditto	12	2,000
Barwanee	ditto	1,380	22,217
Cooch Behar	N.E. Frontier	1,364	136,400
Cossya and Garrow Hills	ditto	4,347	65,205
<b>Cuttack Mehals :</b>			
Autmallik	Orissa	648	29,160
Boad	ditto	1,377	61,965
Dustpulla	ditto	162	7,290
Koonjerry	ditto	5,022	225,900
Mohurbunge	ditto	2,025	91,125
Other small Mehals	ditto	7,695	346,275
Deojana	Near Delhi	71	6,390
Dewna	Central India	256	25,088
Carried forward		68,213	4,227,777

## NATIVE STATES—continued.

NAME.	LOCALITY.	Area in Square Miles.	Population.
<i>BENGAL—continued.</i>	Brought forward - - -	68,213	4,227,777
Dhar - - - - -	Central India - - -	1,070	104,860
Dholpore - - - - -	Banks of the Chumbul - - -	1,028	550,000
Furrucknuggur - - - - -	Adjacent to Delhi - - -	22	4,400
Golab Sing's Dominions - - - - -	Cashmere - - - - -	60,000	3,000,000
Gwalior (Scindia's Possessions) - - - - -	Central India - - - - -	38,110	3,228,512
<b>Hill States :</b>			
Baghul - - - - -	Cis-Sutlej - - - - -		22,305
Beeja - - - - -	ditto - - - - -		981
Belaspoor - - - - -	ditto - - - - -		64,848
Besabur - - - - -	ditto - - - - -		45,025
Bujjie - - - - -	ditto - - - - -		9,001
Bulsun - - - - -	ditto - - - - -		4,892
Dhamie - - - - -	ditto - - - - -		2,863
Dhurkothee - - - - -	ditto - - - - -		612
Ghoond - - - - -	ditto - - - - -		963
Hindoor - - - - -	ditto - - - - -		49,678
Jhoobul - - - - -	ditto - - - - -		17,262
Koombarsin - - - - -	ditto - - - - -		7,829
Koonhyar - - - - -	ditto - - - - -	5,000	1,906
Koonthal - - - - -	ditto - - - - -		18,083
Kotee - - - - -	ditto - - - - -		3,981
Kothar - - - - -	ditto - - - - -		3,990
Mangol - - - - -	ditto - - - - -		917
Milog - - - - -	ditto - - - - -		7,358
Mudhan - - - - -	ditto - - - - -		2,431
Putteeala - - - - -	ditto - - - - -		48,836
Saugree - - - - -	ditto - - - - -		1,994
Simla - - - - -	ditto - - - - -		31,858
Sirmoor - - - - -	ditto - - - - -		75,595
Theog - - - - -	ditto - - - - -		4,423
Turreh - - - - -	ditto - - - - -		3,082
Chumba - - - - -	Trans-Sutlej - - - - -	3,216	101,631
Meudhee - - - - -	ditto - - - - -	1,082	139,259
Sokhut - - - - -	ditto - - - - -	420	44,552
Hyderabad or Nizam's Dominions - - - - -	The Deccan - - - - -	95,337	10,666,080
<b>Indore :</b>			
Holcar's Possession - - - - -	Central India - - - - -	8,318	815,164
Jabooa, including Borai, or Boree, and Jucknowda - - - - -	ditto - - - - -	1,348	132,104
Jhujhur - - - - -	Adjacent to Delhi - - - - -	1,230	110,700
Jonra - - - - -	Central India - - - - -	872	85,456
Koorwase - - - - -	ditto - - - - -	200	19,600
Kupoortullah - - - - -	Trans-Sutlej - - - - -	698	212,721
Loharoo - - - - -	Near to Delhi - - - - -	200	18,000
Munneepoor - - - - -	N. E. Frontier - - - - -	7,584	75,840
Nepaul - - - - -	Northern Bengal - - - - -	54,500	1,940,000
<b>Onagwarra :</b>			
Nursinghur - - - - -	Central India - - - - -		
Rajgurh - - - - -	ditto - - - - -	1,348	132,104
Patowdee - - - - -	Near Delhi - - - - -	74	6,660
<b>Rajpoot States :</b>			
Alwar or Macherry, including Tejarra - - - - -	Rajpootana - - - - -	3,573	280,000
Banswarra - - - - -	ditto - - - - -	1,440	144,000
Bikaner - - - - -	ditto - - - - -	17,076	539,250
	Carried forward - - - - -	368,066	27,009,373

## NATIVE STATES—continued.

NAME.	LOCALITY.	Area in Square Miles.	Population.
<b>BENGAL—continued.</b>			
<b>Rajpoot States—continued.</b>			
	Brought forward - - -	368,066	27,009,373
Boondee - - - - -	Rajpootana - - -	2,291	229,100
Doongerpore - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	1,000	100,000
Jessulmere - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	12,252	74,400
Jyepore, or Jyenagur - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	15,251	1,891,124
Jhallawur - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	2,200	220,000
Joudpore - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	85,672	1,788,800
Kerowlee - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	1,878	187,800
Kishengurh - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	724	70,952
Kotah - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	4,339	438,900
Odeypore or Mewar - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	11,614	1,161,400
Pertabgurh and Dowleah - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	1,457	145,700
Serohee - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	3,024	151,200
Rampore - - - - -	Rohileund - - -	720	320,400
Rutlam - - - - -	Central India - - -	936	91,728
<b>Saugor and Nerbudda Territories:</b>			
Kothee - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	100	30,000
Myheer - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	1,026	100,000
Ocheyrah - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	436	120,000
Rewa and Mookundpore - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	9,827	1,200,000
Sohawul - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	179	80,000
Shahgurh - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	676	30,000
Seeta Mow - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	208	20,384
<b>Sikh Protected States:</b>			
Furreed Kote - - - - -	Cis-Sutlej - - -	604	75,500
Jheend - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	683	162,920
Kulsea - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	155	62,000
Molair Kotlee - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	165	46,200
Mumdote - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	370	37,100
Nabha - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	658	184,240
Putteealla - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	4,682	1,810,960
Putteealla and Khusleea, in shares - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	18	7,200
Putteealla and Nabha, in shares - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	31	8,680
<b>South west Frontier of Bengal:</b>			
Bombra - - - - -	Orissa - - - - -	1,244	55,980
Bonei - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	1,057	47,565
Bora Samba - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	623	27,990
Burgun - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	399	17,955
Gangpoor - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	2,493	112,185
Jushpore - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	617	27,765
Keriall, or Koren, including Bhokur - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	1,512	68,040
Korea - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	2,225	100,000
Nowagur, or Bindra Nowagur - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	1,512	68,040
Putna - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	1,158	52,110
Phooljee - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	890	40,050
Rhyghur - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	1,421	63,945
Sarunghur - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	799	35,955
Sirgooja - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	5,441	316,252
Sonepoor - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	1,467	66,015
Suctee - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	268	12,000
Sickkim - - - - -	Northern Bengal - - -	1,670	61,766
Tonk, and other Dependencies of Ameer Khan - - - - -	Central India - - -	1,864	182,672
Tipperah - - - - -	Adjacent to Burmah - -	7,632	Not known.
	<b>TOTAL, BENGAL - - -</b>	<b>515,533</b>	<b>38,702,206</b>

## M A D R A S.

Cochin - - - - -	Coast of Malabar - - -	1,988	288,176
Jeypoor and the Hill Zemindars - - - - -	Orissa - - - - -	13,041	391,230
Mysore - - - - -	Southern India - - -	30,886	3,460,696
Poodoocottah (Rajah) Tondiman's Do- minions - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	1,165	61,745
Travancore - - - - -	- ditto - - - - -	4,722	1,011,824
	<b>TOTAL, MADRAS - - -</b>	<b>51,802</b>	<b>5,213,671</b>

## NATIVE STATES—continued.

NAME.	LOCALITY.	Area in Square Miles.	Population.
<b>B O M B A Y.</b>			
Balasinore	Guzerat	258	19,002
Bansda	ditto	325	24,050
Baroda (Dominions of the Guicowar)	ditto	4,399	325,526
Cambay	ditto	500	37,000
Cutch	Western India	6,764	500,536
Daung Rajahs	Guzerat	950	70,300
Dhurrumpore	ditto	225	16,050
<b>Guzerat Petty States :—</b>			
Chowrar	ditto	225	2,500
Phalunpore	ditto	1,850	130,000
Rhadunpore	ditto	850	45,000
Baubier	ditto	120	500
Charcut	ditto	80	2,500
Deodar	ditto	80	2,000
Seogaum	ditto	64	4,500
Therwarra	ditto	48	800
Thurraud	ditto	600	23,000
Warye	ditto	299	20,000
Wow	ditto	364	10,000
Kattywar Petty Chiefs	ditto	19,850	1,408,900
Khyrpore	Scinde	5,000	105,000
Kolapore	Southern Mahratta Country	3,445	500,000
Myhee Caunta	Guzerat	3,400	150,000
Peint and Hursool	Adjacent to Ahmednuggur	750	55,500
<b>Rewa Caunta :—</b>			
Barreea, or Deogar Barreea	Guzerat	870	64,380
loonawarra	ditto	500	37,000
Mawassee Chiefs residing on the banks of the Nerbudda and the Myhee	ditto	375	27,750
Odeypore (Chota), or Mohun	ditto	1,059	78,306
Rajpeepur	ditto	1,650	122,100
Soauth	ditto	425	31,450
<b>Sattara Jaghires :—</b>			
Akulkote	Sattara	} - - The area and population of these States cannot be given separately from the principality of Sattara.	
Bhore	ditto		
Juth	ditto		
Ounde	ditto		
Phultam	ditto		
Wyhee	ditto		
Sawunt Warree	South Concan	800	120,000
Southern Mahratta Jaghires	Southern Mahratta Country	3,700	410,470
Sucheea	Guzerat	300	22,200
Wusravee (Bheel Chiefs)	ditto	450	33,300
<b>TOTAL, BOMBAY</b>		<b>60,575</b>	<b>4,460,376</b>

FOREIGN STATES.

NAME.	LOCALITY.	Area in Square Miles.	Population.
<b>FRENCH.</b>			
Chandernagore	Banks of the Hoogly	not known	32,670
Karcial	Coromandel Coast	not known	not known.
Mahé	Malabar Coast	not known	not known.
Dicherry	Coromandel Coast	188	171,217
	Orissa Coast	not known	not known.
	<b>TOTAL</b>	188	203,887
<b>PORTUGUESE.</b>			
Daman	Coast of Northern Concan	not known.	not known.
Niu	South Coast of Kattawar	not known.	not known.
Goa	Western Coast of Indian Peninsula	1,066	313,262
	<b>TOTAL</b>	1,066	313,262

SUMMARY.

STATES.	GOVERNMENT.	Area in Square Miles.	Total Area in Square Miles.	Population.	Total Population.
BRITISH STATES	Under the Governor-General of India in Council.	246,050	-	23,255,972	131,990,901
	Under the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal	221,969	-	40,852,397	
	Under the Lieutenant-Governor of North-Western Provinces.	105,759	-	33,655,193	
	Under the Madras Government	132,090	-	22,437,297	
	Under the Bombay Government	191,544	-	1,770,042	
	<i>Presidency.</i>		837,412		
NATIVE STATES	Bengal	515,533	-	38,702,206	48,376,247
	Madras	51,802	-	5,213,671	
	Bombay	60,575	-	4,460,370	
			6,910		
FOREIGN STATES	<i>Country.</i>				
	French	188	-	203,887	
	Portuguese	1,066	-	313,262	
			1,264		517,149
	<b>TOTAL</b>		1,466,576		180,884,297



**EAST INDIA (AREA, POPULATION, &c.)**

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**A RETURN of the AREA and POPULATION of  
each Division of each Presidency of *India*, from  
the latest Inquiries; comprising, also, the Area  
and estimated Population of Native States.**

*(Colonel Sykes.)*

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*Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,  
28 July 1857.*

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E A S T I N D I A.

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RETURN to an Order of the Honourable The House of Commons,  
dated 30 May 1856;—for,

COPY " of a MINUTE by the Marquis of *Dalhousie*, dated the 28th day of  
February 1856, reviewing his Administration in *India*, from January 1848  
to March 1856."

India Board, }  
30 May 1856. }

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HENRY DANBY SEYMOUR.

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(*Mr. Danby Seymour.*)

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*Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,*  
*30 May 1856.*

[*Re-printed 1858.*]

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## MINUTE BY THE

MINUTE by the Most Noble the GOVERNOR-GENERAL of INDIA, dated  
28 February 1856.

### REVIEW OF THE PERIOD FROM JANUARY 1848 TO MARCH 1856.

Design of the  
Minute.

1. THE time has nearly come when my administration of the government of India, prolonged through more than eight years, will reach its final close. It would seem that some few hours may be profitably devoted to a short review of those eventful years, not for the purpose of justifying disputed measures, or of setting forth a retrospective defence of the policy which may, on every several occasion, have been adopted, but for the purpose of recalling the political events that have occurred, the measures that have been taken, and the progress that has been made, during the course of the administration which is about to close. I enter on that review with the single hope that the Honourable Court of Directors may derive from the retrospect some degree of satisfaction with the past, and a still larger measure of encouragement for the future.

Second Sikh  
War.

2. When I sailed from England in the winter of 1847, to assume the government of India, there prevailed universal conviction among public men at home that permanent peace had at length been secured in the East. Before the summer came, we were already involved in the second Sikh war.

That we were so, was due to no precipitation or fault of ours. The murder of the British officers at Mooltan, and the open rebellion of the Dewan Moolraj, were not made pretext for quarrel with the Government of Lahore. On the contrary, the offence of the Dewan Moolraj was sedulously distinguished from national wrong. The Sikhs themselves were called upon to punish Moolraj as a rebel against their own sovereign, and to exact reparation for the British Government, whose protection they had previously invoked.

But when it was seen that the spirit of the whole Sikh people was inflamed by the bitterest animosity against us; when chief after chief deserted our cause, until nearly their whole army, led by sirdars who had signed the treaties, and by members of the Council of Regency itself, was openly arrayed against us; when, above all, it was seen that the Sikhs, in their eagerness for our destruction, had even combined in unnatural alliance with Dost Mahomed Khan and his Mahomedan tribes; it became manifest that there was no alternative left. The question for us was no longer one of policy or of expediency, but one of national safety.

Accordingly, the Government put forth its power. After a prolonged campaign, and a struggle severe and anxious, the Sikhs were utterly defeated and subdued; the Afghans were driven with ignominy through the mountains, and the Punjab became a British province.

Second Burmese  
War.

3. When little more than two years had passed, the Government of India again was suddenly engaged in hostilities with Burmah.

Certain British traders in the port of Rangoon had been subjected to gross outrage by the officers of the King of Ava, in direct violation of the treaty of Yandaboo.

Holding to the wisdom of Lord Wellesley's maxim, that an insult offered to the British flag at the mouth of the Ganges should be resented as promptly and as fully as an insult offered at the mouth of the Thames, I should, under any circumstances, have regarded it as sound policy to exact reparation for wrong done to British subjects from any native state. But our relations with the Burmese Court, and the policy it had long pursued towards us, imposed upon the Government of India, at the time to which I refer, the absolute necessity of exacting from it reparation for the systematic violation of treaty, of which British traders had now made formal complaint.

Of all the Eastern nations with which the Government of India has had to do, the Burmese were the most arrogant and overbearing.

During

During the years since the treaty with them had been concluded, they had treated it with disregard, and had been allowed to disregard it with impunity. They had been permitted to worry away our envoys by petty annoyances from their court; and their insolence had even been tolerated, when at last they vexed our Commercial Agent at Rangoon into silent departure from their port. Inflated by such indirect concessions as these, the Burmans had assumed again the tone they used before the war of 1825. On more than one occasion they had threatened recommencement of hostilities against us, and always at the most untoward time.

However contemptible the Burman race may seem to critics in Europe, they have ever been regarded in the East as formidable in the extreme. Only five and twenty years before, the news of their march towards Chittagong had raised a panic in the bazaars of Calcutta itself; and even in the late war a rumour of their supposed approach spread consternation in the British districts of Assam and Arracan.

If deliberate and gross wrong should be tamely borne from such a people as this, without vindication of our rights or exaction of reparation for the wrong—whether the motive of our inaction were desire of peace or contempt for the Burman power—it was felt that the policy would be full of danger. For, the Government of India could never, consistently with its own safety, permit itself to stand for a single day in an attitude of inferiority towards a native power, and least of all towards the Court of Ava.

Every effort was made to obtain reparation by friendly means. The reparation required was no more than compensation for the actual loss incurred. But every effort was vain. Our demands were evaded; our officers were insulted. The warnings which we gave were treated with disregard; and the period of grace which we allowed was employed by the Burmese in strengthening their fortifications, and in making every preparation for resistance.

Thereupon the Government of India despatched a powerful expedition to Pegu; and within a few weeks the whole of the coast of Burmah, with all its defences, was in our possession.

Even then the Government of India abstained from further operations for several months, in the hope that, profiting by experience, the King of Ava would yet accede to our just demands.

But our forbearance was fruitless. Accordingly, in the end of 1852, the British troops took possession of the kingdom of Pegu, and the territory was retained, in order that the Government of India might hold from the Burman state, both adequate compensation for past injury and the best security against future danger.

4. Since hostilities with Burmah ceased, the Indian empire has been at peace. Foreign relations of India.

No prudent man, who has any knowledge of Eastern affairs, would ever venture to predict the maintenance of continued peace within our Eastern possessions. Experience, frequent hard and recent experience, has taught us that war from without, or rebellion from within, may at any time be raised against us, in quarters where they were the least to be expected, and by the most feeble and unlikely instruments. No man, therefore, can ever prudently hold forth assurance of continued peace in India.

But, having regard to the relation in which the Government of India stands towards each of the several foreign powers around it, I think it may be safely said that there seems to be no quarter from which formidable war can reasonably be apprehended at present.

5. Although the mission which lately proceeded to the Court of Ava, with the primary object of reciprocating the friendly feeling which the King of Ava had previously shown by voluntarily despatching an embassy to the Governor-general of India, has brought back with it no treaty of alliance or of commerce, I nevertheless regard the continuance of peace between the states as being not less secure than the most formal instrument could have made it. When the Honourable Court recalls to mind that, from the very first, in 1852, I deprecated the reconstruction of any treaty relations with the Court of Ava at all, it will not be surprised to find me add, that I still consider peace with Ava as even more likely to be maintained in the absence of all commercial or friendly treaties, than if those conventions had been renewed as before. Burmah.

It is admitted, on all sides, that the desire of the King of Ava for lasting peace is genuine and sincere. It is admitted that his will is supreme, and his authority without dispute, among his chiefs and people. A sense of inferiority has penetrated at last to the convictions of the nation. The Burman Court and the Burman people alike have shown that they now dread our power; and, in that dread, is the only real security we can ever have, or ever could have had, for stable peace with the Burman state.

Nipal.

6. For nearly 40 years, Nipal has faithfully observed the peace she bought so dearly. Her minister, sagacious and able, has himself been witness of the vast resources of our power, during his recent visit to Europe. He has been for some time engaged in a war with Thibet, which has been productive of heavy charge, while it has brought neither power nor profit to Nipal, and must have given umbrage to China, whose tributary she is. From Nipal, therefore, there is even less probability of hostility now, than in any one of the 40 years, during which she has in good faith observed the peace which she solemnly bound herself to maintain, and which her obvious interests recommend.

Maharajah Golab Sing.

7. Maharajah Golab Sing, of Jummo and Cashmere, so long as he lives, will never depart from the submissive policy he announced, with unmistakeable sincerity in his air, when in Durbar at Wuzeerabad he caught my dress in his hands, and cried aloud, "Thus I grasp the skirts of the British Government, and I will never let go my hold."

And when, as must soon be, the Maharajah shall pass away, his son, Meean Rumbeer Sing, will have enough to do to maintain his ground against rivals of his own blood, without giving any cause of offence to a powerful neighbour, which he well knows can crush him at his will.

Kelat.

8. On the western border, a treaty has been made with the Khan of Kelat, whereby he becomes the friend of our friends, and the enemy of our enemies, and engages to give us temporary possession of such positions within his territory as we may at any time require for purposes of defence.

Cabool.

9. Lastly, a treaty was concluded during the past year with the Ameer Dost Mahomed Khan of Cabool. It bound him to be the friend of our friends and the enemy of our enemies, while it imposed no corresponding obligation upon us, from which inconvenience or embarrassment could arise. The Ameer himself sought our friendship, and he has already shown that he regards it as a tower of strength.

Thus the enmity which existed through many years, and which was aggravated by the Afghan policy of 1849, has happily been removed, without any sacrifice upon our part, and to our manifest advantage. An alliance has been timely formed with the leading Afghan state, upon the solid basis of common interest against a common enemy. Already, the consequences of the treaty have developed themselves in the conquest of Candahar by the Ameer Dost Mahomed Khan; an event which has largely increased the Ameer's power, while it has brought to pass for us, that every portion of our western frontier, from the Himalayas even to the sea, is now covered against hostile attack by the barrier of a treaty with a friendly power.

I venture to think that the Court of Directors will see in this brief summary ample reason to be content with the condition in which I leave the relations of the Honourable East India Company with every foreign state around its borders.

Internal condition of India.

10. As regards the internal tranquillity of the empire, I have already observed that no man can presume to warrant its continuance, with certainty, for a day. In territories and among a population so vast, occasional disturbance must needs prevail. Raids and forays are, and will still be, reported from the western frontier. From time to time marauding expeditions will descend into the plains, and again expeditions to punish the marauders will penetrate the hills. Nor can it be expected but that, among races so various and multitudes so innumerable, local outbreaks will from time to time occur, as little looked for as that of the Sonthal tribe in the Damun-i-koh.

But the rising of the Sonthal tribe has been repressed, and measures of precaution have been taken, such as may be expected to prevent all risk of its recurrence.

With

With respect to the frontier raids, they are and must for the present be viewed as events inseparable from the state of society which for centuries past has existed among the mountain tribes. They are no more to be regarded as interruptions of the general peace in India, than the street brawls which appear among the every-day proceedings of a police court in London are regarded as indications of the existence of civil war in England.

11. I trust, therefore, that I am guilty of no presumption in saying that I shall leave the Indian empire in peace, without and within.

12. During the eight years over which we now look back, the British territories in the East have been largely increased. Within that time, four kingdoms have passed under the sceptre of the Queen of England; and various chiefships and separate tracts have been brought under her sway. Acquisition of territory.

13. The kingdom of the Punjab and the kingdom of Pegu were the fruits of conquest, which followed upon the wars whose origin and issue have been already stated. Punjab and Pegu.

14. The kingdom of Nagpore became British territory by simple lapse, in the absence of all legal heirs. The kingdom, which had been granted to the reigning Rajah by the British Government when it had become forfeited by the treachery of Appa Sahib, was left without a claimant when the Rajah died. No son had been born to his Highness; none had been adopted by him; none, as they have themselves admitted, was adopted at the Rajah's death by the Ranees his widows. There remained no one male of the line, who descended from the stock and bore the name of Bhonslah. Nagpore.

The British Government, therefore, refused to bestow the territory in free gift upon a stranger, and wisely incorporated it with its own dominions.

15. Lastly, the kingdom of Oude has been assumed in perpetual government for the Honourable East India Company; in pursuance of a policy which has so recently been under the consideration of the Honourable Court, that I deem it unnecessary to refer to it more particularly here. Oude.

16. The principality of Sattara was included in the British territories in 1849, by right of lapse, the Rajah having died without male heir. Sattara.

17. In like manner the chiefship of Jhansie has reverted to the possession of the Indian Government. Jhansie.

18. Lastly, by a treaty concluded in 1853, his Highness the Nizam has assigned in perpetual government to the Honourable East India Company the province of Berar, and other districts of his state, for the permanent maintenance of the Hyderabad Contingent, for the payment of certain debts which he had incurred, and for the termination of those transactions which for many years had been the fruitful source of dispute, and had even endangered the continuance of friendly relations between the states. Assigned districts of Hyderabad.

19. By the several territorial acquisitions which have just been enumerated, a revenue of not less than (4,000,000 *l.*) four millions sterling has been added to the annual income of the Indian empire.\* Revenue from territorial acquisitions.

20. Stated in general terms, the revenue of India has increased from 26,000,000 *l.*, in 1847-48, to 30,000,000 *l.* in 1854-55; and the income of the present year, exclusive of Oude, has been estimated at the same amount of 30,000,000 *l.* sterling. General revenue of India.

Without

Punjab	£.1,500,000
Pegu (1856)	270,000
Nagpore (less tribute)	410,000
Oude	1,450,000
Sattara	150,000
Jhansie	50,000
Hyderabad	500,000
	£.4,330,000

(From Returns and from Parliamentary Papers.)



Without entering into any close detail, it may be stated that the main sources of revenue are not less productive than before; while the revenue derived from opium has increased from 2,730,000 *l.*, in 1847-48, to 4,700,000 *l.* in 1854-55, and is estimated at upwards of 5,000,000 *l.* for the present year.

Trade of India.

21. The increase which has gradually and rapidly taken place in the external trade of India may be fairly estimated by the shipping returns of its principal port, Calcutta.

In 1847-48, there arrived in the Hooghly 625 vessels (exclusive of native craft), amounting to 274,000 tons. In 1854-55, the number of vessels had increased to 866, and the tonnage to 1,81,000 tons; while in the first ten months of the present year there have already arrived 1,010 vessels of 556,000 tons. Thus, in these eight years, the tonnage which sought the port of Calcutta has more than doubled in amount.

Conversion of the  
Five per Cent.  
Debt.

22. The facts which have been briefly stated above would seem to promise well for the financial prosperity of the country.

A measure which was carried into effect in 1853-54 was calculated to contribute further to that end. During those years, the five per cent. debt of India was entirely extinguished. Excepting the payment of a comparatively small sum in cash, the whole of the five per cent. debt was either converted into a four per cent. debt, or replaced in the open four per cent. loan. The saving of interest which was effected by this operation amounted to upwards of 300,000 *l.* per annum.

At a later period, by a combination of many unfavourable circumstances, which could not have been anticipated, and which were not foreseen in England any more than by us in India, the Government has again been obliged to borrow at the high rate of five per cent. But the operation of 1853-54 was not the less politic or less successful in itself, while the financial relief it afforded was timely and effectual.

Surplus and defi-  
ciency of general  
revenue.

23. During the years 1847-48 and 1848-49 the annual deficiency which had long existed still continued to appear in the accounts. But in each of the four following years the deficiency was converted into a surplus, varying from 360,000 *l.* to nearly 580,000 *l.*

During the years 1853-54 and 1854-55 there has again been a heavy deficiency, and the deficiency of the present year is estimated at not less than 1,850,000 *l.*

But these apparent deficiencies are caused by the enormous expenditure which the Government is now annually making upon public works, designed for the general improvement of the several provinces of the Indian empire.

Wherefore, a large annual deficiency must and will continue to appear, unless the Government shall unhappily change its present policy, and abandon the duty which I humbly conceive it owes to the territories intrusted to its charge. The ordinary revenues of the Indian empire are amply sufficient, and more than sufficient, to meet all its ordinary charges; but they are not sufficient to provide for the innumerable and gigantic works which are necessary to its due improvement. It is impracticable to effect, and absurd to attempt, the material improvement of a great empire by an expenditure which shall not exceed the limits of its ordinary annual income.

Administrative  
progress.

24. It is impossible, within the narrow bounds of a single Minute, to describe all the various changes that have been made, and the improvements that have been introduced, in the system of Indian administration and its several subordinate departments, during the long period which is now being passed under review. A few leading facts can alone be recalled and marshalled in their order.

Punjab.

25. The several new provinces, whose government we have assumed, have been administered in tranquillity and with success.

The remarkable results which have attended the labours of the able and eminent men, to whom was committed the charge of the province of the Punjab, are now familiar to Parliament and to the country. I feel it to be unnecessary to add even a single word to the Punjab reports already submitted to the Honourable Court, which explain how "internal peace has been guarded, how the various establishments of the state have been organised, how violent crime been repressed, the penal law executed, and prison discipline enforced; how civil justice has been administered, how the taxation has been fixed and the revenues collected; how

commerce

commerce has been set free, agriculture fostered, and the national resources developed, how plans for future improvement have been projected, and, lastly, how the finances have been managed."\*

26. In the province of Pegu the results of our administration have been satisfactory in a high degree, though they have neither the brilliancy nor the interest which attaches to the labours of the local officers in the Punjab. Pegu.

But in Pegu also we have the satisfaction of knowing that, in spite of the peculiar discouragements and heavy difficulties with which our officers have had to contend, complete tranquillity has long since been established. The people, lightly taxed, and well to do, are highly contented with our rule. Order and quiet prevail throughout the districts. Even in Tharrawaddy, which, under the Burman rule, was the permanent refuge of rebellion and crime, all outrage has ceased. The rivers, the great highways of the country, watched by an effective police, are traversed in safety by all. Trade is rapidly increasing. A new port has been founded for the new European trade which has at once sprung up; and, light as taxation is, the revenue has already exceeded the amount at which I estimated its probable measure; for it is expected that 27 lakhs will be collected this year.

Population alone is wanting. When that deficiency shall have been supplied, the province of Pegu will equal Bengal in fertility of production, and will surpass it in every other respect.

27. The anticipations of those who believed that the renewal of British authority in Nagpore would be hailed with lively satisfaction by the whole population of the province have been more than fulfilled by the event. Nagpore.

The Raj was transferred by a simple order to the possession of the British Crown. Not one additional soldier was moved into the province. Our civil administration has been introduced into every district. Such portion of the army as was required has been embodied and disciplined in our pay; while the rest have been pensioned, or discharged with a handsome gratuity. Perfect contentment and quiet prevail. Beyond the palace walls not a murmur has been heard; and in no single instance throughout the districts has the public peace been disturbed.

28. Equally happy results have attended the assignment which the Nizam was persuaded to make of the districts belonging to the state of Hyderabad. Hyderabad.

In the possession of Berar and the neighbouring districts of Nagpore, the British Government, it deserves to be remembered, has secured the finest cotton tracts which are known to exist in all the continent of India; and thus has opened up a great additional channel of supply, through which to make good a felt deficiency in the staple of one great branch of its manufacturing industry.

Since the assignment was made all disputes with the Nizam have ceased.

Though the districts assigned were covered with places of defence, the famous fortress of Gawilghur among the rest, and although they were garrisoned by Arabs or Rohillas, yet all were delivered over submissively and at once, and not a single shot was fired in anger.

There also the civil administration has been introduced. Crime—especially the violent crime of dacoity—has already much diminished. The revenue is already rapidly increasing. The public tranquillity has not been disturbed by even a single popular tumult; and the admirable little army, which was formerly the Nizam's Contingent, but which is now a British force, is available for any service for which it may be required.

29. The assumption of the government of Oude is an event too recent to admit of any record being given of the progress that has been made towards the organization of its future administration. The government of the province was assumed on the 7th of this month. Up to the present time no resistance has been attempted, no disturbance of the public peace has occurred. The troops of the king are contentedly taking service in our pay; and thus far at least no zemindar or chief has refused submission to our authority. Oude.

A complete civil administration had been prepared, and the military force which it was intended to retain had been fully organised, before negotiations were opened with the King. Officers had been named to every appointment. The best

\* First Punjab Report, p. 452.

best men that could be found available were selected from the civil and military services for the new offices in Oude, and the Government has every reason to anticipate that they will achieve an equal degree of success, as those to whom similar tasks have previously been committed.

Changes made by statute.

30. It is not, however, in the new provinces alone that great changes have been brought to pass. When the Statute of 1833 expired, material and important changes were made by the hand of Parliament upon the frame of the administration itself. Of these, two principal measures are worthy of note.

Government of Bengal.

31. Until that time the local government of Bengal had been placed in the hands of the Governor-general of India. But in the year 1853 the system, by which the officer charged with the responsibility of controlling the government of all India was further burdened with local duties of vast extent and importance, was happily abandoned. The Governor-general was finally liberated from the obligation of performing an impossible task, and a Lieutenant-Governor was appointed to the charge of Bengal alone.

The importance of this measure cannot be overrated

Legislative Council of India.

32. At the same time another great change was introduced, equally novel in its character, and not less important.

A Council was appointed as the Legislature of India, which was no longer identical with the Supreme Council, but included divers other members, and exercised its functions by separate and distinct proceedings of its own.

The organization of the Legislative Council proved to be a work which involved great labour, and was attended with many difficulties. The proceedings of the Council, however, were speedily reduced to form. The duties of legislation have subsequently been laboriously and faithfully performed. The public has long since had access to its deliberations. Its debates and papers are printed and published; and I trust, and believe, that Parliament and the public will each year see reason to be more and more content with the manner in which the Legislative Council of India will fulfil the purposes for which it was established.

Minor political events.

33. Before proceeding to enumerate the measures that have been framed and carried into effect in connexion with the internal administration of the country, I am desirous of referring to some political incidents, which are not unworthy of note, although they did not seem to be of sufficient importance to find a place in the paragraphs allotted to the foreign relations of the Honourable Company.

Ungool.

34. Early in 1848, the Rajah of Ungool, a petty chieftain in the Jungle Mehals, resisted the authority of the Government. His raj was taken from him, and he has since died in exile.

Sikhim.

35. The Rajah of Sikhim, a hill chieftain on the borders of Nipal, in order to enforce certain claims which he alleged against the Government of India, had the audacity to seize the person of the political officer at Darjeeling, when travelling under the Rajah's safeguard within his dominions. Military preparations were made. The Agent was released; and all the territories which the Rajah possessed within the plains were confiscated, and have been retained.

Khyrpore.

36. In Scinde, Meer Ali Morad of Khyrpore, was accused of having forged a clause in a treaty, whereby he had wrongfully obtained possession of lands which of right belonged to the British Government. A full and fair investigation was made. The Ameer had every opportunity afforded to him of defending himself; but his guilt was proved beyond a doubt. The lands were taken from him, and his power and influence were reduced to insignificance.

Bhawulpore.

37. Upon the death of the Nawab of Bhawulpore, who had faithfully supported us in the contest with Moolraj, and to whom a pension of a lakh of rupees was granted as a reward, his second son was acknowledged as his successor, in accordance with the Nawab's request. Before very long, rebellion was raised against the new Nawab, and appeal was made to the British Government.

Nothing would have been easier for that Government than to have made terms by which direct and prospective advantage would have been gained for itself. The Government, however, refrained from all endeavour to aggrandise itself. It left to the Daoodpootras themselves to determine who should be their ruler, and when they had decided in favour of the eldest brother, the natural heir, the Government

Government at once recognised him as Nawab, stipulating only for the safety of the deposed ruler, and accepting the custody of his person.

38. In like manner, when Jung Bahadoor had begged from the Nipalese Durbar the lives of his own brother and of the brother of the Rajah of Nipal, who had conspired for the assassination of the minister, and when he had obtained their lives only on condition that the British Government would undertake for their safe custody, the Government, acting in the interest of humanity, accepted the trust, though it was a dubious and responsible one. Nipalese sirdars.

39. When, not long since, Rajah Jowahir Sing was engaged in open resistance to his uncle, Maharajah Golab Sing, the Government of India maintained a rigid neutrality. Jummoo.

Nothing would have been more easy than that the Government of India, while acting strictly within the obligations of treaty, should have so framed its policy on this occasion as to place itself in a favourable position for drawing its own advantages from the contest which one day or other will probably arise between the members of the Jummoo family; and for perhaps recovering the fertile and unhappy province of Cashmere, which, in 1846, we unwittingly handed over to a chief who has proved himself a veritable tyrant, and who already appears to be the founder of a race of tyrants. But the Government of India was loyal both to the spirit and to the letter of its obligations, and stood wholly aloof from both contending parties.

40. Very lately the Nawab of Mumdot, who derived his independent powers from our gift, was accused of the grossest tyranny, and of many personal atrocities. Full investigation was made; and the Nawab has been removed from power, and his territory will be administered in trust for his family. Mumdot.

41. Seven years ago the heir apparent to the King of Delhie died. He was the last of the race who had been born in the purple. The Court of Directors was accordingly advised to decline to recognise any other heir apparent, and to permit the kingly title to fall into abeyance upon the death of the present King, who even then was a very aged man. The Honourable Court accordingly conveyed to the Government of India authority to terminate the dynasty of Timour, whenever the reigning King should die. But as it was found that, although the Honourable Court had consented to the measure, it had given its consent with great reluctance, I abstained from making use of the authority which had been given to me. The grandson of the King was recognised as heir apparent; but only on condition that he should quit the palace in Delhie in order to reside in the palace at the Kootub; and that he should, as King, receive the Governor-general of India at all times on terms of perfect equality. King of Delhie.

42. The Nawab Nazim of Bengal having permitted a cruel murder, by the infliction of bastinado, to be committed within his jurisdiction, and almost at the door of his tent, his Highness's peculiar jurisdiction and legal exemption were taken away from him; and he was subjected to the disgrace of losing a large portion of the salute of honour which he has previously received. Nawab Nazim of Bengal.

43. During the last autumn the Nawab of the Carnatic very suddenly died. As the treaty by which the Musnud of the Carnatic was conferred on his Highness's predecessor was exclusively a personal one; as the Nawab had left no male heir; and as both he and his family had disreputably abused the dignity of their position, and the large share of public revenue which had been allotted to them; the Court of Directors has been advised to place the title of Nawab in abeyance, granting fitting pensions to the several members of the Carnatic family. Nawab of the Carnatic.

44. Very shortly after the death of the Nawab of the Carnatic, the Rajah of Tanjore deceased. He left no son, and no male heir, direct or indirect, who bore his name. The Honourable Court was therefore advised to resume the large stipend which the Rajah had enjoyed, as a lapse to the Government, pensions being granted to the members of the family as in all similar cases. Rajah of Tanjore.

45. In consequence of the proved existence of khutput (that is, of bribery and other undue influence), in connexion with the political affairs of Baroda at Bombay, the direction of the relations of his Highness the Guicowar with the British Government was transferred to the Governor-general in Council. Since The Guicowar of Central India.

that time his Highness's affairs have ceased to give trouble or anxiety; and, so far as can be known, no attempt to exercise khutput has ever been made by his Highness's agents, or by Guzeerattee intriguers at Calcutta.

All the states of Central India have been placed under the control of a Governor-general's agent for Central India, with the same advantage which attended a similar measure within Rajpootana.

Maharajah Duleep Sing and Princess of Coorg.

46. There are two incidents connected with the families of native princes which remarkably signalise the period we are now reviewing, though they may not be regarded as of political moment.

47. The first is the adoption of the Christian faith by Maharajah Duleep Sing, the last of the rulers of the Punjab. The act was voluntary on the part of the boy, and, under the guidance of God's hand, was the result of his own uninfluenced convictions. It is gratifying to be able to add that his life has hitherto been strictly consistent with the injunctions of the faith he professes.

48. The other incident is of a similar nature. I refer to the Christian baptism of the daughter of the ex-Rajah of Coorg, under the special protection of Her Majesty the Queen.

The desire for the baptism of the young princess proceeded from the Rajah himself, and was intimated to me so early as in 1848.

Improvements in civil administration.

49. The catalogue of the changes and improvements which have been effected, and of the measures that have been taken under various heads in the several branches of the civil administration, during the last eight years, is happily a long one.

It commences with the organization of the civil service itself.

Opening of the civil service.

50. By the statute which was passed in 1853 to provide for the government of India, admission to the Indian civil service was thrown open to all who, being natural-born subjects of the Queen, should offer themselves as candidates for examination and admission.

This change of system, comprehensive in its principle and momentous in its consequences for good or for ill, is still an experiment whose result remains to be seen.

Rules for young civil officers.

51. Before this large step was taken by the Imperial Parliament, new and stringent rules had been introduced by the Government of India, for increasing the efficiency of the officers of the civil service.

The unnecessarily protracted period which was allowed for study to every young civilian before he presented himself for the examination which was to test his fitness for entering on active duties, was curtailed. Instead of allowing for that purpose 22 months, during which the young gentlemen had usually idled and loitered at the Presidency, the Government now requires that every civilian shall pass an examination in two languages within six months after his arrival. If he should fail to do so, he is not allowed to remain at the Presidency, but is sent into the Mofussil to continue his studies there.

These rules have been extended to all the several governments.

Periodical examination of assistants.

52. Periodical examinations of the covenanted assistants in the several branches of the administration have been established. Every assistant is required to pass each of these successive examinations before he receives promotion to any higher grade in the civil service.

A similar system of examinations has been established for the uncovenanted officers whom the Government employs.

It is believed that the regulations just described have been productive of the best effect.

Abolition of the College of Fort William.

53. Simultaneously with those measures, the College of Fort William, which was established by the wisdom of Lord Wellesley, but which seemed no longer adapted to the purposes it was intended to serve, and which has indeed become a mere name, was abolished.

A Board of Examiners for conducting examinations and for superintending the studies of young civilians has been created in its stead.

Officers prohibited to take part in management of trading companies.

54. All officers of the Government have been prohibited from engaging or taking any part whatever in the management of banking and trading companies.

- 54a. It has been ordered by the Honourable Court, that in the event of any of their servants, civil or military, resorting for relief to the Insolvent Court, they shall be suspended until the pleasure of the Court shall be made known. Officers having recourse to Insolvent Court, to be suspended.
- After several references and modifications, a complete set of Absentee rules has been substituted for those which were published in 1843. It is hoped that they will be found advantageous at once to the members of the civil service and to the interests of the Honourable Company.
55. The following are improvements that have been introduced into the frame of the administrative departments. Civil Absentee rules.
56. In the non-regulation provinces a principle has been established, whereby the whole body of civil officers is distributed into classes of varying size and numbers. The promotion from class to class is regulated by merit, not by seniority. Undoubted benefit has arisen from this change. Promotion in non-regulation provinces.
57. Effect has been given to this principle in the uncovenanted service of Government. Promotion in uncovenanted service
- The system of promotion from grade to grade was formerly regulated by length of service. It gave to each officer promotion, as a matter of course, after he had served a certain number of years. Promotion by merit is now the rule.
- In Bengal and in the North-Western Provinces the uncovenanted officers in the Opium department, the deputy collectors, the deputy magistrates, and abkaree superintendents, have been arranged in classes, on different rising salaries. Merit alone will now raise an officer from a lower to a higher, among these classes. The superiority of the new system must be obvious at a glance.
58. In addition to these improvements in the terms of service under which the large and valuable body of uncovenanted officers is employed in India, there are others which remain to be noticed. Improvement in condition of uncovenanted service.
- The benefits of the pension rules have been conceded to the officers of the Education department. This boon has been extended to the uncovenanted officers of the Public Works department, and to those of the Bengal Steam Service.
- Furthermore, a set of Absentee rules for the uncovenanted service has been prepared, and has been submitted for the confirmation of the Honourable Court.
59. Formerly in the Lower Provinces two separate boards, each consisting of two members, had the management, one of the revenue of customs, salt, and opium, the other of the general revenue. The effect of their peculiar constitution was to impose upon the Government the necessity and the labour of deciding in every one of the numerous cases in which the two members of each board might chance to differ in opinion. Abolition of Board of Customs, Salt, and Opium.
- The separate boards were abolished; and one revenue board of three members was created in their room.
60. A scheme of reform of the secretariat and of the administrative departments at Bombay, which was submitted by the Government of that Presidency, has been sanctioned, with some temporary reservations. Secretariat at Bombay.
61. An Accountant-general has been appointed in immediate connexion with the Supreme Government. Accountant-General.
62. For some time past very earnest endeavours have been made to expedite the preparation and despatch of the reports on the sketch and regular estimates, and of the statements of actual receipts and disbursements, in each year. Expediting of financial accounts.
- It is believed that in future years the wishes of the Home authorities will be completely met. The sketch estimate of 1855-56 was sent in on 26th October 1855. It is expected that the regular estimate of 1855-56 will be sent in May 1856; and that the actual statement of 1855-56 will be made up in December 1856.
63. It has, however, been long felt by the Supreme Government, that the information which was given as to the condition of the Indian finances in each year, by the reports which accompanied the estimates of the year, was cumbrous, obscure, and insufficient. Wherefore, in order to enable the Government of India to take a formal and clear review of its financial position at regular intervals, it was lately directed that, in addition to the reports which are annually prepared
- Annual review of finances.

by the Financial Secretary to accompany the sketch and regular estimates, and the accounts of actual receipts and disbursements, the Secretary should in future, once in each year, at the time of the submission of the regular estimate, prepare a separate Report, pointing the attention of the Government in this country and at home to any notable changes in the income from material sources of revenue, and affording such explanation of the cause as is to be given; noticing where and how any material increase or reduction of expenditure has been made; and submitting generally an exposition of the prospects of the coming year, founded upon an intelligible analysis of the results of the year under review.

**Abolition of Government agency.**

64. In the year 1854 it was represented to the Honourable Court of Directors, that, in the circumstances of the present day, it was unnecessary to maintain any longer the office of Government Agent. The business of the Government Agent (the whole of the property in whose hands was private property, not liable to the jurisdiction of the Government, and in cases of dispute tangible by law only) consisted in buying and selling Government securities for whoever thought proper to employ him. These and similar functions seemed no part of the duty of a Government officer, nor was there any reason why the Government of the country should continue to act any longer as a private agent.

Accordingly, the consent of the Honourable Court was given to the abolition of the Government Agency at the end of the present year.

**Salaries of civil officers.**

65. By the statute of 1853, the salary of each member of the Supreme Council was fixed at Rs. 80,000 per annum. The salary of each member of the Legislative Council was fixed at Rs. 50,000 per annum. Guided by this standard, the Government has ruled, that no salary in India shall exceed Rs. 50,000 a year, with some few and specified exceptions.

**Revision of civil salaries.**

66. Under the orders of the Honourable Court, a Special Commissioner has recently been appointed, for the purpose of executing the revision which the Honourable Court had required the Government to make of all civil salaries throughout the Indian territories.

**Prison discipline.**

67. Two great subjects, which command the deepest interest and attention in England, have received, during these years in India, a large measure of consideration and practical development,—I mean, Prison Discipline and Education.

It was in the North-west Provinces, under the administration of Mr. Thomason, that the first effectual effort was made for the improvement of prisons and prison discipline.

The appointment of an Inspector of Prisons within that jurisdiction was found to be so beneficial in all respects, that a similar office was created in Bengal. The Governments of Madras and Bombay have since been authorised to establish the office within their respective Presidencies. It has long since been found necessary to employ an officer in that capacity for the non-regulation province of the Punjab; and the advantage which would have been derived from possessing the control of such an officer there from its first annexation having been made apparent, the Government has profited by experience, and has included an Inspector of Prisons among the necessary administrative officers of the province of Oude.

In connexion with this subject, it may be added, that the punishment of transportation to the colonies having been abolished in respect of all civil European prisoners, measures have been taken for preparing a general prison for persons of that class convicted in India.

**Education.**

68. Until of late years the progress of education in India, under the auspices of the several local Governments, must be admitted to have been languid and inconsiderable.

It received its first great impulse, as a general system, from the hand of the late Mr. Thomason, who obtained permission to establish a Government school in every Tehsildaree within eight districts in Hindoostan. The measure was declaredly experimental; but it was attended with such signal success, that in 1853 the Government of India very earnestly recommended that the system of vernacular education, which had proved so effectual, should be extended to the whole of the North-western Provinces. Not only was this large measure recommended for immediate adoption, but similar measures were advised for the lower provinces



provinces of Bengal, and for the Punjab; with such modifications as their various circumstances might be found to require.

The Supreme Government did not fail to give its attention to the subject of vernacular education in Bombay and Madras, in the former of which some progress has been made.

About the same period the Hindoo College and the Madrissa in Calcutta were revised and improved. In connexion with them, the Honourable Court was requested to sanction the establishment of a Presidency College at Calcutta, which should be open to all classes of the community, and which should furnish a higher scale of education, especially of English education, to the youth of Bengal, than was supplied by any existing institutions.

The establishment of the College has since been sanctioned.

While the proposals for that institution, and for the extension of vernacular education, were still before the home authorities, the Honourable Court addressed to the Government of India their great education despatch, dated 19th July 1854. It contained a scheme of education for all India, far wider and more comprehensive than the local or the Supreme Governments could ever have ventured to suggest. It left nothing to be desired, if, indeed, it did not authorise and direct that more should be done than is within our present grasp.

Vernacular Schools throughout the districts, Government Colleges of a higher grade, and a University in each of the three Presidencies of India, were the main features of this great plan.

The bestowal of grants-in-aid on all educational institutions was also sanctioned, subject to certain rules, and on the condition of Government inspection being at all times and fully admitted.

Immediate steps were taken in India for giving effect to the orders of the Honourable Court.

A distinct department for the superintendence of education was constituted. A Director-general of Public Instruction has been appointed by each Governor and Lieutenant-Governor, and in the Punjab; and suitable aid by inspectors and others has been allotted to each of them.

Provisional rules for regulating grants in aid have been sanctioned, for the guidance of the several local Governments.

Lastly, a committee has been appointed for the purpose of framing a scheme for the establishment of Universities at the Presidency towns of Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay. It is still engaged on its difficult task.

69. In its general educational projects, the Government has not lost sight of a collateral object, full of peculiar interest—namely, the education of the females of India. Female education

In 1850, at the suggestion of the late Mr. Bethune, then the President of the Council of Education, that body was instructed by the Government of Bengal to consider their functions as henceforth extending to the superintendence of native female education; and that wherever any disposition was shown by the natives to establish Female Schools, it would be their duty to give them all possible encouragement.

The Court of Directors, in their despatch already referred to, observed, that the importance of Female Education cannot be overrated; and they expressed their cordial sympathy with the efforts which had been made for its encouragement and extension.

It is well known that among the many difficulties which have stood in the way of educating the females of India, none has been more obstructive than the reluctance which has always been shown by the higher classes of natives to consent to permit the attendance of their daughters in schools. The late Mr. Bethune endeavoured to meet this difficulty at the capital by founding a school for the especial instruction of the female children of natives of wealth and rank. It began with very small beginnings. But the influence, the liberality, and the perseverance of its founder, enabled him to achieve and to witness a certain success in his labours.

His unexpected and lamented death in 1851 seemed likely to be fatal to the benevolent and novel undertaking in which he had engaged. Unwilling that any chance of success in so desirable an object should be lost, I adopted and have myself supported the school from the time of Mr. Bethune's death until now.



Though it has struggled on but slowly, its progress has been steady, and still continues. The attendance has gone on increasing, until there are now more than fifty scholars attached to the school.

By means of funds which were left by Mr. Bethune, an excellent school-house and all requisite buildings have been constructed in Cornwallis Square. Everything, as I leave it, promises well; and as the Honourable Court has been pleased to take upon itself the pecuniary maintenance of the school in future, I trust that such special interest will be shown in the undertaking by those of rank and influence on the spot, that its future progress will be insured, until it shall have acquired an extent and stability which will enable it to fulfil the high purposes for which its founder, Mr. Bethune, designed it.

Great measures of material improvement.

70. While it is gratifying to me to be thus able to state that the moral and social questions which are engaging attention in Europe have not been neglected in India during the last eight years, it is doubly gratifying to record, that those years have also witnessed the first introduction into the Indian empire of three great engines of social improvement, which the sagacity and science of recent times had previously given to the Western nations,—I mean Railways, uniform Postage, and the Electric Telegraph.

I propose to advert to each of them briefly, in their order.

Railways.

71. The subject of railway communication in India was first laid before the Supreme Government by Mr. Rowland Stephenson in 1843.

In 1849, the Honourable Company engaged in a contract with the East-Indian Railway Company, for the construction of an experimental line, at a cost not exceeding one million sterling. The line was to be selected with a view to its forming a portion of a future trunk line to the North-west Provinces.

On that ground the section from Howrah towards Rajmahal was chosen, with a branch to the coal-field at Raneegunge.

In the cold weather of 1851, a line was surveyed between Burdwan and Rajmahal. In the following season that survey was continued to Allahabad.

In the spring of 1853, the Government of India submitted to the Court of Directors its view upon the general question of railways for the Indian empire. The Honourable Court was respectfully advised to encourage the formation of railways in India to the utmost. It was urged not to hesitate to engage in the enterprise upon a scale commensurate to the vast extent of the territories which had been placed under its Government, and to the great political and commercial interests which were involved.

It was specifically recommended that, in the first instance, a system of trunk lines should be formed, connecting the interior of each Presidency with its principal port, and connecting the several Presidencies with each other.

The trunk lines which were proposed, and of which the general direction could alone be given, were,—

1st. A line from Calcutta to Lahore.

2d. A line from Agra, or some point in Hindoostan, to Bombay; or, alternately, a line from Bombay by the Nerbudda valley, to meet at some point the line from Calcutta to Lahore.

3d. A line uniting Bombay and Madras.

4th. A line from Madras to the Malabar coast.

The Honourable Court was pleased to give its approval to the general plan which the Supreme Government had sketched.

Some progress has already been made in the construction of most of these lines; and measures have been taken for the construction of them all in due course of time.

In the Bengal Presidency the line from Calcutta to Raneegunge, a distance of 120 miles, was opened on 3d February 1855.

The Court of Directors has sanctioned the construction of a line from Burdwan to Delhie, on a capital of 10,000,000*l.* sterling.

The direction of the line from Burdwan to Allahabad having been previously approved, that from Allahabad to Cawnpore was sanctioned in June 1854; from Cawnpore to near Agra in December 1854; and thence *via* Agra and Muttra to Delhie in November 1855.

Surveys of two alternate lines from Delhie or Agra to Lahore were executed in 1854-55. Additional surveys have been authorised from Mirzapore to Jubbulpore, and from Cawnpore to Bhilsa.

It has been stated above that the trunk line from Calcutta to Burdwan, with a branch to Raneegunge, has already been opened.

It is expected that the section of this trunk line which lies between Mirzapore and Agra (except the bridge over the Jumna at Allahabad) will be completed by the end of 1857; and arrangements are in progress for opening this portion of the line separately.

It is further expected that the section between Burdwan and Rajmahal will be completed in 1858, and the remainder probably not till 1859.

In the Bombay Presidency the Honourable East India Company has recognized and made engagements with two railway companies for executing the several lines proposed—the first, the Great India Peninsula Railway Company; the second, the Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway Company.

In 1849 a contract was entered into with the former, for constructing an experimental line from Bombay towards the Ghats.

The first section of the Bombay line, which was the first line of railway employed for public traffic in India, was opened on 16th April 1853.

A length of fifty-one miles on this line, from Bombay to Wasindra, has been open since October 1855.

After much discussion, and many surveys, in regard to the competing lines for the traffic between Candeish and Bombay (the one proposed by the Great India Peninsula Railway Company, direct, by the Thull Ghat in the Syhadree Range; the other proposed by the Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway Company, circuitous, by way of the Taptee Valley), the Government of India was enabled to form a well-founded conclusion in the autumn of 1855. The Supreme Government recommended that the line from Bombay to Candeish by way of the Thull Ghat should be sanctioned by the Honourable Court as a highly-important local line.

At the end of the year, the Supreme Government recommended further, that an extension of this line from Candeish to Nagpore should receive the sanction of the Honourable Court.

Thus, direct and easy and cheap conveyance will be afforded to the magnificent port of Bombay, not only for the produce of the rich province of Candeish, but for all the raw cotton of the famous districts of Berar and Nagpore, to whose value allusion has already been made in a previous paragraph of this Minute.

Surveys have also been executed for this company from Candeish to the iron and coal districts on the Nerbudda, and as far as Jubbulpore, where they will meet the survey, already mentioned, from Mirzapore.

In December 1854, the Supreme Government recommended to the Honourable Court to give its sanction to the line from Bombay by the Bhore Ghat to Poona, as the first section of the trunk line from Bombay to Madras.

In the autumn of 1855, the Honourable Court was advised to sanction the prolongation of this line from Poona as far as the River Kristna, where it is intended to meet the trunk line from Madras.

In November 1854, the Government of India resolved to recommend to the Court of Directors to give its sanction to the line which had been surveyed by the Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway Company, from Bombay to Baroda and Ahmedabad, and which was intended to form the first section of a trunk line from the western coast of India to Hindoostan.

The Honourable Court was pleased to approve of the section from Surat to Ahmedabad; but it withheld for the time its sanction to the section between Surat and Bombay.

The line of junction which should be selected between the Presidency of Bombay and Hindoostan has been found beset with difficulties. But in the very last hours of my administration, I have had the satisfaction of receiving plans and sections which appear to show that a very practicable and eligible line may be found from Baroda over the Ghats to Indore, and thence by Bhilsa and Gwalior to Agra. I trust that this line, forming an excellent junction between Bombay and Hindoostan, and giving easy access to the rich products and important trade of Central India, may ultimately be adopted.

In the Madras Presidency, all the railway engagements of the Honourable East India Company have been formed with the Madras Railway Company.

A line from Madras through Variembaddy, Salem and Coimbatore to Poonany, on the Malabar coast, was sanctioned by the Honourable Court.

No portion of this line had been opened as yet for public traffic. But I had the satisfaction of travelling upon it for about fifty miles in November last, and I saw every reason to approve of the execution of the line, and of the vigour with which the works were being carried on.

Sanction has also been given by the Honourable Court to a branch line from Variembaddy to Bangalore.

Two plans have been proposed for the trunk line which is to unite the Presidencies of Madras and Bombay.

The one line would proceed by Cuddapah and Bellary to the River Kristna. The other would form a continuation of the line first mentioned, and would be carried from Bangalore to Bellary, and thence to the River Kristna.

The Supreme Government has given the preference to the trunk line by way of Cuddapah, and has referred the question for the final decision of the Honourable Court.

It seems to me that the Honourable Court have every reason to be satisfied with the progress that has been made in the construction of Indian railways since 1849, and with the prospect of future return.

**Post-office.**

72. The inferiority of the postal system in India, and the unsatisfactory manner in which the Post-office department had been found to work in every Presidency, induced the Supreme Government, in the year 1850, to appoint a commission, consisting of one member from each Presidency, to examine into the Post-office system, and to report on some scheme for its improvement.

The Report prepared by the commission was submitted for the consideration of the Honourable Court of Directors. It resulted ultimately in the adoption of the following principal changes and improvements in the Indian postal system:—

1st. The institution of the Post-office throughout India as a distinct department, superintended by the "Director-general," under the immediate control of the Government of India.

2d. The establishment of an uniform single rate of postage, of half an anna ( $\frac{3}{4}d.$ ) for letters, and of an anna ( $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ ) for newspapers, irrespective of distance.

3d. The substitution of postage-stamps for cash payments.

4th. The restriction of the privilege of official franking to as few officers as possible.

Very recently Her Majesty's Government have consented to the adoption of an uniform rate of postage, payable in one sum, on letters between England and India. The rate has been fixed at 6 *d.* per half-ounce.

As yet, it is too soon to form any correct estimate of the actual effect of these changes upon the amount of general correspondence, and upon the public revenue. So far as we may venture to form a conjecture, the increase in correspondence has already been at the rate of 25 per cent., while the loss of revenue has been less considerable than was expected.

On the other hand, it would be difficult to form any conception at all of the real magnitude of these changes, and of their social effects, unless by illustration and contrast. Two simple facts may, perhaps, enable a bystander to estimate in some degree the extent of our postal reform, and its value.

In England, a single letter is conveyed to any part of the British Isles for 1*d.*; in India, a single letter is conveyed over distances immeasurably greater—from Peshawur on the borders of Afghanistan, to the southernmost village of Cape Comorin, or from Debrooghur in Upper Assam, to Kurrachee at the mouth of the Indus—for no more than  $\frac{3}{4}d.$  The postage chargeable on the same letter three years ago in India would not have been less than 1*s.*, or 16 times the present charge.

Again, since uniform rates of postage between England and India have been established, the Scotch recruit who joins his regiment on our furthest frontier at Peshawur may write to his mother at John o' Groat's House, and may send his letter to her free for 6*d.* Three years ago the same sum would not have carried his letter beyond Lahore.

It has rarely happened that a departmental revolution so complete, having consequences so wide-spread and so generally beneficial, could be recorded in so few lines as have now sufficed to exhibit the reform of our Indian Post-office, and its excellent results.

73. It was in the beginning of April 1852, that the report of Dr. W. O'Shaughnessy, on the full completion and the successful working of the experimental line of electric telegraph, which had previously been authorised by the Honourable Court, was laid before the Government of Bengal. On the 14th of that month the Governor of Bengal strongly urged the Governor-general in Council to obtain the sanction of the Honourable Court to the immediate construction of lines of electric telegraph from Calcutta to Agra, to Bombay, to Peshawur, and to Madras. He also advised that Dr. O'Shaughnessy should be forthwith sent to England for the furtherance of the measure. On the 23d of the same month the Governor-general in Council recommended these measures to the Court of Directors, and Dr. O'Shaughnessy proceeded to England. Electric telegraph.

The Honourable Court entered into the proposal with the utmost cordiality and promptitude, and on the 23d June it signified its assent to the whole proposal of the Government of India. During the rest of that year, and through the greater part of the next year, Dr. O'Shaughnessy was employed in procuring and despatching from England the immense mass of materials which was required for the vast work which had been projected.

In November 1853, the construction of the telegraph line from Calcutta to Agra was commenced. On the 24th March 1854, a message was sent over the line from Agra to Calcutta, a distance of 800 miles, which had been completed in less than five months.

The vigour which was thus apparent at the commencement of the work was fully maintained throughout all its subsequent progress. On the 1st February 1855, 15 months after the commencement of the work, the superintendent was able to notify the opening of all the lines from Calcutta to Agra, and thence to Attock, on the Indus, and again from Agra to Bombay, and thence to Madras. These lines included 41 offices, and were extended over 3,050 miles of space.

Nor is this all. Since the commencement of the past year, the line of electric telegraph has been completed to Peshawur; it has been extended from Bangalore to Ootacamund, and is nearly finished from Rangoon to Meeaday upon the Burmese frontier.

To sum up in a single sentence. The Superintendent has stated in his last report,\* that 4,000 miles of electric telegraph have been laid down and placed in working order since the month of November 1853.

The difficulties which have been encountered in the construction of the Indian telegraph lines were such as have no existence in the civilised and cultivated countries of Europe.

Throughout Central India, for instance, Dr. O'Shaughnessy states,—“The country crossed opposes enormous difficulties to the maintenance of any line. There is no metalled road; there are few bridges; the jungles also in many places are deadly for at least half the year; there is no police for the protection of the lines. From the loose black cotton soil of Malwa to the rocky wastes of Gwalior, and the precipices of the Sindwa Ghats, every variety of obstacles has to be encountered.”†

On the lines that have been mentioned, about 70 principal rivers have been crossed, some by cables, others by wires extended between masts.

Some of these river-crossings have been of great extent. The cable across the Soane measures 15,840 feet; and the crossing of the Toonbuddra river is stated to be not less than two miles in length.

The cost of constructing the electric telegraph in India cannot yet be accurately calculated. The Superintendent, in his last report, has stated it as his belief that the “total cost of everything, construction of 4,000 miles as they at present stand, working of all the offices for two years, spare stores in hand, instruments, houses, &c.,” will not exceed 21 lakhs of rupees, or little more than Rs. 500 a mile.‡

It

\* 9th February 1856.  
245.

† Report, 9th February 1856, para. 26.

‡ Ibid., para. 66.

It is to be observed, that the construction of the line, though rapid, is for the most part already substantial. The Superintendent states that the line, "for three-fourths of the distance from Madras to Calcutta, is superior in solidity to any ever erected elsewhere."\* On some portions of its length it stands without a rival in the world. For instance, in the Madras Presidency, the line for 174 miles is borne on stone masonry pillars capped with granite, while for 332 miles it is sustained "on superb granite, 16 feet high above ground, in single slabs."†

It is satisfactory to be able to add, that the Superintendent has officially stated that the tariff of charges on the Indian lines "is now as cheap as that in use in any other country, having lines of such length as permit a fair comparison with ours."‡

Thus it is stated, that in England a message of 20 words sent 400 miles would be charged 5 s. The charge in India for 24 words to Benares, 420 miles, is 3 s. ||

Again, in the lines on the continent of Europe, a message of 24 words, sent from London to Trieste, would cost 22 s. A similar message of 24 words, sent from Calcutta to Bombay (about the same distance, 1,600 miles, as from London to Trieste), would be 12 s. §

For a comparison of the charges for greater distances than these, we must look to the United States of America.

The Superintendent states, that a message of 16 words sent from New York to New Orleans, 2,000 miles, would cost 13 s. 6 d. A similar message of 16 words, sent from Calcutta to Bangalore, which is more than 2,000 miles, costs only 10 s. \*\*

Allusion has been made to the physical difficulties which obstructed the formation of the telegraph lines in India: but these were by no means the most serious difficulty with which the Superintendent has had to contend. An entire establishment for the working of the lines was to be formed from the commencement, and the materials from which to form it were scanty, and by no means of the best description.

Hence the Superintendent states, even in his last report, †† that his "chief and almost insurmountable difficulty" has lain in the sudden and simultaneous training of some 300 persons, employed in 60 different offices. And while the Superintendent affirms that the signallers generally are expert, and capable of accurate manipulation, yet, in respect of steadiness and other requisite qualities, he records that there is both room and need for great improvement.

I could myself bear testimony to the accuracy and rapidity with which the telegraph is worked, but I prefer to quote the recorded statements of the Superintendent.

Referring to allegations of inaccuracy in the Telegraph department, the Superintendent observes, "I can further establish by facts and official records beyond dispute, that the Indian lines have already accomplished performances of rapidity in the transmission of intelligence which equal that achieved on the American lines. We have repeatedly sent the first bulletin of overland news in 40 minutes from Bombay to Calcutta, 1,600 miles. We have delivered despatches from Calcutta to the Governor-general at Ootacamund, during the rainy season, in three hours, the distance being 200 miles greater than from London to Sebastopol. We have never failed for a whole year in delivering the mail news from England *via* Bombay, within 12 hours." ††

The Superintendent has been permitted by the Honourable Court to proceed a second time to England and to America, to obtain the means of improving our present system, and of extending it still further.

Several new lines are in contemplation within India itself.

The Supreme Government has further expressed its readiness to co-operate with the Government of Ceylon in extending the Indian lines from the Presidency of Madras to Point de Galle.

And as the Honourable Court has indicated its willingness to join in any practicable scheme for laying down a submarine telegraph across the Medi-

terran

\* Report, 9th February 1856, para. 81.

† Ibid., para. 68.

\*\* Ibid., para. 76.

|| Ibid., para. 70.

†† Ibid., para. 100.

‡ Ibid., para. 32.

§ Ibid., para. 74.

¶ Ibid., para. 78.

ranean and the Indian Seas, it may be hoped that the system of electric telegraphs in India may yet one day be united with those which envelope Europe, and which already seek to stretch across the Atlantic Ocean.

It is not the object of the Government of India to derive any surplus revenue from its telegraph establishment. If, therefore, mention is here made of the financial results of the year, it is only for the purpose of showing the important fact, that increasing resort is made to the telegraph for the transaction of private business throughout the country. The Superintendent states that the "monthly cash receipts have, even in the first year, very largely exceeded the sum anticipated (namely, Rs. 10,000), and that they exhibit a steady and constant increase from month to month."\*

The political and the military advantages which the Government of the country derives from the possession of such an engine of power are too obvious to call for notice. But two remarkable instances of its efficacy, which have fallen within my own immediate knowledge, will afford an illustration of its political value, which will not be without interest.

When Her Majesty's 10th Hussars were ordered with all speed from Poona to the Crimea, a message requesting instructions regarding their despatch was one day received by me at Calcutta from the Government of Bombay, about nine o'clock in the morning. Instructions were forthwith sent off by the telegraph in reply; and an answer to that reply was again received at Calcutta from Bombay in the evening of the same day. A year before, the same communications for the despatch of speedy reinforcements to the seat of war, which occupied by the telegraph no more than twelve hours, could not have been made in less than 30 days.

The other instance was of a similar character.

When it was resolved to send Her Majesty's 12th Lancers from Bangalore to the Crimea, instead of Her Majesty's 14th Dragoons from Meerut, orders were forthwith despatched by telegraph direct to the regiment at Bangalore.

The corps was immediately got ready for service. It marched 200 miles, to Mangalore, and was there before the transports were ready to receive it.

In both cases the effect was the same. The electric telegraph enabled the authorities in India to give to Her Majesty's Government, in its hour of need, two magnificent cavalry corps of not less than 1,300 sabres; and to despatch them to the Crimea with a promptitude and timely alacrity which exceeded all expectations, and which, in the circumstances of the previous year, would have been utterly impracticable.†

I have now given a brief history of the construction, of the working, and of the results of the electric telegraph in India.

In the Minute in which, as Governor of Bengal, I first proposed the construction of a general system of telegraphs to the Governor-general in Council, it was observed,‡ "Everything, all the world over, moves faster now-a-days than it used to do, except the transaction of Indian business."

Whoever shall peruse the paragraphs that have just been written, will be ready to admit, that, so far as the electric telegraph is concerned, the reproach of tardiness has been removed.

Furthermore, I make bold to say, that whether regard be had to promptitude of executive action, to speed and solidity of construction, to rapidity of organization, to liberality of charge, or to the early realisation and vast magnitude of increased political influence in the East, the achievement of the Honourable Company in the establishment of the electric telegraph in India may challenge comparison with any public enterprise which has been carried into execution in recent times, among the nations of Europe, or in America itself.

74. Although

\* Report, 9th February 1856, para. 7.

† I venture to add another and a recent instance of the political value of the electric telegraph, which has occurred since this Minute was signed.

On the 7th February, as soon as the administration of Oude was assumed by the British Government, a branch electric telegraph from Cawnpore to Lucknow was forthwith commenced. In 18 working days it was completed, including the laying of a cable, 6,000 feet in length, across the River Ganges. On the morning on which I resigned the government of India, General Outram was asked by telegraph, "Is all well in Oude?" The answer, "All is well in Oude," was received soon after noon, and greeted Lord Canning on his first arrival.—(Signed) D.

‡ Minute, 24th April 1852, para. 9.

Other material improvements.

74. Although conspicuous place has been given to those great measures of public improvement, on which I have dwelt in the preceding paragraphs at a length which only their great importance and value will justify, many measures remain to be told which are well worthy of note, in connexion with the commerce, the resources, the products, the communications, and the general improvement of the country.

Commerce and navigation.

75. In connexion with commerce and navigation, it may be mentioned, that within the last eight years differential duties on foreign bottoms have been abolished.

The coasting-trade of India has been set entirely free.

An Act has been passed for the discouragement of crimps, and for the registry of British seamen.

The duties levied in the ports of India are already so light, that there has been little inducement to touch the tariff, unless it had been for the purpose of enhancing the rates, in justice to the general revenue of India.

The tariff, however, has been in some degree simplified, and its operation has been extended to the ports of the provinces of Tenasserim, Arracan and Pegu.

Restriction on the salt trade of the North-western Provinces has been removed.

Salt manufacture.

76. Early in 1854, a commissioner was appointed to investigate and report upon the whole question of the manufacture and sale of salt in India.

The appointment of the commissioner was made with especial reference to the question of the practicability of controlling the manufacture of salt in Bengal by means of a system of excise.

It has been a cause of just dissatisfaction to the Supreme Government, that the submission of the report on this subject has been so long delayed, and that it has only just been transmitted to the home authorities by the commissioner, Mr. Plowden, and even now in an imperfect state.

In the meantime, the sanction of the Supreme Government has been given to an experiment being made under the authority of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, for the manufacture of salt in one district within his jurisdiction under a system of excise. The experiment is still in progress.

Commerce.

77. A duty on the import of raw cotton into the North-western Provinces has been abolished.

The frontier customs duties in the Punjab having been found to be a cause of vexatious oppression to the population, while the sum they gave to the treasury was comparatively inconsiderable in amount, they were wholly abolished, and their place was supplied principally by a tax on salt from the mines.

At the same time, the duty on the salt taken from the Trans-Indus mines was made exceedingly light, the object there being not the realization of revenue, but the maintenance of tranquillity, and of an effectual control over the interests and the conduct of the hill tribes.

In like manner, and for similar reasons, all customs and all export duties upon the River Indus were abandoned; and ultimately the land frontier customs were abolished in Scinde, as they had previously been in the Punjab.

Upon the same principle, the land frontier customs between the territories of his Highness the Nizam and the British provinces which surround it, have been wholly given up, and are no longer levied upon any part of the frontier.

Resources of India.

78. While efforts have thus been made, in various provinces of the empire, to give full freedom to the course of trade, the Government of India has been sedulous in originating and encouraging endeavours to discover and bring to use the hidden resources of the Indian territories.

Cotton.

79. The great acquisition which has been made by the possession of the cotton districts of Berar and Nagpore has already been noticed.

Attention has also been given to the cotton which is produced in the upper districts of Pegu. A gentleman having practical knowledge of the subject was deputed to examine the districts beyond Prome and Thayet Myo. His report, although meagre, was encouraging in a certain degree.

Tea.

80. The cultivation of tea in Assam has prospered in a remarkable degree.

The

The plant has also been largely introduced into the upper districts of the North-west Provinces. Some years ago, plantations were established in the Deyrah Dhoon, and in Kumaon and Gurhwal.

More recently, Mr. Fortune has been employed to bring plants and seeds in large quantities from China, and to engage Chinese workmen for the manufacture of the tea.

The cultivation has extended along the Himalayas. Extensive plantations are now growing up on the heights towards Kangra; and an experimental plantation has been formed on the Murree Hills above Rawul Pindee. Further to the eastward, in Kumaon and Gurhwal, the zemindars have adopted the cultivation of the plant themselves.

Very large quantities of tea are now manufactured every year. It sells readily, at a high price. There is every reason to believe that the cultivation of the tea plant will be very widely spread in future years, and that the trade in tea produced in India will become considerable in extent.

81. An Agricultural and Horticultural Society having been established in the Punjab, the Government has given to it a liberal annual contribution, and constant support and aid. Agriculture.

Different kinds of seeds have been procured from Europe for the improvement of agriculture in that province.

The growth of flax has been largely encouraged, and the cultivation of it at once extended to very considerable dimensions.

An experiment for the growth of silk having been undertaken, workmen skilled in the business, mulberry plants, and every other requisite, were provided abundantly by the Government.

Measures also have been taken for preserving the breed of horses, which was formerly much prized in the Punjab.

And to aid the exertions of the society for introducing a better breed of sheep into the country, Merino rams were procured by the Government, and application was made for the importation of a further supply from the Australian Colonies.

An experiment has been made of the practicability of introducing a breed of sheep into Pegu. The practicability had always previously been denied; but the success which has already attended the establishment of large flocks in Upper Pegu gives the strongest reason to believe that the animal will speedily be naturalised in those districts, and multiply. The natives show a strong desire to possess them; they thrive perfectly, and are singularly fruitful.

The object is one of great importance; for the absence of sheep leads to a privation in respect of food, which is severely felt not only by the European soldiers in the province, but also by all of every class who are employed therein.

Corresponding measures for the encouragement of agriculture have not been wanting in the elder provinces; and a large pecuniary grant was recently sanctioned by the Supreme Government, on the application of the Government of Madras, for the establishment of periodical agricultural shows within that Presidency.

82. The preservation and renewal of forests in different parts of India is an object of the highest public importance, which until lately had not received the attention it deserved. Rules have now been laid down, and appointments have been made, which, it is hoped, will for the future have the effect of preventing all unthrifty management of the forests, on which we must mainly depend for the supply of necessary timber; while the renewal of the trees, as well as their preservation, will be provided for. Forests.

With that view, a Conservator of Forests was appointed in Pegu, as soon as we obtained possession of the province. A similar officer has been appointed for Tenasserim and Martaban.

The principal forests from which our supply of timber for public purposes in Hindoostan was derived belonged to the Government of Oude. They have heretofore been beyond our control, but they will now be carefully regulated and preserved.

A transit duty was until lately levied on the export of timber grown on grants of land made to private persons in the Deyrah Dhoon. This transit duty has been relinquished. But for the proper conservancy of forests in the Dhoon, it has been deemed necessary to prevent the felling of timber without the sanction of a



Superintendent of Forests, who is appointed by the Government to insure due precaution being taken against the waste and injury to the forests, which had hitherto gone on unchecked.

Similar endeavours have been made for the preservation of the forests within the Hill States. But as most of these belong to Hill Chiefs, the attainment of the object at which the Government aims is beset with difficulties.

Regulations, however, have been laid down for the management and for the renewal of those forests over which the Government can exercise control.

A complete examination of all the forests upon the Sutlej and Beas has been made by an officer appointed by the Government of India; and every precaution has been taken for their future preservation and thrifty management, by leasing tracts of forest for our own use, by the prohibition of burning the hill-sides, and by the exercise of such influence as can be used with the improvident and ignorant petty potentates, to whom the forests for the most part belong.

Throughout the whole Punjab the Government, as well as private persons, is almost wholly dependent for a supply of timber upon the forests in Chumba, and in the territories of Maharajah Golab Sing. To facilitate the supply, and to prevent extortion, a Government agency has been established with wholesome effect.

The plains of the Punjab are wholly destitute of forest trees. Shortly after our occupation of the province, instructions were issued by the Government, with a view to the gradual removal of this great want. It is hoped that the measures which were enjoined, and which have been vigorously carried into effect, may in due time produce the results which the Government has had in view. But the process must needs be slow; and if success shall ultimately be attained, it must be the work of time.

Mineral resources  
of India.

83. During the last eight years, persevering efforts have been made to render available the mineral wealth which this country is believed to possess.

At the present time two principal necessities which press upon the Government, and are felt to be essential to the interests of the community, are iron and coal. Every possible effort has been made, and is still making, to supply those great necessities.

Coal.

84. Immediately after the annexation of the Punjab, an examination of the Salt Range was made, with a view to determine the extent of the coal within it, of which seams had been found at Kalabagh.

The result of the examination unfortunately established, that the coal discovered at Kalabagh was a mere lignite, inconsiderable in quantity, and almost worthless in quality, and that the Salt Range contained no beds of real coal.

More recently, the hopes of the Government were raised by the announcement of the discovery of coal in Pegu. But here also the seam unfortunately proved to be of inconsiderable extent. There is, however, good reason to hope that workable seams of coal may yet be found in Pegu, where, as well as in the Tenasserim provinces, the mineral has been discovered at various points.

Mr. Oldham, a gentleman possessing scientific and practical knowledge of the subject, was appointed by the Court of Directors to make full examination of the districts in which coal might be present. Mr. Oldham has already examined the principal districts of Bengal, Sylhet, and Tenasserim; and he is now carrying on his investigations in the Nerbudda Valley.

There is no doubt of the existence in India of coal in abundance. But the great difficulty of access to it, and distance, are formidable impediments in the way of rendering it available for the purposes for which it is required.

Iron.

85. Inquiries regarding the capacity of the Indian territories as an iron-producing country were actively set on foot by the deputation of M. Marcadieu in 1853, as a geological surveyor, to examine and report upon the iron mines which were said to exist in the hills to the north of Simla. Reports were submitted by him on mines at various points. They proved the existence of rich iron ores at certain points; but from the situation of the mines, and the general scarcity of fuel and of water in the neighbourhood of them, it did not seem to the Court of Directors that the minerals in the Simla Hills held out sufficient inducement to the Government to undertake the working of them. M. Marcadieu was also employed to inquire into and report upon the supply of borax, which was said to be found in the inner Himalayas. The inquiry was urgently pressed by the

English

English manufactories of porcelain and pottery. The borax exists in great abundance in a very wild and remote country belonging to Maharajah Golab Sing, beyond Spiti and Kooloo. The difficulties of access are very great. The Maharajah has given assurance that he will not raise his duty on the article. The Government of India has promised its best aid. But the Chamber of Commerce in the Potteries seems now disinclined to pursue the trade in borax at so remote a point.

The Honourable Court deputed Mr. Henwood, a gentleman possessing practical experience as well as scientific knowledge of the subject, to survey the districts of Kumaon and Gurhwal, where iron deposits were said to abound.

During the last year the researches of Colonel Drummond and those of Mr. Henwood appeared to the Government of India to establish the practicability and the expediency of commencing mining operations in the districts above mentioned. Accordingly, an experimental mining and smelting establishment, at the foot of the Kumaon Hills, has been sanctioned by the Government; and it is already in progress, under the direct control of the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-west Provinces.

Other investigations, carried on simultaneously by different persons in various quarters, have been equally successful in the discovery of iron ores.

In the Nerbudda Valley, the existence of rich mines of iron have been ascertained by local examinations, conducted by the surveyors of the Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway Company, under the direction of Colonel Kennedy; and proposals for working the mineral at Poonassa have some time since been laid before the Honourable Court.

Iron has been found, and has been actually manufactured, very recently, in districts near Beerbhoom.

Lastly, proposals have, during the last few weeks, been submitted to the Government of India by Mr. Hunt, one of the contractors of the East Indian Railway, for leasing and working mines of iron and coal, which he has succeeded in finding in the districts not far from Jubbulpore.

On these encouraging facts fair hopes may be built that the present most urgent want of India, in connexion with her material improvement, namely, an ample supply of good iron within her own bounds, may at no distant date be abundantly supplied.

86. Before proceeding to describe the various classes of public works which, during the last eight years, have been undertaken by the Government for the material improvement of the country, it should be stated that steps have been taken for the execution of a topographical survey of all our recent territorial acquisitions, as a measure which is a necessary preliminary to all systematic improvement. Surveys.

Thus, in the Punjab, surveys were very early established in different portions of the province, and on a large scale.

The northern boundary of Pegu has been very accurately laid down by Major Allan. It was a work of great difficulty and delicacy, and has been executed with much ability, and with complete success.

A topographical survey of Pegu is already in progress; and a similar measure has been directed in the adjoining province of Martaban.

Measures have also been taken for obtaining, as soon as may be practicable, topographical surveys of Nagpore and Scinde, as well as of the assigned districts of Hyderabad.

In connexion with this part of the subject it may be mentioned, that in Central India the consent of all the native states has been obtained to the making of a topographical survey, and to a demarcation of all the boundaries between the several native states, and between the British territories and those of native states.

This measure is of great importance and value, not only with reference to the possible future improvement of those territories, but for the preservation of public tranquillity, which has heretofore been so frequently disturbed by feuds arising from disputed boundaries.

87. Of all the works of public improvement which can be applied to an Indian province, works of irrigation are the happiest in their effects upon the physical condition of the people. And foremost among all the works of irrigation that the world as yet has ever seen, stands the Ganges Canal, whose main stream was for the first time opened on the 8th April 1854. Ganges Canal.

When the opening of the canal was reported to the Honourable Court, the work was thus briefly described :

“ Within eight years the main lines of the Ganges Canal, applicable to the double purpose of irrigation and navigation, have been designed, executed, and opened.

“ Extending over 525 miles in length, measuring in its greatest depth 10 feet, and in its extreme breadth 170 feet, the main irrigation line of the Ganges Canal is justly described ‘ as a work which stands unequalled in its class and character among the efforts of civilized nations.’—(Letter, Lieutenant-Governor, April 1854, para. 8.)

“ Its length is five-fold greater than that of all the main lines of Lombardy united, and more than twice the length of the aggregate irrigation lines of Lombardy and Egypt together—the only countries in the world whose works of irrigation rise above insignificance.

“ As a single work of navigation for purposes of commerce, the Ganges Canal has no competitor throughout the world. No single canal in Europe has attained to half the magnitude of this Indian work. It nearly equals the aggregate length of the four greatest canals in France. It greatly exceeds all the first-class canals of Holland put together ; and it is greater, by nearly one-third, than the greatest navigation canal in the United States of America.

“ I have spoken here of the main line alone. When the branches in progress shall have been completed, the extent and influence of the work will be vastly increased throughout all its gigantic proportions.

“ Wonderful and admirable in all respects as the Ganges Canal is felt to be, it has been well said, in the words which the Lieutenant-Governor has quoted, ‘ that there is no more striking fact in connexion with it, than that such a truly gigantic undertaking should have been, in its design, the work of a single intellect, and in its execution the work of a third part of one man’s professional life.’ ”

All the plans for the prosecution of the works upon the canal had been formed before the Government of India was placed in my hands. But of the sum of 1,400,000 *l.* which had been expended upon the canal at the time of its opening in 1854, all, excepting 170,000 *l.*, has been granted since my administration commenced. No financial pressure, no exigencies of war, were suffered to interrupt the progress of that great work. Its main lines have now been opened for nearly two years ; the water has been admitted over their whole length ; the works have stood the test, during the last monsoon, of some of the severest floods that have ever been known ; and as yet the success has been in all respects complete.

When the branches shall be finished, the canal will extend to about 900 miles in length. It is estimated that the area which may be irrigated by its waters will not be less than 1,470,000 acres ; but none can estimate, in their full extent, the blessings which its fertilising influence will confer upon millions, whom it will place henceforth beyond the reach of those periodical calamities of season which from time to time, as in 1837, have brought upon the plains of Hindoostan the wide-spread desolation of famine and death.

I trust I shall not be thought vain-glorious if I say that the successful execution and completion of such a work as the Ganges Canal would, even if it stood alone, suffice to signalise an Indian administration.

I rejoice to know that the gracious favour of the Sovereign was promptly shown to the man whose genius designed and whose energy so rapidly completed this noble work, and that Sir Proby Cautley has been worthily decorated with high honours from the Crown.

88. Although the gigantic proportions of the Ganges Canal might appear at first sight to dwarf all other similar works into insignificance, the Government during these years has undertaken other irrigation projects, which must also be regarded as of great magnitude and importance.

Soon after the annexation of the Punjab, the sanction of the Government was given to the construction of a large canal with various branches, which should be fed by the waters of the River Ravee, and which should be applied to the irrigation of

Baree Doab  
Canals.

of the Manjha (the track which was chiefly inhabited by the Sikhs), and of the rest of the Baree Doab.

The work has been carried on with vigour and success. The main line, with its branches, will extend over not less than 465 miles. Its stream will be at its head 120 feet in breadth, and 5½ feet in depth, diminishing at its lower end to 16 feet in breadth and 2½ feet in depth. Its course is intended to be navigable; and even during the dry season of the year the canal head will roll down a body of water amounting to not less than 3,000 cubic feet in each second.

The Report on the Punjab did not exaggerate the magnitude or the importance of the works in the Baree Doab, when it stated that the new canal would be "second in India only to the great Ganges Canal; and equal, if not superior, to the finest irrigation canals in Europe."\*

89. In the Mooltan district, we found a vast number of smaller canals, fed by the periodical inundations from the rivers of the Punjab. They had been originally dug by the Pathan Governors, and had more recently been repaired by Sawun Mull, the father of Dewan Moolraj. Mooltan Canals.

An officer was appointed to supervise the clearance of the canals, and the distribution of the waters. "The canals," it is stated, "have been both enlarged and improved; and, as regards conservancy and subsidiary management, they are in more efficient order than they ever were, even in the palmy days of Sawun Mull."†

The aggregate length of the inundation canals in the district of Mooltan is upwards of 600 miles.

90. The inundation canals in the Derajat are of local importance; but the streams are troublesome, and the people have not been successful in their management of them. Derajat Canals.

A survey of all these canals was made, and the improvement of them is still in progress.

91. In the Cis-Sutlej province, where surveys for great irrigation works were completed several years ago, no commencement has yet been made, while the extensive works already mentioned more urgently demanded the attention of the Government. Cis-Sutlej Irrigation.

Some amendment, however, has been wrought in those arid regions by a proper distribution of the waters of the Guggur and Sursotee Rivers, which was effected some years ago by the exercise of the influence of the Government among the Chiefs of the Sikh Protected States.

92. Even the lower provinces of the Bengal Presidency, where the usual abundance of the annual rains diminishes the necessity and the call for works of irrigation, have received their due share of improvement under this head. A comprehensive project for the irrigation of the districts of Shahabad and Behar, by a canal from the River Soane, and by large reservoirs which are to be found by bunding up the streams where they issue from the hills, has been strongly recommended to the Honourable Court. Behar Canals.

93. Among many works which have been constructed in the Presidency of Madras during these years, for the supply of tanks, and for other modes of irrigation, I think it necessary to enumerate only a few. Godavery Irrigation works.

A magnificent work has been designed and executed by Colonel Cotton and his successors, in the construction of the great annicut across the River Godavery, whereby the means of irrigation will be given to very large tracts of country, to which such security against the constant risk of famine will be beyond all value.

94. For similar purposes of irrigation, sanction was given to the construction of a regulating dam across the Rivers Cavery and Venaar. Irrigation works in Madras.

In order to render the water of the Kristna available for purposes of irrigation, the formation of a great annicut across that river has been sanctioned.

A similar annicut was sanctioned on the River Pennair, which, while it answered the purposes of a bridge, has secured and extended the cultivation of a large tract of country besides.

When

\* Second Punjab Report, p. 424.

† Ibid., p. 429.

When the anicut across the River Palar shall be finished, it will insure a supply of water to the tanks on both sides of the river in the districts of North Arcot and Chingleput, and will confer substantial benefit on the whole country within its scope.

Irrigation works in  
Bombay.

95. In the Presidency of Bombay proposals have been made by a joint stock company to undertake the execution of great works of irrigation throughout the various districts of the Presidency, on terms which are set forth in its proposals. The project has been submitted to the Honourable Court by the Government of India; and acceptance of the proposals of the company has been recommended, with certain large modifications which it is not necessary to specify.

Irrigation works in  
Scinde.

96. In Scinde the construction of a Canal connecting the River Indus with the Nara stream has been approved. By this work the channel of the Nara will be annually and regularly supplied with water, which hitherto it has only received by extraordinary inundations once in 20 or 25 years.

The certain result will be immense benefit to the people of the province, and consequent increase to its revenue.

In Lower Scinde the channels of the Foolalie Canal have been cleared and improved, and in Upper Scinde similar and extensive measures of improvement have been executed on the channel of the Begarree Canal.

Internal naviga-  
tion.

97. Next in order to works of irrigation stand works for improving the general communications of the country. Of these, works of internal navigation shall first be noticed.

River Ganges.

98. Already, before 1848, the Ganges had been covered with a flotilla of river steamers, provided as well by Government as by the enterprise of private companies, for conveying the great trade which sought passage upon its waters.

River Indus.

99. When the conquest of the Punjab gave the upper stream of the River Indus into our possession, the Government was in hopes that private enterprise would place river steamers upon its stream even more abundantly than upon the Ganges. That hope was disappointed. The Government, therefore, endeavoured by its own flotilla to establish a regular communication by steam between the sea and the rivers of the Punjab.

Accordingly, river steamers have for several years periodically made the passage from Kurrachee to Mooltan; and there seems no reason to doubt that if the steamers were more numerous, more certainly accessible to the public, and better adapted to the shallow waters on which they ply, their services would be of infinite benefit to the frontier trade.

In the meantime the channel of the Indus is becoming the great highway between Europe and the North-western Provinces of our possessions. Troops arrive and depart from England by that route. Recruits are sent out, and invalids sent home each year by its stream; thus avoiding the long and weary march which must otherwise be made by Calcutta. Great quantities of heavy stores follow the same course, and passengers in large numbers now by preference seek by it a point of departure at Bombay.

A proposal has been made by the Government of Bombay for despatching two steamers on experimental trips from Kurrachee direct to Suez. The result, if it should prove successful, will add importance and value to steam communication upon the Indus.

Rivers of the  
Punjab.

100. Surveys have been made of the principal rivers of the Punjab, with a view to the extension of river navigation still further into the interior of the province.

The Indus may certainly be navigated nearly as far as Kalabagh, and at no great expense it might be made navigable to Attock.

Occasional trips have been made by steamers in the rains as far as the military depôt at Jhelum; and although the results of the surveys of the other streams cannot be said to be encouraging, there is no doubt that internal navigation may be extended much further within the Punjab than has yet been attempted.

Pegu Rivers and  
Channels.

101. Immediately after the occupation of the province of Pegu, half of the steam flotilla upon the Ganges was transferred to the Irrawaddy; and it forms now the great vehicle for trade, and for the conveyance of supplies between the frontier and the sea.

This

This province is peculiarly adapted for the services of river steamers, and it is to be hoped that the flotilla will be largely increased.

Already a project has been laid before the Honourable Court for removing the obstacles which impede a free navigation between the Bassein River and the Irrawaddy.

Surveys have been made in the hopes of finding the means of opening a similarly free channel between the Pegu River and the River Sitang.

During last year there was discovered an excellent channel through the creeks, which gives a passage, perfectly safe and open at all times, between Bassein and Rangoon.

A creek already exists between the River Sitang and the River Salween, in the neighbourhood of Beling, which, it is stated, might at small expense be made navigable throughout the year.

If, therefore, the channel which has been surveyed between the Sitang and the Pegu Rivers should be formed, a continuous line of internal navigation, open at all seasons of the year, will be available for river steamers throughout the whole breadth of the Eastern Provinces, from the port at the mouth of the Bassein River to the anchorage at Moulmein.

102. The necessity for the employment of regular means of communication throughout the province of Assam upon the stream of the River Burrampooter, has long been increasingly felt. It has lately been resolved to place upon that river such portion of the Government flotilla upon the Ganges as can from time to time be spared from more urgent duties; and application has been made to the Honourable Court for additional steamers to be employed upon the Burrampooter. River Burrampooter.

103. Examination has been made of the stream of the River Nerbudda. The report, which has been published of the result of the examination, affords little hope that the Nerbudda will ever be rendered a navigable river for purposes of trade. River Nerbudda.

104. A survey of the River Godavery upon the opposite coast has given a result of much more hopeful aspect. River Godavery.

Although I do not concur with those who hold that, if the streams of the Godavery and of its tributary the Wyngnga should be made navigable at all seasons, the cotton trade of Berar and Nagpore would be transported by this channel to the sea, notwithstanding the construction of a railway between those districts and Bombay; yet I am fully alive to the importance of opening this great inland navigation, if it be possible, for general purposes of communication and trade. The Government of India, therefore, has given full sanction to the prosecution, with proper caution, of the extensive operations which the nature of the river channel, so far as it is yet known, seems to render indispensable, before the Godavery can be made a navigable stream.

105. Besides the measures which have been taken in regard to navigable rivers, the means of internal navigation have been considerably increased during the last eight years by the completion of various navigation canals. Navigable Canals.

The works of the great Ganges Canal and of the Barea Doab Canals, both of which will be available for navigation, have already been noticed.

In the Madras Presidency considerable improvements and extensions have been made in the channel of Cochrane's Canal.

A canal has been constructed to connect the ports of Porto Novo and Cuddalore in the district of South Arcot.

In connexion with this work, sanction has been given to the construction of a canal along the eastern coast between the Rivers Adyar and Palar. The general importance of this work to the country is very great. It is capable of being prolonged from Palar to Cuddalore, where it would join the new canal from Porto Novo, which again is connected with the line of water communication between Coimbatore and the sea coast through the province of Tanjore. Thus a long line of inland navigation would ultimately be established with great benefit to the country.

In the budget of the year 1855-56 further proposals were made for extending the several lines of internal navigation, at an expense of not less than 15 lakhs of rupees; and they have been recommended for the approval of the Honourable Court.

Improvement of ports.

106. The value of all such channels of inland navigation as lead to the sea, must of course be greatly dependent upon the condition of the ports at which they respectively terminate. The public records will show that the improvement of ports of shipment has not been lost sight of.

Port of Calcutta.

107. The access to the port of Calcutta, for a great part of the immense trade which flows to it from Bengal and other provinces, lay through the Soonderbunds, which were connected with the Hooghly by two canals. These have been enlarged and deepened.

The accommodation in the port of Calcutta for the increasing number of ships which of late years have resorted to it, has been considerably augmented.

River Mutlah.

108. Some alarm having been generally felt that the navigation of the Hooghly was gradually and yearly deteriorating, and that there was some risk of the loss of the port of Calcutta by the silting up of the channel, an inquiry was directed to be made.

It was conducted with great deliberation and care, and the Report is now before the Government.

In order to meet the wishes of those who desired that precautions should be taken to meet the evil which they believed to be approaching, renewed examination was made of the River Mutlah, a channel in the Soonderbunds lying to the eastward, and navigable for the largest ships to within 25 miles of Calcutta. The result of the examination was satisfactory.

An experiment has lately been tried of lading a ship in the Mutlah. The stream has been buoyed by the Government; the advice of the Government officers has been given; and every other assistance has been afforded to those who have been turning their attention to the new channel.

It may be added that, before any steps were taken which could draw attention to the possible future importance of the Mutlah, I took the precaution of purchasing on behalf of Government, and for an inconsiderable sum, the large estate which occupied the site where the new port must be placed if the trade should be diverted to the Mutlah Channel.

As a further measure of improvement for the port of Calcutta, a project has been entertained for throwing a bridge across the River Hooghly. Boring operations have already been commenced; and the subject, in all its parts, is now under consideration.

Port of Bombay.

109. The accommodation of the harbour of Bombay has been improved by the addition and extension of piers, and by the recovery of Moodie Bay, at a large expense, from the sea; whereby ground for a railway terminus, a custom-house, basin, &c., will be obtained, and much additional space will be secured.

The works which have been sanctioned for bringing a supply of water into the island of Bombay, may properly be included among the improvements of its port. A lake is to be formed at Vehar, on the island of Salsette, by bunding up the stream which flows from the hills in that vicinity.

For this great work the Government has consented to advance 25 lakhs of rupees, secured by an increase of the house assessment in the island of Bombay.

Port of Kurachee.

110. The harbour of Kurachee has also been much improved. Until of late the harbour was supposed to be inaccessible during the monsoon. Its accessibility at that season has now been fully proved, and communication with Bombay and all other quarters will continue uninterrupted throughout the year.

Ports in Madras.

111. Measures have been recommended for the improvement of the harbours of Coringa and Coconada.

Port of Singapore.

112. Complaints having frequently been made of the unprotected state of the harbour of Singapore, heavy batteries have been constructed, to an extent which the military engineers have considered to be amply sufficient for the ordinary defence of the port.

Ports of Rangoon and Dalhousie.

113. Lights, buoys and pilots have been provided for the port of Rangoon, and provision is now being made for the new port of Dalhousie, on the Bassein River.

Lighthouse on Alguada Reef.

114. As a measure of the utmost importance to the trade with these ports and with Moulmein, the construction of a lighthouse upon the Alguada reef to the southward

southward of Cape Negrais has been strongly recommended to the Honourable Court.

The ports of the Indian territories are comparatively few in number, and for the most part of little natural value.

The statement now given will show that the Government of India, during these years, has at least endeavoured to turn them to the best account.

115. I have only to add, that a new code of rules for the regulation and conservancy of Indian ports has lately been passed into law. It was much required, and will be of great value to the interests of navigation and trade. Port rules.

116. It remains for me to advert to those works of improvement, by which the land communications of the country have during the last eight years been opened up and amended. Land communications in India.

117. The introduction into India of the greatest improvement which man's invention has yet applied to the means of movement and carriage by land, namely, the locomotive engine upon iron rails, has already been fully narrated. Railways.

118. It would be impossible to compress within the limits I wish to observe, an enumeration of all the works which have been executed or sanctioned by the Government of India for the improvement of inland communication by means of ordinary roads, during the past eight years. I shall notice merely a few of the leading lines. Roads.

119. The Grand Trunk Road, which had, speaking generally, been completed as far as Delhi, has been carried on without interruption. Grand trunk road in Hindoostan.

In the Lower Provinces many large bridges have been constructed; but it must unfortunately be added, that several have been destroyed by the force of floods; and their place must again be supplied.

Until a bridge shall be built across the River Soane, a formidable work, whose accomplishment must still be regarded as remote, the passage of the river will present vexatious difficulties, and cause excessive delay. To obviate these, as far as may be possible, the Government is engaged in laying down a causeway of stone across the river bed. This work, though but a temporary expedient, will be productive in the meantime of great public benefit.

Without imputing blame in any quarter, it must be observed, that during these years the progress that has been made in the Trunk Road between Delhi and the Sutlej appears to have been slow. The difficulties, however, have been great; and the road is now approaching to completion.

120. When the Punjab became a British province, the prolongation of the Grand Trunk Road across its breadth was seen to be an object of primary importance. Accordingly, the line has been carried from Loodianah by Jullunder to the Beas, and thence by Umritsur to Lahore; and from Lahore, by Wuzeerabad, Jhelum, Rawulpindee, and Attock, to Peshawur. Grand trunk road in Punjab.

Every natural difficulty that can be conceived has been encountered. Vast expense has been incurred. But the road is rapidly approaching to completion, and by its usefulness will repay a thousand-fold the labour and the treasure it has cost.

121. Sanction has been given to the construction of a road from Patna by Gaya to join the line of the Grand Trunk Road. This is perhaps the most important cross road in the Lower Provinces; and the traffic upon the line of country is said to be exceedingly great. The present line will form an essential branch of the Grand Trunk-Road; and when the railway shall have been constructed on the Patna and Mirzapore line, the road will become of still greater importance as a feeder to the railway. Road to Patna and Gaya.

122. A road, available at all seasons of the year, has been formed from Cuttack to Ungool and Sumbulpore, and has usefully opened up that wild tract of country. Road to Sumbulpore.

123. A line of the utmost importance has been constructed from Dacca to Akyab. Road from Dacca to Akyab.

An improved communication with the province of Arracan had long been much required. But when political necessity compelled the Government to take possession of Pegu, it became an object of vital importance to the Government



to be able to command the means of communicating with Pegu by land; so that it might have the power at all times of despatching troops from Bengal to Pegu, for reinforcement or in relief, without being obstructed by the sepoy's conditions of enlistment, which entitled him to refuse to proceed on service by sea.

The work has been very costly, and attended with serious difficulty from the pestilential climate of much of the country through which it passes.

Iron ferry-boats have been provided to facilitate the passage of troops across the rivers which lie in the way.

From Akyab to a point beyond the island of Ramree the troops will be conveyed by an inland creek navigation, which has been carefully examined and arranged. From this point the troops will cross the Tounghoop Pass into Pegu, by a road which will be particularly noticed hereafter.

Road from Calcutta to Dacca.

124. A project for a road from Calcutta to Dacca, there to join the Dacca and Akyab road, which has just been described, was called for. But the natural difficulties between Jessore and Dacca appeared, for the present at least, to be insuperable.

Bengal district roads.

125. With respect to district roads, the Government of India has consented that the ferry funds of the Lower Provinces and the tolls levied on the Nuddeea Rivers and in the Calcutta Canals, amounting in all to about 5 lakhs of rupees a year, should be thrown together as a fund for the construction and maintenance of district roads.

The distribution of the funds will be made by the local Government, on the principle that no district road shall be formed from the fund until due provision shall have been made for its maintenance by means of local resources.

Roads in Punjab.

126. In the province of the Punjab, besides the Great Trunk Road from Lahore to Peshawur, to which reference has already been made, a vast extent of road has been constructed during the last seven years, for every different purpose, military, commercial and local. To enumerate them would be tedious. A full description of them will be found in the First and Second Punjab Reports, and more especially in the Punjab Road Report, all of which have been printed.

Roads in Pegu.

127. In Pegu the difficulties which impede the formation of roads are similar to those which render the construction of them in a permanent form almost impossible in Bengal.

Excepting the road from Prome to Meeaday, no continuous line has yet been executed in the new province. But surveys have been executed for three great lines of road:

1st, from Rangoon to Prome.

2d, from Rangoon, by Pegu, to Tounghoo.

3d, from Martaban, by Sitang and Shoeygheen, to Tounghoo.

The impediments to be overcome on all these lines are very serious; the cost will be excessive. Nevertheless, it is to be hoped that they will be undertaken with vigour, and prosecuted to a successful conclusion. Their effect will be incalculably great.

Roads in Hyderabad and Nagpore.

128. In the new provinces of Nagpore and Hyderabad, the impossibility of providing a full establishment of engineers at present has prevented any general plan of public works being formed.

Roads in Scinde.

129. In Scinde a complete system of roads from Kurachee to the northern boundary was proposed by the Commissioner. They will be executed gradually, but as speedily as the necessary agency for their construction can be found.

Roads in Madras and Bombay.

130. The principal systems of roads which have been projected within our new provinces, and some other leading works, have now been enumerated. I abstain from mentioning in detail the roads which have been sanctioned in the Presidencies of Madras and Bombay. For, although the returns before me show that those roads are exceedingly numerous, and that, in the aggregate, their cost amounts to an enormous sum, the aggregate is made up of so many single items, which, though of great local importance, are of little general interest, that the recital of them would be tedious, and of no obvious profit for any purpose.

Hindoostan and Thibet Road.

131. Two important works have been reserved for separate notice, by reason of the peculiarity of their situation, and of the circumstances under which they have been

been carried on with singular success. I refer to the mountain roads in the Himalaya, and in the Yomah Range of Arracan.

The Hindoostan and Thibet road, when it shall have been completed, will (as its name imparts) connect the plains of Hindoostan with the frontier of Thibet. A full and most interesting report upon this road has been prepared by Lieutenant Briggs, the officer who has borne the chief part in constructing it. The report will shortly be published. All description of the road in this paper shall, therefore, be confined to the merest outline.

The work had its origin in the desire entertained by the Government to abolish, and to remove all pretext for defending, begaree (or the system of employing the forced labour of coolies) in the hills. So far as the Government was concerned, that system had the sanction of treaties; for every chief was bound, whenever he should be called upon, to find upon his own part bands of labourers for the temporary service of the state.

The Government has always remunerated amply the coolies who were so employed, for the time they served. But the money was usually in great measure taken from them by their own chiefs on their return. They were forced to travel great distances; and in many ways they suffered oppression from the duty.

The abuse of the system by private individuals was believed to be great, though every endeavour upon the part of the Government was steadily made to check it.

Yet the evil of the system itself was unavoidable by any means. So long as the hill roads, even to the English settlements and military stations, continued to be little better than mountain paths, no other labour than that of men could transport whatever was to be carried, and no substitute for begaree could be found. The first step, therefore, and the only step necessary for the abolition of begaree, was to construct a system of roads which would admit of all articles being carried upon beasts of burden, or even dragged in wheeled conveyances of various kinds.

For the furtherance of this purpose, a road, first designed by Major Kennedy and executed by Lieutenant Briggs, has been constructed from the plains at Kalka to the hill station of Simla. It is about fifty miles in length. It is already 16 feet in breadth, and has nowhere a steeper gradient than 3 feet in 100, constituting a hardly perceptible rise.

From this road branches have been carried to the military stations at Kussowlee and Subathoo; and a branch is now being made to connect those stations with the plains towards the Sutlej.

Before long, the distance from Simla to Kalka will be considerably shortened by a tunnel which is now being formed, and wheeled carriages will be placed upon the road.

From Simla, the station most remote from the plains, the road towards Thibet, has been formed, as yet, on a smaller scale, and it is still incomplete.

In many portions of its length from Simla to the valley of Chini, which is its present terminus, the road is finished to a breadth of six feet, and is generally used. It is easy to conceive the obstacles which must be met and overcome among the valleys, and forests, and cliffs of the mighty ranges of the Himalayas, for the right formation through the midst of them of a road which is everywhere to conform to the gradient already mentioned of 3 in every 100 feet; nor can rapid progress be expected. But the difficulties are yielding one by one. The greatest difficulty of all, namely, scarcity of labour, admits of no remedy, for labour from the plains is, for such a purpose, of little value in the hills. Nevertheless a steady progress has been made.

Within a year I trust that the completion of the road to Chini will enable the Government to try an experiment which I have long had much at heart, but which, until the road should be completed, could not be carried into execution—I mean the establishment of a convalescent station for sick European soldiers in the valley of Chini.

Medical testimony and personal experience combine to encourage the belief to which I strongly hold, that such an institution would be productive of sanitary benefits for the European soldiers of the army in India, such as no hill station in the Himalayas has yet been found to give, and such as would indirectly produce essential advantage for the state.

When, too, the road shall be completed to Chini, and still more when it shall be carried as far as the frontier of Thibet, it may be expected that the form of

trade which now shows every article conveyed in a little pack upon the shoulders of a goat, will disappear, and that the commerce with Thibet will assume, both in quantity and value, the considerable proportions which all who are well informed upon the subject have anticipated for it.

Above all, I trust that, whenever the completion of the road shall afford the means of traversing the hills as readily as the plains, begaree, both for public and private purposes, will be abolished; that recurrence to it under any pretext will be prohibited; and that the treaty right of the Government will be reserved solely for times of war, or for such great occasion of public emergency as, I trust, may never arise.

Thus the construction of this hill road will become a lasting blessing to the people of the hills, as it is even already a lasting honour to the government of the East India Company, by one of whose many able and energetic officers it has been mainly carried into execution.

Road over Yomah Range, in Arracan.

132. The construction of the hill road over the Tounghoop Pass from Arracan into Pegu, arose out of the necessity which occupation of the new province had created for direct military communication by land with the Presidency of Bengal.

With great difficulty and labour, a hundred and fifty elephants had forced their way over the mountains and through the forest in 1852, to aid the operations of the army at Prome. The natural obstacles were very great. The mountains were lofty, the forests dense, and the climate, for a large portion of the year, pestilential. There was little water to be found; and no labour was procurable except that of Burman villagers, disinclined to toil of any kind, and afraid to commit themselves to our service.

These difficulties seemed at first to make the formation within a reasonable time of a road across the Yomah Range almost a desperate hope. Nevertheless, the vigour and perseverance and remarkable tact of Lieutenant Forlong, the officer to whom the work was committed, overcame every obstacle with a speed which far outran our liveliest hopes.

The range was everywhere surveyed: a line of road was found; Burmese labourers were collected; were trained to the peculiar work; were induced to submit to organization, and even roused to emulation and effectual industry.

It was not until the end of December 1853 that the work was fairly commenced. In the spring of 1855, the Arracan Battalion, with all its baggage and followers, marched over the road from Prome to the sea.

The road is now rapidly approaching to completion.

In the Arracan section, 20 miles are opened for carts to 15 feet of breadth, and 30 miles to a breadth of from six to nine feet. In the Pegu section, 21 miles in the plains have been completed to a width of 24 feet, and 22 bridges have been built. In the mountains on the Pegu side, 20 miles have been opened for carts to a breadth of from 12 to 20 feet, and 24 miles from 6 to 10 feet.

Arrangements have been made for shelter and for water; and the 8th Regiment of Irregular Cavalry are just about to march over the road.

If due regard be had to the difficulties which stood in the way of such an undertaking, and which have already been adverted to; and if it be remembered that the working season in the Yomah Hills lasts only from December to April, if so long, and that consequently the working year is no more than five months in duration; the Honourable Court will feel that the construction of the Arracan hill road by Lieutenant Forlong, under the circumstances and with the speed and success that have been described, is an achievement which is highly honourable to himself and to the service of the East India Company.

Aggregate annual expenditure on Public Works in India.

133. Lest, in my anxiety to avoid an enumeration of single works which might prove tedious and uninteresting, I should create upon the minds of those who may read this Minute, an impression, that the attention and the revenue which have been devoted by the Supreme Government to the prosecution of public works in India of late years have been less in amount than has sometimes been supposed, I beg to recall to recollection the aggregate sum which has yearly, of late, been expended on public works in India.

The charges on account of public works in the year 1853-54 rose to 252½ lakhs, or 2,525,000 £.

The charges on account of public works for the year 1854-55 rose still higher, to 299½ lakhs, or very nearly 3,000,000 £ sterling.

Of this aggregate sum, in each year, a very large proportion was expended on new works.

The charge for extraordinary public works alone, in the year 1855-56, is estimated at 224½ lakhs, or nearly 2,250,000 *l.* sterling.

The simple statement of these figures affords the means to all of forming at once an estimate of the real extent to which the Government of India, in recent years, has carried the execution of public works, designed for the improvement of the Indian territories.

134. While the Government of India has thus been earnest in its endeavours to urge the prosecution of new works of public advantage, it has not neglected to take due measures for the preservation of the magnificent works of former times. Ancient works

The attention of the Government having been drawn to the fact, that the noble arches and other remains of ancient architecture in the immediate vicinity of the Kootub at Delhie were in such disrepair, that there was danger of their falling in, and of their being thus lost to the world, immediate orders were given for their preservation.

At the same time general instructions were issued to the officers of Government, declaring the desire of the Governor-general in Council, that all such interesting and instructive monuments of former people and former days should be carefully preserved; and that the executive officers at Agra, Delhie, and wherever such remains are to be found, should consider it to be a part of their duty to see that they were upheld and sedulously cared for.

Similar orders have been issued in the Punjab, with especial reference to the buildings there, soon after our occupation of the province.

It is hoped that these injunctions, and the care of the civil authorities, and of the departmental officers at each spot where architectural monuments remain, will be effectual for their preservation to still distant times.

135. For the proper superintendence and control of operations so extensive and so various as those which are required for the execution of public works in India, it is manifest that an organization of the highest order must be requisite. Reform of Department of Public Works.

The system of management which existed in 1848, and continued for some years afterwards, was altogether ineffective. It gave dissatisfaction to all alike; to the officers of the department, to the Government, and to the public. The same dissatisfaction was felt by the Honourable Court, who six years ago directed that a commission should be appointed at each Presidency to inquire into the whole subject.

The commission which was appointed in the Presidency of Bengal reported decidedly and unanimously against the system which had been pursued by the Military Board, and suggested the general outline of a scheme for the future management of the Department of Public Works.

The principal features of the scheme proposed were these:—

1st. That the control of the department should be taken from the Military Board, and should be vested in a chief engineer for each local government.

2d. That each local government should exercise control over public works, civil and military, within their respective jurisdictions, under certain prescribed limitations.

3d. That the chief engineers should be assisted, as at present, by executive engineers; and where the province was of sufficient extent, by superintending engineers also.

4th. That the executive officers should be relieved in respect to the departmental accounts by which they had been overwhelmed.

This system was ultimately adopted for the Presidency of Bengal and for its local governments. It was subsequently introduced into the Presidency of Madras and the Presidency of Bombay, with such modifications of detail as were necessary to adapt it to the peculiarities of each local government.

The experience which has been had as yet gives every encouragement to believe that, as a whole, the system now adopted is calculated to fulfil the purposes for which it was framed.

Annual Budget of  
Public Works.

136. Under the orders of the Honourable Court of Directors, each local government has been directed to prepare for the Government of India, at a fixed period in each year, a statement showing the public works which it proposes to commence or to carry on during the year to which the statement refers. This statement, which has insensibly acquired the designation of "budget," is intended to show every class of public works which is proposed or in progress in each local jurisdiction. Its object is to impart method to the prosecution of public works, and to enable the Supreme Government and the Honourable Court to acquire an accurate knowledge of the extent to which public works are being carried on in the different divisions of the empire, to regulate the expense which is to be incurred, and to control the general management and progress of public works throughout the country.

The budgets, reviewed and decided upon by the Government of India, so far as its authority extends, are to be annually submitted to the Honourable Court.

Local sanction to  
Public Works.

137. With reference to the power of giving sanction to public works without reference to the Honourable Court, it may be observed, that the authority of the Governor-general in Council now extends to the sanction of any work whose cost will not exceed one lakh of rupees; and that the authority of Governors and Lieutenant-governors is extended to grants of 25,000 rupees.

Secretary in De-  
partment of Public  
Works.

138. The Government of India having thus been required to exercise a direct and vigilant control over the execution of public works in India, it became absolutely necessary that it should have professional assistance, to enable it fitly to perform that duty. Formerly it was wholly without any such aid. Latterly, and since the commencement of railways, it had become the practice for the Government to refer the engineering questions of every sort which came before it to its railway consulting engineer. This, however, was only a temporary expedient, hardly fair to the consulting engineer, and quite insufficient for the state of things which had now arisen,

Accordingly, a secretary for the department of public works, with two assistants, has been appointed in connexion with the Government of India.

The secretariat of public works has already become a charge of great labour and of the utmost public importance.

Establishment of  
Department of  
Public Works.

139. It will be readily perceived that when there has been so great an increase of public works of late years, there must have been by some means a great addition made to the agency by which those works were to be executed. This has been the case.

Military officers have been withdrawn for this purpose from their regimental duties in the artillery and in the line, in large and unprecedented numbers.

The expedient is advantageous to the present interests of the officers, and it affords a material relief to the present necessities of the Government; but there seems good reason for apprehending that it will after a time prove deeply injurious to the military efficiency of the army. It is to be hoped, therefore, that the experiment will be treated in all hands as a temporary one.

Her Majesty's Government gave, some time since, their consent to a certain small proportion of the officers of royal regiments in India being employed in the Department of Public Works.

Further, an augmentation has been granted by the Honourable Court to the engineer corps in each of the three Presidencies.

Lastly, the Honourable Court has consented to the employment of civil engineers in the Indian Department, many of whom have been engaged in this country, while a considerable number have already arrived from England. Still further recourse must be had to this source of supply if (as I earnestly hope) the execution of public works of improvement in India is to be followed up by the Government in future years, with steady perseverance and with unabated vigour.

Training of officers  
for Department of  
Public Works.

140. Simultaneously with the great exertions which have been made during these years to obtain from every various quarter a present supply of officers for the Public Works Department, active means have been taken to form what, it is hoped, will prove a fruitful source of supply hereafter.

Thomason College  
at Roorkee.

141. It was the far-seeing sagacity of Mr. Thomason which first anticipated the necessity of training engineers in the country itself in which they were to be employed,

employed, and which first suggested an effectual method of doing so. On his recommendation, the Civil Engineering College at Roorkee, which now rightly bears his honoured name, was founded with the consent of the Honourable Court. It has already been enlarged and extended greatly beyond its original limits.

Instruction is given in it to soldiers preparing for subordinate employment in the Public Works Department, to young gentlemen not in the service of Government, and to natives, upon certain conditions.

A higher class for commissioned officers of the army was created some years ago, at the suggestion of the late Sir Charles Napier; and the Government has been most ready to consent to officers obtaining leave to study there, as in the senior department at Sandhurst.

Excellent fruit has already been borne by this institution. Many good public servants have already been sent forth into the department; and applications for the services of students of the Thomason College were, before long, received from other local governments.

142. A similar College for civil engineering has lately been founded at Calcutta; another is in process of formation at Madras; and a third has been sanctioned in the Presidency of Bombay.

Civil Engineering Colleges at Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay.

143. Subsidiary to the colleges, there has been temporarily sanctioned a civil engineering class at Lahore, and, very recently, a civil engineering class at Poona.

Civil Engineering classes at Lahore and Poona.

144. In all these institutions, the object will be to provide instruction, which shall supply its due training to every separate class required for the service of the Government in its department of Public Works.

Object of Civil Engineering Colleges.

Hitherto comparatively little has been done in India towards creating within itself the engineering skill, which is now becoming one of its most urgent wants. But with such aids in prospect as those which have just been described, we may now look hopefully to the future.

145. Having thus concluded a recital of the measures which have been taken of late years for the prosecution of material improvements in India, it will not be out of place to make mention here of the progress that has been made during those same years towards the removal of certain noted evils, which have long been just causes of national reproach, and which have been viewed with considerable interest even by the community in England. The noted evils to which I refer, are Suttee, Thuggee, Female Infanticide, and the Meriah Sacrifice.

Noted evils in India.

146. The prohibition of suttee by the British Government is now a familiar tale. In the time of those who preceded me, great progress had been made in persuading all native princes to unite in denouncing the rite, and in punishing those who should disregard the prohibition.

Suttee.

The Government of India, since 1848, has had only to follow up the measures of preceding years.

When suttee has occurred in an independent state, no opportunity of remonstrating has been lost. When it has occurred in any district which was within our control, no indulgence has been shown to the culprits.

Thus, renewed remonstrances have been addressed to Ulwar, Bceckaneer and Oodeypore; but in Doongurpore, a petty state under our direct management, where a thakoor's son took part in a suttee, the son and two brahmins who abetted his crime were condemned to imprisonment for three years in irons: while the thakoor himself, for the same three years, was mulcted in half the revenue of his possessions.

The performance of the rite of suttee is now a rare occurrence, either in Mahomedan or native states.

147. Thuggee has become almost unknown in the provinces of India which lie to the eastward of the Sutlej. The detective establishments of the Government are still maintained; but the brotherhood has disappeared, and the crime of thuggee, in the peculiar sense in which the word is familiarly understood, can hardly now be said to exist.

Thuggee.

The provinces beyond the Sutlej are excepted in the preceding paragraphs, because it appeared, towards the close of 1851, that thuggee, which it was previously supposed had never passed to the westward of the Sutlej, had obtained a footing in the Punjab. The Board of Administration, however, were able to

state in 1852, that "the Punjabee thugs are not so dangerous as their brethren of Hindoostan. The origin of the crime is comparatively of recent date. These thugs have none of the subtle sagacity, the insidious perseverance, the religious faith, the dark superstition, the sacred ceremonies, the peculiar dialect, the mysterious bond of union, which so terribly distinguish the Indian thugs; they are merely an organised body of highwaymen and murderers, rude, ferocious and desperate. They nearly all belong to one class of Sikhs, and that the lowest."\*

In 1854, the Chief Commissioner of the Punjab was able to report to the Government regarding thuggee, that "during 1852, the last year in which the crime had any chance of making head, there were only 35 murders. Since that year the crime would appear to be almost extinct. During 1853 there was only one murder reported."

Wherefore, even in its last refuge, the provinces across the Sutlej, while they were still under the dominion of the Sikhs, the crime of thuggee can hardly now be said to exist. In truth, the only aspect in which thugs can now be seen in India, is that of a well-conducted community at Jubbulpore, where the former approvers of the tribe, together with their relatives and their descendants, are kept under inspection, and where they form a quiet and prosperous colony, remarkable only for the industry which they exhibit, and for the excellence of the fabrics produced by their hands, fabrics which have taken their place in the great Exhibitions of London and of Paris, and which are said to have done no discredit there to the manufacturing skill of Indian nations.

**Female infanticide.**

148. The existence of the practice of female infanticide among the Rajpoots and other tribes of India has long been well known. The British Government has long striven against it, and denounced the cruelty of those by whom it was countenanced.

A great success regarding it was achieved, some years since, within the provinces of Hindoostan, by the energy and influence of Mr. Charles Raikes; and large numbers of native tribes and families were then induced to set their faces against it.

But the greatest triumph which has yet been accomplished has been within the Punjab.

Inquiry had shown that the Rajpoots, the Bedees (or descendants of Nanuck), the Khutrees of the Sind Doabs, and even the Suddooye Pathans, the Mahomedan tribes of Mooltan, and the wandering pastoral races in the central wastes of the Punjab, were all more or less addicted to this inhuman custom. The causes which led to it were found to be twofold, "pride of birth and pride of purse; that is, parents murder their infant daughters, either because they cannot afford the marriage expenditure which must one day be incurred on their account, or because they foresee difficulties in marrying them suitably." †

Great exertions were made by all the officers in the Punjab, among whom Mr. Raikes was now included.

On their recommendation, the Governor-general in Council authorised the convening of a great meeting of the representatives of all the tribes, at Umritsur, in 1853.

The meeting was held, and the assembled delegates united cordially in the adoption and promulgation of certain rules, the observance of which would effectually secure that no man should feel any real difficulty in providing for his daughter in marriage, and should consequently have no motive for the commission of infanticide.

These rules were adopted in the other districts of the Punjab; and Maharajah Golab Sing, in like manner, voluntarily, and in public durbar, adopted the rules for the great Rajpoot clan within his dominions.

If, as the Chief Commissioner has remarked, "future success should crown these initiatory measures, then in some respects a social revolution will have been effected. Not only will a barbarous and secret crime have ceased, but endless abuses connected with the betrothal will be repressed, domestic morality improved, and the female position secured." ‡

149. It

\* First Report, para. 187.

† Second Punjab Report, para. 171.

‡ Ibid., para. 177.

149. It only remains to notice the measures that have been taken for the suppression of Meriah sacrifice.

This horrible rite, which consisted in the sacrifice, with every circumstance of atrocity, of young human victims, for the propitiation of the special divinity which presided over the fertility of the earth, prevails only among the hill and jungle tribes of the province of Orissa. Measures for the suppression of the rite had been undertaken before the year 1848. They have been steadily pursued in subsequent years. The nature of the country, the nature of the climate, the nature of the people, all was adverse to success. Nevertheless, the exertions of the officers to whom the duty was entrusted have been singularly successful. Multitudes of victims during that time have been rescued from the horrible fate that awaited them, and have been settled in villages within our control. The various tribes have, one by one, consented to abandon the rite; and, from the narrative given in the papers which were published upon this subject by the Government, it does not appear over sanguine to anticipate that, as regards the tribes which are at all subject to our influence or lie within our reach, the Meriah sacrifice may be considered to be at an end.

150. If large improvements have been made under the various departments of civil administration during the last eight years, the military branch of the service has received its full measure of attention and amendment.

Improvements in the military service of the Honourable Company.

151. The position of the native soldier in India has long been such as to leave hardly any circumstance of his condition in need of improvement.

European soldier.

The condition of the European soldier, on the other hand, was susceptible of great improvement, and has received it liberally. His terms of service, his food, his lodging, have all been bettered during these years; and infinitely greater care than heretofore has been bestowed upon his occupation, his recreation, and his health.

The regiments in Her Majesty's service, no longer condemned to the prolonged banishment to which they were formerly subject, are to be relieved every 12 years.

The rations of the European soldiers have been greatly improved.

Strict rules have been laid down to insure that the rations should be of proper quality; and, as a further security, a victualling serjeant has been attached to European corps.

The pernicious system under which a morning dram was served out to every soldier before his breakfast has been abolished.

The use of spirits at all by the soldier has been discouraged to the utmost.

To that end malt liquor is annually imported from England in enormous quantities by the Government, and is served out to the troops at reasonable rates. The benefits which are likely to arise from the introduction of this change cannot be estimated too highly.

In like manner, to remove from the soldier temptations to excess under which he lay before, the system which prevails in Her Majesty's army of paying the troops daily has been extended to the troops of the Honourable Company.

The lodging of the soldier has been greatly improved, and no nation can show better or more appropriate quarters for its troops than the Government now provides for European soldiers in the East.

No barrack in the plains is now built with less than 24 feet of height within. All are raised from the ground; and every appliance for cleanliness, ventilation, and healthiness, which experience has suggested or ingenuity can devise, is introduced into the buildings.

At Peshawur, and in the hills, the height of the barracks has been adapted to the colder nature of the climate, at the wish of the military authorities themselves.

Within eight years, new barracks have been built, or are being built, at Peshawur, Noushera, Rawulpindee, Seealkote, Lahore, Rangoon, and Thayetmyo.

Old barracks have been replaced, or are being replaced, by new buildings at Ferozepore, Subathoo, Kussowlee, Umballa, Agra, Cawnpore, Fort William, Moulmein, and Hyderabad in the Deccan.

In every case, as a general rule, separate barracks are built for the married men of every regiment.



Proper provision for washing and cleanliness has been made in all the new plans; and of late, reading-rooms have been included in the design for each barrack.

The scanty comforts of the soldier within his quarters have also been increased.

Punkhas are hung in every barrack, as in a private house.

In the colder provinces, additional bed-covering is now issued, and a certain proportion of fuel is allowed.

A chest, too, is provided for every man at his bedside by the Government, and canvas bags are supplied for the conveyance of his baggage when marching, instead of the cumbrous wooden boxes which the men dragged with them from station to station when they were their own property.

Lastly, it has been ordered that, wherever means can be found, swimming-baths shall be constructed for the European soldiers at every station.

For the instruction of soldiers and their children, books and stationery, and furniture for regimental schools are now supplied by the Government. Further, a normal school for training schoolmasters (non-commissioned officers or privates) has been attached to the Lawrence Asylum.

For the recreation of the soldiers, and for encouraging them to useful occupations, soldiers' gardens have in some stations been already formed, and it is intended that a soldiers' garden should form a part of every cantonment in which European troops are quartered.

Worksheds also have been authorised in connexion with every barrack; and implements and materials for different kinds of handicraft are to be provided by the Government.

For the encouragement of the class of non-commissioned officers, it has been ordered, that annuities, not exceeding 20*l.*, should, as in Her Majesty's service, be granted to serjeants of the Honourable Company's armies, as rewards for distinguished or meritorious services.

More especially of late years, solicitous care has been shown for the preservation and for the restoration of the health of the European soldier.

Measures have been taken for the early despatch by steam to the Upper Provinces of all recruits who arrive from England; and the departure of the invalids of every season has been facilitated and expedited by making use of the Indus route.

#### Sanitaria.

152. The temporary barracks run up at Subathoo and Kussowlee are now being replaced by buildings of the best description. At Dugshai, magnificent barracks have already been built. Three full regiments, therefore, may now be quartered on the hills near Simla.

A few years ago, the only convalescent depôt for European troops was at Landour, above Mussoorie.

A second depôt was subsequently formed at Darjeeling, for the use of the troops in the Lower Provinces.

The great benefit which was derived from these sanitary depôts led speedily to an increase in their number.

A depôt has accordingly been formed at Murree, above Rawulpindee. Another has been sanctioned in the Chumba Hills, at the head of the Baree Doab. Another is being built at Dhurumsala, near Kangra; and a site has been selected for another in the hills not far from Nyuee Tal.

#### Care of cadets.

153. Much inconvenience having been felt from the tardy system which had been followed in the posting of cadets, rules were laid down for expediting the posting. At the same time measures were adopted for insuring the speedy conveyance of all such young officers to the regiments to which they had severally been posted.

#### Knowledge of native languages by officers of the army.

154. Encouragement was held out to all officers of the army to acquire a high knowledge of the native languages, by the grant of pecuniary rewards to those who should pass examinations of a certain specified standard.

In order to insure that at least a competent knowledge of the native languages should be possessed by those appointed to staff office, or to any detached charge, every officer was required to pass a prescribed examination in Hindoostance.

All officers already holding such appointment, who did not pass the examination by a certain date, were remanded to their regiments.

To correct the uncertainty which prevailed in the application of this rule, a fixed standard of proficiency was laid down; and the qualifications of candidates are no longer decided by station committees, but by examiners in Calcutta.

155. The evils inseparable from a seniority system had long been felt in the advanced age, and consequently the frequent incapacity, of officers who succeeded in their turn to commands of divisions and brigades in the Indian army. The Government of India at length found it necessary to interfere. The Government declared, that while the claims of seniority in the appointment of officers to divisional and brigade commands should always be allowed due weight, they should be less deferred to than heretofore. The Government further declared, that in making such appointments the governing principle should not be the rejection of no man unless he were notoriously and scandalously incapable, but rather the selection of no man, whatever his standing, unless he was confessedly capable and efficient.

Seniority no longer allowed to determine appointments to command.

The Supreme Government has done its utmost to act up to this principle in all appointments made since the time at which it was promulgated.

156. The more recent regulations which have been laid down by the Home Authorities have tended materially to promote the wholesome end of placing high commands in the hands of such officers only as are still in the full vigour of their mental and bodily powers.

Recent regulations for promotion in England.

Those regulations are a fit subject of congratulation for all who feel an interest in the welfare and efficiency of the Indian army.

157. The Indian army, however, has still higher cause for congratulating itself on the gracious favour which the Sovereign has lately shown towards it, in raising its officers from the derogatory position in which they have hitherto stood, and in granting to them the recognition, which until now has been denied to them, of their military rank in every part of the British dominions, and throughout the world.

Rank conceded to officers of the Indian army wherever they may be.

158. The recital of what the Government of the Honourable Company has done during the last eight years for the officers and soldiers of the army who serve in India, cannot be more appropriately closed than by making mention of the care it has shown for the orphan children of those who have been attached to its service.

Military Orphan School.

In the belief that the climate of Bengal was enervating and injurious to the health of the children of the Military Orphan School, who have hitherto been collected in an institution at Calcutta, the Government resolved to move the Lower Orphan School to the climate of the hills, and to attach it there to the Lawrence Asylum.

This benevolent resolution has been carried into effect: with what benefit to the health and vigour of the children, can be fully appreciated only by those who have seen the aspect of the European children in Bengal, and have been able to contrast it with the ruddy, stout, English appearance of those who from an early age have had the Lawrence Asylum and its mountain climate as their constant home.

159. Since the year 1848 nearly every department connected with the military branch of the service has been revised and amended.

Revision of Military Departments

At the commencement of the period above mentioned, and long previously, the control over these several departments had been committed chiefly to the Military Board.

The constitution of the Board itself was faulty, and the duties which had been imposed upon it were more onerous than could have been well performed by any Board, even if its organization had been good. The department of Public Works, the Commissariat Department, the Stud Department, the Ordnance Department, with many other duties, all were managed by the Military Board, and all were managed badly.

The withdrawal of the Department of Public Works from the control of the Military Board, and the reasons for the measure, have already been narrated in a preceding paragraph.

160. A Commissioner was appointed to inquire into the system of army commissariat in Bengal.

Commissariat Department.

The result of the inquiry led to the immediate withdrawal of the Commissariat Department also from the control of the Military Board. Effect was again given

to the principle of individual responsibility and individual authority; and the control of the Commissariat Department was intrusted to the officer at its head, the Commissary-General of the Army.

Various amendments of detail were introduced. Great care has been taken in the selection of officers for the department, and a rule has been laid down that no officer shall be confirmed in his appointment, until he shall have proved his fitness by passing a searching examination, after a due period of probation.

The account branch of the department, which was its weakest point, has been strengthened and completely reformed, by the appointment of a separate officer of audit.

Another vital change has been effected by requiring the abolition of Persian accounts, and by insisting on the rendering of all accounts at once in English. The success of this change has been complete, and its effects are already strikingly apparent in the prompt rendering of every monthly statement, followed by an equally prompt audit.

The substitution of hired cattle for the use of the Government, in lieu of animals bred and maintained by the Government itself, was a change hardly less important than that which has just before been noted.

Though the measure is described in a single sentence, it has given a large permanent saving to the Government, while it has preserved full efficiency in the public carriage of the army.

The effect of these several changes has been, I sincerely believe, to render the Commissariat Department of the army as effective for peace or war, as that of the best organised among the armies of Europe.

**Stud Department.** 161. The efficiency of the principle of unity of authority and unity of responsibility having thus been recognised, it was speedily extended to other departments.

At the suggestion of the Honourable Court itself, the Stud Department was withdrawn from the control of the Military Board, and was placed under a single head, the Superintendent of Studs.

This department was also subjected to the scrutiny of a commission.

Various changes were suggested in the report; some of which have already been effected, while others must of necessity be gradually introduced.

**Ordnance Department.** 162. Lastly, the Ordnance Commissariat Department, with powder manufactories, gun-foundry, and gun-carriage agency, was taken from the Military Board, and was placed under the charge of a single officer, the Inspector-General of Ordnance.

**Abolition of Military Board.** 163. These great changes having been completed, the Military Board of the Bengal army was abolished.

The same measure will be carried into effect in the other Presidencies, doubtless without undue delay.

**Military Prisons.** 164. Two other measures connected with military affairs still remain to be noticed.

It had long been known that the punishment of transportation was not viewed with apprehension by the European soldiers serving in India. On the contrary, it has seemed in many instances to be regarded rather as an advantage to a convict who should be sent from India. The risk of transportation, therefore, had ceased to deter men from crime.

In order to correct this great evil, the Government, at the recommendation of the military authorities, has resolved to build a general military prison, where soldiers now annually condemned to transportation, may be imprisoned for the long terms to which they may be sentenced.

It is hoped that this measure will check the grave and growing evil which has already been noticed.

**Clothing Department.** 165. A great military reform has been effected in the re-organization of the Clothing Department of the Indian army.

Proceeding on the report of a commission appointed to inquire into the working of the former system, the Government of India, with the sanction of the Honourable Court, wholly abolished the Off-reckoning Fund.

From the 1st January 1855, the clothing of the army has been provided by the state. A fixed sum, calculated on the average of the off-reckoning shares for the preceding 21 years, will be paid to colonels of regiments, instead of their

their former shares of the Off-reckoning Fund. The Clothing Board has been dissolved, and the department has been placed under a Superintendent of army clothing alone.

By this measure the system of clothing the army was freed from many influences calculated to prove injurious to it; great and mischievous delays have been avoided, and the senior officers of the army have been relieved from a position which was frequently and plausibly made a matter of reproach against them.

In effecting this reform, the Government of the Honourable Company anticipated the act of the Imperial Government, by whom a similar reform in regard to the clothing of the royal army was determined upon, not long after it had been adopted in India.

166. The Ecclesiastical and the Medical Establishments of the Government being technically attached to the military branch of the public service, they have not been referred to until now. Ecclesiastical Establishment.

The Ecclesiastical Establishment has been largely increased during the last eight years, to meet the additional call for religious instruction which has been created by the formation of many new stations in the several provinces which have been added to the empire.

The Court has also given its sanction to the occasional employment of other clergymen, not being in the service of the Honourable Company, where chaplains on the establishment may not be available.

167. The proper provision of places of worship for the servants and soldiers of the Government has been established on a liberal and sure footing. In every case in which a place of Protestant worship is required, the Government undertakes to provide one, properly adapted to the purpose, but of the plainest and simplest form. The Government at the same time expects that the community which is to worship therein shall recognise its own obligations, by contributing such sums as shall suffice to meet the charge of giving to the building the ornament and architectural form which befit its sacred character. Provision of Protestant places of worship.

Under this rule, churches have been sanctioned at Peshawur, Rawulpindee, Murree, Seealkote, Meean, Meer, Lahore, Simla, Rangoon, Thayet-Myo, Toung-hoo, Hyderabad (in Sind), and other places.

168. For the servants of the Government belonging to the Roman Catholic Church most liberal provision has likewise been made. Provision of Roman Catholic places of worship.  
The Government has already recognised their claim to obtain from the Government fitting places of worship, on the same conditions as their Protestant brethren.

169. Salaries have been granted to three Roman Catholic bishops, one in each Presidency, by whom certain duties connected with the business of the Government are performed. Further provision for Roman Catholics.

The salaries of the priests have been revised and augmented.

Separate burial grounds have been ordered to be set apart for members of the Roman Catholic Church; and every care has been taken by the Government to ensure that the clergy of that persuasion shall have no just cause to complain of want of due consideration, or of inequality of treatment.

170. In the medical department additional advantages have been granted by the Honourable Court to natives who apply themselves to the study of the medical profession, by the allotment of higher allowances than before to the class of sub-assistant surgeons. Medical Establishment.

171. The establishment of dispensaries has, probably, been productive of a larger amount of material benefit to the population of India than any other institution which we have introduced among them. It is, therefore, satisfactory to be able to state, that during these years the number of dispensaries has been largely increased. Dispensaries.

172. The subject of vaccination, and the question of the best mode of defending the population against the dreadful scourge of small-pox, which commits such havoc among its dense masses, has occupied much of the attention of the Government. Some progress has been already made; and it is believed that Vaccination.

general and effectual measures for checking, if not for wholly counteracting, this great evil, will yet be devised.

**Opening of Medical Service.** 173. In 1853 admission to the medical service was thrown open to competition by all classes.

Already one native of India, Dr. Chuckerbutty, who had been educated in England some years before, has taken advantage of the opening created by Parliament, and has won for himself a commission as assistant-surgeon in the service of the Honourable Company.

**Proposal for the improvement of the Medical Service.**

174. Before resigning the Government of India, I submitted for the consideration of the Council proposals for the enlargement and the improvement of the medical service. The proposals met with the entire concurrence of the Council, and have been transmitted to England.

If they should receive the approval of the Honourable Court, and should be carried into effect, the medical service of the East India Company will then be second to none in the world.

**Legislation.**

175. During the years that have passed since 1848 the legislation of the Government of India has embraced a great variety of subjects, and has effected many amendments of the law. Some of these may be mentioned.

**Acts relating to Criminal Justice and Police.**

176. Under the head of Criminal Justice and Police, Acts have been passed for the more certain punishment of persons guilty of the crimes of thuggee and poisoning; of tampering with the army and navy, and of kidnapping and crimping.

Acts have also been passed for the punishment of ministerial and police officers guilty of corruption, and of public accountants guilty of default.

Counsel have been allowed by law to prisoners.

The branding of convicts has been abolished.

Provision has been made for the custody of criminal lunatics.

Better provision has been made for the trial of charges of misconduct brought against public officers.

On the other hand, protection has been given by law to public officers when acting in good faith.

Measures have been taken for the improvement of the administration of criminal justice, by defining the powers of the Nizamut Adawlut, by the appointment of deputy magistrates in Bombay, and by other minor alterations in all the Presidencies, especially by the concession of criminal powers to Moonsiffs.

Lastly, the power of the Government to grant pardons in all cases has been established by law.

**Acts relating to Civil Justice and Procedure.**

177. Under the head of Civil Justice and Procedure, Acts have been passed for extending the jurisdiction of Moonsiffs, and for improving the procedure in their courts.

The mode of procedure in regular and special appeals has been largely amended; and the jurisdiction of the Sudder Courts generally has been defined and improved.

A vast improvement has been made in the law of evidence, and in the mode of examining witnesses.

All judicial officers have been required to write their judgment at once in their own vernacular language.

Administrators-general have been appointed at all the Presidencies.

Lastly, Small Cause Courts of extended jurisdiction have been established.

**Miscellaneous legislation.**

178. The miscellaneous legislation of the Government of India during this period has been very extensive and various.

Among the principal Acts that may be mentioned, are the new Post-office Act; the Railway Act; the Electric Telegraph Act; the Law for the Regulation of Joint Stock Companies; the Mofussil Municipal Act; the Municipal and Conservancy Act for the Presidency Towns; the Acts for the Regulation of Native Emigration; the Law empowering the Government to levy Tolls on Roads and Bridges; the Law for the Education of Minors; the Indian Marriage Act; the Law for the Naturalization of Aliens; the Law rendering British Subjects liable to all duties and obligations incident to the occupation of Land; the Apprentice Act; and the Act for the Repeal of the Usury Laws.

179. Lastly,

179. Lastly, an Act has been passed for securing liberty of conscience, and for the protection of converts, and especially of Christian converts, against injury in respect of property or inheritance by reason of a change in their religious belief. Act for securing liberty of conscience.

180. The review which I proposed to take in this Minute of the events of the last eight years, and of the fruits they have produced, has now been brought to a close. No attempt has been made to embellish the narrative. It is for the most part a simple recital of what the Government of India has done. If the recital should seem dry in itself, it may be hoped that the results which it exhibits will not be thought by the Honourable Court to be unprofitable or disappointing. Conclusion.

One of the last, and not the least important, of those measures which have emanated from the Government of India during the past years, has been a resolution to require henceforth from the Government of every Presidency, from each Lieutenant-Governor, and from the chief officer of every province, an annual report, narrating the incidents that may have occurred during the year within their several jurisdictions, and stating the progress that may have been made, and all of moment that may have been done, in each principal department of the civil and military administration.

My parting hope and prayer for India is, that, in all time to come, these reports from the Presidencies and provinces under our rule may form, in each successive year, a happy record of peace, prosperity and progress.

28 February 1856.

(signed) *Dalhousie.*

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EAST INDIA.

COPY of a MINUTE by the Marquis of *Dalhousie*,  
dated the 28th day of February 1856, reviewing  
his Administration in *India*, from January  
1848 to March 1856.

*(Mr. Danby Seymour.)*

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*Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,*  
*30 May 1856.*

*[Re-printed 1858.]*

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EAST INDIA (PROGRESS).

STATEMENT

OF THE

MORAL AND MATERIAL PROGRESS OF INDIA

1864-5.

India Office,  
5 July 1866.

Mr. H. Waterfield to the Earl de Grey and Ripon.

My Lord,

India Office, 4 July 1866.

I HAVE the honour to submit a statement which, in obedience to your Lordship's instructions, I have prepared for presentation to Parliament, from the detailed reports\* of the several Presidencies and districts in India, recently laid before both Houses in accordance with Act 21 & 22 Vict. c. 106, s. 53, showing the moral and material progress which has been made by that country during the year 1864-5.

As this is the first occasion on which an endeavour has been made, in this manner, to give a connected narrative of the events of chief interest in the various branches of the administration, the opportunity has been taken of describing at some length the circumstances, which, during the last few years, have affected, directly and indirectly, the condition of the people of India, and the efficiency of its Government.

- \* Bengal.
- North Western Provinces.
- Oude.
- Punjab.
- Central Provinces.
- Hyderabad Assigned Districts.
- British Burmah.
- Fort Blair.
- Straits Settlements.
- Madras.
- Bombay.
- India Legislation.
- " Public Works.
- " Post Office.
- " Geological Survey.

I have, &c.

Henry Waterfield.

The Earl de Grey and Ripon,  
&c. &c. &c.



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## S T A T E M E N T

SHOWING THE

### MORAL AND MATERIAL PROGRESS OF INDIA, 1864-65

#### I. REVENUE.

By far the most important source to which rulers in India have, in all ages, looked for obtaining their income, is the land, the revenue from which, in the year before the Mutiny, furnished more than one-half of the total receipts of the East India Company's Treasury; and, even now, when the necessities of the Indian empire have rendered it compulsory to resort more largely to the aid of duties levied on the continually increasing trade of the country, no less a sum than 20,087,728 l., out of a total income of 45,652,897 l., is derived from the land revenue.

1. LAND.

In his evidence before a Select Committee of the House of Commons, in 1831, Mr. James Mill, the well-known author of the "History of British India," spoke very strongly of the advantage accruing to the country from the circumstance that so large a portion of the revenue was derived from the rent of land, which had always been considered the property of the Government. "As far as this source goes," he added, "the people of the country remain untaxed. The wants of Government are supplied without any drain either upon the produce of any man's labour, or the produce of any man's capital."

The right of the State in the soil had been previously maintained by the Government of Lord Cornwallis, which, in the preamble to Regulation XIX. of 1793, stated that, by the ancient law of the country, the ruling power is entitled to a certain proportion of the produce of every acre of land, either in money or kind, according to local custom, unless it transfers its right thereto for a term or in perpetuity, or limits the public demand upon the whole of the land belonging to an individual, leaving him to appropriate to his own use the difference between that limit and the full value of the produce which the land may yield.

The proportion which the assessment bears to the full value of the land varies in the several provinces and districts. Under the Native system, a fixed proportion of the gross produce was taken; the British system deals with the surplus or net produce which the State may yield after deducting the expenses of cultivation, and the directions to the revenue settlement officers provide that at least one-third of this net produce shall always be left to the cultivator as his profit.

Revenue System.

In Bengal a permanent settlement was made by Lord Cornwallis, in 1793, with the zemindars or principal landowners, who pay direct to the Government a sum probably somewhat exceeding one-half of the amount which they receive as rent; by this measure, the Government was debarred from any further direct participation in the agricultural improvement of the country.

In the North-Western Provinces, a general settlement of the revenue was completed about five and twenty years ago, fixing the amount to be paid by each village for a period of 30 years, and a similar course has been adopted in the Punjab; it is estimated that, in this case, the assessment was about two-thirds of the yearly value (that is, the surplus after deducting expenses of cul-

tivation,

tivation, profits of stock, and wages of labour), and, in the revised settlements which are now being made, it is reduced to one-half of the yearly value.

In the Madras Presidency there are three different revenue systems. The zemindary tenure exists in a few districts, but principally in the Northern Circars; the proprietors, of whom some possess old ancestral estates, and others were created landholders in 1802, hold the land direct from the Government, on payment of a fixed annual sum; its prominent defects are, that the whole of the waste lands are alienated from the State, and form part of the emoluments of the proprietor, to whom a considerable allowance (estimated at from 15 to 33 per cent. of the revenue) is also made for expenses of management, and that the influence of the landowner, which is very powerful, owing to the state of dependence in which all classes are placed under him, is often injuriously exercised, particularly in matters of police. In the village-renting system, the villagers stand in the position of the zemindar, and hold the land jointly from the Government, allotting the different portions for cultivation among themselves; it involves the serious defect of joint responsibility, and the want of clearly defined individual property in the land. Under the ryotwar system, every registered holder of land is recognized as its proprietor, and pays direct to the Government; he can sublet, transfer, sell, or mortgage it: he cannot be ejected by the Government, and, so long as he pays the fixed assessment, he has the option of annually increasing or diminishing the cultivation on his holding, or he may entirely abandon it. In unfavourable seasons remissions of assessment are granted for loss of produce. The assessment is fixed in money, and does not vary from year to year, except when water is obtained from a Government source of irrigation, nor is any addition made to the rent for improvements effected at the ryot's own expense; he has, therefore, all the benefit of a perpetual lease without its responsibilities, as he can at any time throw up his lands, but cannot be ejected so long as he pays his dues, and he receives assistance in difficult seasons. The original assessment was unfortunately fixed too high, but the reductions and re-assessments made of late years are materially improving the position of the cultivators. An annual settlement is made, not to re-assess the land, but to determine upon how much of his holding the ryot shall pay; when no change occurs in a holding, the ryot is not affected by the annual settlement, and is not required to attend it. The ryotwar system may be said essentially to prevail throughout the Presidency, as the zemindar and village renter equally deal with their tenants on this principle.

In Bombay, the revenue management is, generally speaking, ryotwar; that is, as a rule, the occupants of Government lands settle for their land revenue, or rent, with the Government officers direct, and not through the intervention of a middleman. Instances, however, occasionally occur, in which the Government revenues of entire villages are settled for by individual superior holders, under various denominations, or by a co-partnership of superior holders. The survey and assessment of the Bombay Presidency has been almost completed on a system introduced and carefully elaborated about 20 years ago by Mr. Goldsmid and Captain (now Sir George) Wingate. The whole country is surveyed and mapped, and the fields distinguished by permanent boundary marks which it is penal to remove; the soil of each field is classed according to its intrinsic qualities and to the climate; and the rate of assessment to be paid on fields of each class in each sub-division of a district is fixed on a careful consideration of the value of the crops they are capable of producing, as affected by the proximity to market towns, roads, canals, railways, and similar external incidents, but not by improvements made by the ryot himself. This rate was probably about one-half of the yearly value of the land, when fixed; but, owing to the general improvement of the country, it is not more than from a fourth to an eighth in the districts which have not been settled quite recently. The measurement and classification of the soil are made once for all; but the rate of assessment is open to revision at the end of every 30 years, in order that the ryot, on the one hand, may have the certainty of the long period as an inducement to lay out capital, and the State, on the other, may secure that participation in the advantages accruing from the general progress of society to which its joint proprietorship in the land entitles it. In the 30 years' revision, moreover, only public improvements and a general change of prices, but not improvements effected by the ryots themselves, will be considered as grounds for enhancing the assessment. The ryot's tenure is permanent, provided that he pays the assessment;

assessment; but he has the option of surrendering one or more of his fields, or the whole, and also of taking up additional fields which may be vacant, at the close of any given year.

At the commencement of the year, the collector frames his demand or estimate of the amount of land revenue which the district may be expected to yield, if all goes well, the demand being based on the fixed assessment, or, in Madras, on the statements of the proprietors as to the land which they intend to cultivate. If the full sum assessed is not realized, the difference is set off as a remission, whether this arises from the necessity to reduce the demand in consequence of the inability of the cultivator to pay, or simply from the fact that he has left uncultivated some part of the ground which had been expected to be tilled, and therefore that the assessment is not, under the rules, claimable on account of that land.

The important questions of the expediency of settling in perpetuity the amount of revenue to be paid to the Government by landholders, of permitting this revenue to be redeemed for ever by the payment of a capital sum of money, and of selling the fee simple of waste lands not under assessment, have been within the last few years fully considered by the Government of India.

The expediency of allowing owners of land to redeem the revenue was advocated as likely to promote the settlement of European colonists; but experience has shown that advantage is very rarely taken of the power which already exists in certain cases to redeem the rent by a quit payment; and it is unlikely that such a permission would be acted upon to any great extent, while the rate of interest afforded by an investment in the purchase of the land assessment is so far below that obtained in ordinary transactions as is at present the case in India.

Redemption of the Land Revenue.

It is evident, moreover, that the object which it is really sought to attain, is not so much the exemption from all land tax in future by the payment of a capital sum at the present time, as the security that the tax will not be increased, and that the conditions upon which the land can be obtained are fixed, and not liable to alteration hereafter.

A permanent settlement of the land revenue is not open to the serious objection which exists to the scheme of redemption, that to capitalize the income which the State receives from the land would deprive it in future years of a source of revenue on which it can in all circumstances confidently rely, and than which none is more easily collected or more willingly paid.

Permanent Settlement.

The land revenue of India, as of all eastern countries, being regarded less as a tax on the landowners than as the result of a joint proprietorship in the soil, under which the produce is divided, in unequal and generally undefined proportions, between the ostensible proprietors and the State, it is a matter of justice and of security for the landowner that the respective shares should, at a given period, or for specified terms, be strictly defined and limited. The right which the Government possesses to participate in the advantages which accrue from the general progress of society has hitherto been recognized by periodical adjustments of the share which belongs to the State, or rather of its value in money.

It is anticipated by the advocates of a permanent settlement that a general feeling of contentment would be diffused among the landholders, who would become attached to the Government by the strongest ties of personal interest; and that, sufficient inducement being thereby afforded to them to lay out capital on the land, the wealth of the country would be so much increased as to enable it to bear, by means of indirect taxes, any additional charge which might fall upon the Government in consequence of the augmented expense of administration.

Entertaining no doubt of the political advantages which would attend a permanent settlement, and considering it most desirable that facilities should be given for the gradual growth of a middle class connected with the land, without dispossessing the present proprietors and occupiers, Her Majesty's Government recently decided to sanction the redemption of the revenue only in cases where lands are required for dwelling houses, factories, gardens, plantations, and similar purposes, but to authorise a permanent settlement being effected throughout India at the present or revised rates, in all districts or parts of districts

## STATEMENT SHOWING THE MORAL AND

tracts in which no considerable increase can be expected in the land revenue, and where its equitable apportionment has been, or may hereafter be, satisfactorily ascertained.

In proceeding to carry this measure into effect, it was decided that, where agriculture is backward, population scanty, and rent not fully developed, permanency of settlement must be refused; and that, on the other hand, where the estates are so fairly cultivated, and their resources so fully developed, as to warrant the introduction of a permanent settlement at the existing rates, it may at once be granted.

There are, however, many districts which comprise a large number of estates sufficiently cultivated to justify a permanent assessment, while the resources of a considerable proportion of the land are so imperfectly developed, that a settlement could not be effected on its present assets, without entailing a prospective loss to the State. After a careful consideration of the various plans suggested as suitable for adoption in this class of districts, Her Majesty's Government authorized an immediate settlement, in perpetuity, after revision, for all estates in which the actual cultivation amounts to 80 per cent. of the cultivable area.

Estates of which the resources are so undeveloped that they are unfitted for a settlement in perpetuity, will be assessed for a term, the duration of which it may probably be deemed expedient to limit to 15 or 20 years, but which at any rate must not exceed 30; and no pledge will be given to the proprietors as to the course which the Government of the day may think proper to adopt at the expiration of that period.

The right of the Government to a share of the produce of mines will be reserved, when the permanent settlement is carried into effect.

In order to provide for the just claims of the State to a portion of the advantage which the owners of estates may derive from the application of canal water, it was directed that, when, in the opinion of the officers of the Settlement and Irrigation Departments, the assets of an estate would, on canal irrigation being carried to the full extent at present contemplated, exceed the existing assets in a greater proportion than 20 per cent., the assessment should be settled on the present value, for a term not exceeding 30 years, as in the case of other estates in which the cultivation is not fully developed.

In October 1861, a Resolution was published by the Governor General in Council, prescribing certain rules under which the sale of waste lands, in lots not exceeding 3,000 acres each, was to be carried into effect over the whole of India, when application should be made to the Government for the grant of any such tract. In two points of importance those rules were altered by Her Majesty's Government, who gave directions that the survey of the land should always precede the sale, and that, instead of a uniform price being fixed of 5 s. an acre for uncleared land and 10 s. an acre for ground already freed from jungle, the allotments being advertised for sale by auction only in the case of more than one person applying for the same spot, the course should be invariably followed of putting up the lands to auction, at a minimum upset price, and of selling them to the highest bidder.

Passing from these general questions relating to the land revenue, an account will now be given of the progress which has been made by each province during the year 1864-65.

Bengal.

In the Lower Provinces of Bengal, the demand of the Government amounted to about 12,000 l. more than had been demanded in the preceding year. In consequence, however, of the damages sustained in the district of Midnapore from the cyclone of October 1864, it was found necessary to vest the Commissioner of the Division with large discretionary powers to postpone the enforcement of the revenue instalments, so as to give the landholders an opportunity of retrieving their position, and the result has been that the sum collected within the year, namely, 3,803,155 l., exhibits a falling off to the extent of 241,086 l. as compared with 1863-64, the outstanding balances to be recovered in the following year being, of course, increased to a corresponding amount.

In 1859, an Act (No. X.) was passed by the Government of India, amending the law relative to the rights of cultivators regarding the occupancy of land, and to the recovery of arrears of rent; and this Act was supplemented in 1862 by

by

by another (No. VI.) passed by the Bengal Council. Suits arising under these Acts, between the landholders and their tenants, are disposed of by the Collector or revenue officer, subject, except in minor cases, to an appeal to the Judge of the District, or to the High Court. The total number of such suits instituted in 1864-65 was 125,854, whereas, in 1863-64, they amounted to 133,819. On the other hand, the execution of decrees has been much more prompt, for, with nearly 8,000 suits less, 65,207 decrees were executed, as compared with 54,619 in the preceding year, and nearly 3,000 cases less were pending at the close of the year than in 1863-64.

Formerly, in the event of a landholder in Bengal failing to pay the revenue to the Government, the estate was advertised to be sold by auction, but he was allowed, at any time previous to the day of sale, to pay the arrears and stop all further proceedings. As, however, it was found that advantage was taken of this state of the law by the landholders, who delayed the payment of their revenue to the last moment, and permitted their estates to be advertised for sale, secure that, on the morning of the auction, they could pay the money and retain possession of their property, it was, in 1845, enacted that a day should be fixed as the latest on which the arrears of revenue would be received, and that, if payment had not then been made, the estate should invariably be sold by public auction; and the effect of this change in the law was materially to reduce the quantity of land advertised for sale.

In 1859 it was found necessary to pass a further Act, in order to enable sharers in estates, absentee landholders, and under-tenants, to protect themselves from injury by the failure of their partners, agents, or landlords, to pay the revenue at the prescribed time; and, during the year 1864-65, 2,291 applications to benefit by this privilege were tendered.

It was determined in 1859 to sell the proprietary rights of all the estates in Bengal which are under the management of the Government, the object of the measure being, in the first place, to produce a sum of money for the use of the State, and, secondly, to relieve public officers from the business of managing the estates. The amount received on this account in 1864-65 was 63,578 *l.*; but of this sum more than half, namely, 38,100 *l.*, must be deducted on account of an estate in the Backergunge Sunderbunds, the sale of which has since been cancelled on the solicitation of the purchaser. There remain for sale 1,755 whole estates and 19 shares which are expected to fetch, when sold, about 605,000 *l.* The most valuable ~~were~~ have been disposed of already; and those left are not likely to produce more than six or seven years' purchase of the annual revenue assessed upon them.

Under the rules for the lease and sale of waste lands, 263 lots were sold and 81 leased during the year 1864-65. The entire number of grants made, up to the 30th of April 1865, was 518, and the sum already realised 40,713 *l.*, leaving 220,934 *l.* to be paid by instalments hereafter. At the same date 334 lots had been leased, the eventual maximum revenue of which would be 13,337 *l.*

On the great demand for waste lands arising, in 1863, under the new rules, it was found that the rule requiring the survey and demarcation of waste lands as imperative preliminaries to their sale, would check all sales for a long time, and impede the extension of tea-planting; and it was, therefore, decided that the preliminary survey should for the present be dispensed with in Assam, Cachar, Sylhet, and Darjeeling, and that applicants should be only required to submit a rough plan of the lands applied for, showing the direction of the boundaries, the length, breadth, and area of the lands; and any existing landmarks which might serve to identify them, and that they should receive in return a provisional title deed in anticipation of survey, after entering into an agreement to abide by the decision of the collector, in respect both of the boundary of the lands and the final adjustment of the purchase money, holding the grant, in the meantime, hypothecated for the amount. This concession has now been extended to the hill tracts and other portions of Chittagong, with a view to remove every impediment to the extension of tea-planting in that district.

An objection was raised by the Landholders' and Commercial Association of Bengal, with reference to certain grants applied for in Cachar, to the condition that the applicant should abide by the decision of the collector in respect of the boundary of the lands allotted to him; and it was stated that such an

agreement rendered the ultimate area and boundaries of the grant so uncertain that it was impossible to deal with it, either in the way of sale or as security for a loan. In reply, it was explained to the Association, that without such a stipulation the Government could not accord the privilege of possession in anticipation of survey, and that it was a question for the consideration of each applicant whether it was the more advantageous for him to wait until the survey should be completed, or to take possession of his grant with the uncertainty involved in the provisional title-deed. It was pointed out that, while the latter alternative would probably commend itself to those who were taking up land, *bonâ fide*, for cultivation, it would very likely be better for those who obtain lands merely for the purpose of reselling them at a profit, to await the completion of the survey. To show the necessity of the condition, it was explained that two cases had come to the notice of the Government where grants, of which the estimated area, as applied for, was 200 and 1,936 acres, were found on survey to contain 1,500 and 15,000 acres respectively; so that it obviously was necessary that the Government should have some security that, in complying with an application for a few hundred acres, it was not in fact alienating its rights in many thousands of acres, and possibly, at the same time, infringing the rights of neighbouring holders.

In order to encourage applications for the grant of land in the Sunderbunds and Chittagong, it was determined so far to modify the new rules as to allow to the applicants, in all cases in which, after due advertisement, there was no competition, the option of taking the land under the new rules, or, as under the old rules, without payment, but subject to the former conditions as to clearance, and after a certain rent-free period, to a gradually increasing assessment, up to a maximum of 9*d.* per acre, redeemable at any time at the option of the holder.

A project for the clearance and cultivation of the unappropriated waste lands of the Sunderbunds by joint stock agency was brought forward by Mr. F. Schiller and others. To give all due encouragement to the scheme, the Government of India consented to waive the rules, so far as to sell by auction in one lot the Sunderbund lands in the 24 Pergunnahs, comprising more than a million of acres, at an upset price of 5*s.* an acre. Owing to an unfortunate misapprehension of the intentions of the Supreme Government, the prospectus of the Company was issued with the announcement that the Sunderbund lands in Jessore would also be disposed of by a similar sale in a single block. The mistake was at once corrected, but the whole scheme fell to the ground for the time. Mr. Schiller subsequently applied for the grant of certain lots of land in the Sunderbunds, containing together about 50,000 acres; and the rules were relaxed in his favour, in order to allow the whole to be advertised and put up for sale in one block.

In the North-Western Provinces the average rainfall during 1864-65 was 39.3 inches, and the season was generally favourable. The demand on account of the land tax was about 1,300 *l.* less than in 1863-64; this small decrease is mainly attributable to the grant of jageers to Rajahs Sheoraj Sing and Jeswunt Rao, and to the appropriation of lands for the railway. The amount collected within the year was 4,035,374 *l.*, or 98.64 per cent. of the demand; and the outstanding balances have been reduced from nearly 500,000 *l.* to about 332,500 *l.* The number of processes issued against defaulters, 105,942, was rather less than in the previous year; and in only 35 cases was it found necessary to resort to sales, sequestrations, or similar legal measures, on account of inability to pay the land tax, a fact which, coupled with the very large per-centage of collections, shows conclusively the lightness of the Government demand.

The number of suits between landlord and tenant instituted under Act X. of 1859 and XIV. of 1863, has increased from 45,350 in 1863-64 to 54,409 in 1864-65. This is chiefly attributable to the facilities afforded to the people by the courts of the Native revenue officers, which continue to be popular.

In Ajmere and Mhairwarra the demand for land revenue was 38,490 *l.*, of which all but 143 *l.* was realized. The fall of rain was scanty; but, the necessary repairs to tanks and other irrigation works having been completed before the rains set in, the crops were generally good. Prices, however, remained high, in consequence of the scarcity prevailing in neighbouring districts.

Some complicated claims to proprietary right have been adjusted in Seharunpore; and the assessments in this district, as well as in Mozuffurnuggur and Boolundshuhur

Boolundshuhur, are being revised and adapted to a settlement in perpetuity. Measures are also in progress for a settlement in Bijnour, Budaon, Furruckabad, Etah, Jhansi, Jaloun, Lullutpore, and Goruckpore. In Meerut the village measurements are nearly finished, and data are being collected for the preparation of assessment rates. The Gurhwal settlement has been completed, and the result is to raise the assessment from 6,818 *l.* to 9,562 *l.* In Kumaon the measurements are being made, and in Bareilly and Azimghur operations are about to commence. Rather more than 130,000 *l.* has been spent on the settlements already, and it is calculated that about 230,000 *l.* more will be required to complete them.

In the spring of 1864 the crops in Oude were generally excellent, owing to the abundant rainfall of 1863; but the rains of 1864 were perhaps the most unfavourable ever known in Oude, setting in very late, and breaking up very early, just when there was the most pressing need for water to admit of the transplanting of the rice.

The autumn crops were, consequently, extremely light, and rice was an almost total failure everywhere, particularly in Sultanpore and the Trans-Gogra districts. In these circumstances, it is satisfactory to find that, of a total demand of 1,040,366 *l.* for land revenue, all except 8,739 *l.* was paid before the close of the year, and only 130 *l.* proved irrecoverable. The eastern districts suffered most from the drought; but the price of all agricultural produce rose greatly, and this made up to some extent for the partial failure of the autumnal crops, and assisted landholders in meeting their engagements.

On the annexation of Oude, instructions were issued to the Chief Commissioner, in February 1856, that a summary settlement should be made with existing occupants for three years, and that the question of determining proprietary rights should be held in abeyance. This settlement was carried out as nearly as possible on the model of that which had been adopted in the North-Western Provinces; and it was feared that, in their anxiety to promote the welfare of the great body of the agricultural classes, the revenue officers in Oude might, in some instances, have ignored the rights which had been acquired by the great landed proprietors.

Accordingly, in the reorganization of the country which followed the suppression of the rebellion in Oude, directions were issued for the restoration of those ancient rights, as well as for the encouragement, by liberal remissions or advances, of agricultural operations throughout the country. Care was, at the same time, taken to preserve the privileges of under-proprietors; and it was ordered that, when a regular settlement should be made, the proportion of the revenue payable by the intermediate or subordinate holder to the talookdar should be fixed after careful survey, the talookdars themselves receiving title-deeds to confirm their proprietary rights, subject to certain moderate assessments to be fixed at the termination of the three years' summary settlement.

The effect of the revised assessment, which is being carried out throughout the greater part of the province, is apparent in the increase of the Government collections of revenue, which were 36,809 *l.* in excess of those for the previous year; and, in future, the increase will be much more considerable.

This material enhancement of the demand of the Government has not unnaturally led, in some cases, to a demand on the part of the landlord for increased rents, which is occasionally contested by a suit for exaction. It is, however, expected that, when the Settlement courts have disposed of the claims to proprietary rights, which form the real, if not the ostensible, ground of half the suits of exaction and ouster, the number of such suits will greatly diminish.

The officers of Government have been instructed to act, as far as possible, rather as mediators and umpires than as judges; many claims to sub-settlement have been admitted, which will considerably mitigate the hardship which some of the village proprietors have experienced of late years; and the Chief Commissioner has been informed that the Government concur in his opinion that proprietary rights did exist under the Native rulers, and were recognised by usage and social law, although they were often arbitrarily invaded and usurped, and therefore that the holders are entitled to benefit by any advantages which may be developed by the improved system of administration introduced by the British Government.



Subsequently, a question has arisen whether some alleged rights of *occupancy* on the part of classes of ryots did or did not exist at the time of the annexation; and an inquiry into the matter has been instituted, in order that the cultivators may not be deprived of any privileges to which they may be entitled; but special measures have been taken to guard against the commission of any act which might lower the position of the talookdars in the eyes of the country.

The number of processes issued by the Government against revenue defaulters in 1864-65 was 22,114, as compared with 16,308 in 1863-64; the increase is partly attributable to the unfavourable character of the season. As usual, there were no farms or sales for arrears of revenue.

The proceedings of the Honorary Assistant Commissioners, who exercise revenue as well as judicial powers, usually limited to their own estates, are most carefully watched; and the general result seems to be, that their work is done very creditably, and that their courts are popular.

The summary suits between landlord and tenant have risen in number from 18,810, to 23,387; but the increase is principally on suits for rent, which was to be expected in a bad season. The condition of the agricultural classes is rapidly improving; fresh lands are being constantly brought under cultivation; and sugar, to which the soil of Oude is peculiarly adapted, is being extensively introduced.

Some doubt has arisen as to the bearing of the law on the cases of talookdars who hold a mortgage of villages, in respect of which no reservation was made of the right of the original proprietors to claim redemption. The matter has, however, been happily set at rest by the just conduct of the talookdars themselves, nearly all of whom have signed an agreement not to plead their grants in bar of claims to redeem mortgages.

The management of the estates of minors is very creditable to the district officers, by whom great exertions are made to pay off debts and effect improvements, as well as to make favourable investments of the surplus funds when any are available. The estate of Muhewa, paying 4,600 *l.* per annum to the Government, came under the Court of Wards in 1864-65; and a considerable estate was purchased, at a cost of 22,500 *l.*, for the young Rajah of Mahmoodabad.

Punjab.

Oude was not the only province which felt the effect of the irregular rainfall in 1864-65. In the Punjab much less than the usual quantity fell during the rainy season, and scarcely any in the autumn, while a more than ordinarily heavy fall took place in the spring. The result was, that the yield of both harvests was below the average, but this was made up to the agriculturists by the high prices which their products commanded; for, although traders sustained a serious loss from the great fall which took place in the price of cotton and grain, it did not occur till most of the landholders had disposed of their produce at a large profit. A considerable, and, as it afterwards appeared, excessive, amount of grain was exported to Sind from the Punjab; and, while the demand lasted, high prices were obtained in the districts which had the command of river communication with Sind, and this influenced, indirectly, the price of grain in other districts also.

The receipts from land revenue in 1864-65, which amounted to 1,894,188 *l.*, showed an apparent diminution from that of 1863-64; but the latter was unduly swelled by the proceeds of the confiscated district of Bullubghur, which had for some years been held in deposit, and were then brought to account. The increase, as compared with the year 1862-63, is 29,689 *l.*, which is the more satisfactory, as it is entirely due to the augmentation of the miscellaneous revenue derived from the land. The assessment of land tax, on the other hand, has steadily decreased, owing to two causes; considerable reductions have been made in the Government demand, in tracts affected by famine and inundation, such as Delhi, Goorgaon, Dera Ismail Khan, and Bunnoo, where much damage has been caused by river action or by the flooding of lakes; and, in districts which, like Hissar and Jhelum, have undergone revision of settlement, the demand has been reduced to one-half of the net produce, instead of two-thirds as formerly.

In corroboration of the testimony which is received from every quarter of the Punjab as to the moderation of the land tax, it is satisfactory to find that the sum collected within the year amounted to 99 per cent. of the demand.

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In the district of Dera Ghazee Khan, a remission of revenue to the extent of 2,487 *l.* was authorised, in consideration of the people assisting, by their own labour, to clear out the inundation canals; and as, under the old system, a larger outlay would have been incurred for paid labourers, there is no actual loss to the State. With this exception, the irrecoverable balances are inconsiderable, and are attributable almost entirely to inundations, in the Delhi, Hissar, and Derajat divisions.

The number of regular revenue suits between landlords and tenants fell from 32,065 in 1862-63 to 30,977 in 1864-65; their total value amounted to 80,610 *l.*, and the average of costs, was 9 per cent., or 2 per cent. less than in the previous year. The summary suits also showed a diminution from 12,462 to 11,439, while the number of appeals from the decision of the revenue officers increased from 8,514 to 9,013.

In the Central Provinces agriculture flourished during 1864-65; although Central Provinces. the harvests in many districts were not good, the yield of produce was fair, taking all crops together, and the prices high, wheat fetching 64 *s.* a quarter in parts of the Wurdah Valley district, where the average throughout the year was about the same as that which ruled at Delhi and Agra in the famine years of 1860 and 1861. There was enough not only to support the population of the country, but also to succour neighbouring provinces, and some 35,000 tons of grain are ascertained to have been exported across the frontier.

The prices of agricultural produce in the Central Provinces are now at least double those of 10 years ago, and treble the prices of 20 years since. Meanwhile, the tenants and cultivators have not had their rents raised in proportion to the enhanced value of their produce; while the landlords have profited by the increased proceeds of their own homestead farms, which are usually among the choicest portion of their lands.

As counterbalancing the profit thus accruing to the agricultural interest from what they have to sell, must be set the increased price of what they have to buy. The cost of clothes and wood is much higher now than formerly; although over 50,000 head of cattle have been imported into the Central Provinces during the year, and their price has, in consequence, fallen 20 per cent.; it is still four times the rate of former days; and, in the cotton-picking season, the growers were offering 1 *s.* a day to a labourer, and still had great difficulty in getting their work done.

The Government demand on account of the land tax has risen from 556,468 *l.* in 1863-64 to 599,967 *l.* in 1864-65, and the collections from 546,605 *l.* to 588,136 *l.* Every year there are certain items on the rent-roll which, from some circumstance or other, never actually fall due; and, if these be deducted, it will be found that, of the realisable demand, 99.92 per cent. was collected, and this with very little resort to coercive processes.

The work of the regular settlement, which is mainly being carried out on the system of revenue survey adopted in Bombay, has been vigorously prosecuted in 15 districts, comprising four-fifths of the Central Provinces; and the land tax of 6,340 villages or estates, amounting to 159,432 *l.*, has been assessed during the year, the net result being an increase of 10,283 *l.*, or 7 per cent. on the amount which came under revision. The new assessment has everywhere been accepted by the landholders, who individually have admitted to the Chief Commissioner its fairness and moderation, and in durbar assemblies have openly spoken to the same effect.

In some places the former assessment was made when the land was comparatively uncultivated; and, in consequence of the vast improvement which has taken place, the tax has now to be raised. The increased demand is not always proportionate to the increased production; but some large augmentations have been made. In Seonee the percentage of increase has been 55; in Hoshungabad 43; and in Baitool 32; yet the assessment now falls at the rate of only 9 *d.* per cultivated acre. In the newly settled districts generally the incidence of the land tax ranges from 7 *d.* to 1 *s.* 6 *d.* for each acre under cultivation, which does not represent more than from an eighth to a twelfth of the value of the gross produce. The average rate, 1 *s.* 1 *d.* per acre, is low, when compared with those which obtain in North-Western India; but the scarcity of labour, the comparative sparseness of the population, and the past fiscal history of some of the districts will, in a great measure, account for this.

## STATEMENT SHOWING THE MORAL AND

Although, under this settlement, addition to the land revenue cannot be expected for 20 or 30 years, at the expiration of which time there will no doubt be a really fine increase, yet in other ways the yield to the Government will rise greatly, even within that period. For, while a fair margin of waste, according to proved right or to possession, and in proportion to cultivation, has been assigned to the landholders and included in the assessment, all other waste lands have been carefully excluded. All claims to unoccupied lands have been scrutinized, and, when necessary, the right of the State has been enforced. Many thousands of blocks of land, containing about 2,500,000 acres, have thus been specifically marked out, after inquiry, as belonging to the State, and as being available either to be sold under the rules to capitalists, or to be let on cultivating leases. As yet, only 18,000 acres have been sold in the last two years; but many profitable leases for grazing or cultivating will no doubt be effected. Registers, with full descriptive details, of all waste lands available for sale, are being prepared for publication.

The rights of the people in the soil have now, by the proceedings of the settlement, been defined and affirmed for nearly the whole of the country. The proprietary tenures in more than 25,000 villages or estates have been formally declared, and more than 11,000 conflicting claims to such tenures have been adjudicated. Tenant right also has been considered, with regard to the actual position of the tenantry, and the just interests of the landlords; during the year 1864-65, upwards of 12,000 cases of inferior proprietorship have been recognized; the status of 129,536 tenants with the right of occupancy under Act X. of 1859, and the rent payable by them, have been ascertained and recorded; and in 210,755 cases, the agreement of the tenant-at-will with his landlord has been registered. Some 22,000 villages or estates have been mapped out, field by field, and 21,000 square miles have been professionally surveyed.

The fruits of these measures are already apparent in the improved temper and disposition of all classes. It is not easy to bring home to their minds the advantages, unprecedented in Central India, which are thus secured to them; but the Chief Commissioner has, in the course of his tours, assembled the landholders in every district, and explained to them that the land is theirs, not merely for the term during which the assessment is fixed, but permanently and absolutely to sell, mortgage, or otherwise dispose of, the only condition being the payment of a moderate land tax assessed for periods of 20 or 30 years. As a proof that this position is becoming understood, there have been sales and mortgages already, not so numerous as to indicate distress anywhere, but in such moderate numbers as might be expected from the creation of facilities for conveyance of perfect titles; the sums fetched by the land have, however, been very low.

The number of cases decided in the Revenue Courts during the year, under the Law of Landlord and Tenant, was only 5,220, and the petitions for execution of decree did not exceed 1,219.

Hyderabad Assigned Districts.

The territory comprised in the Hyderabad Assigned Districts, or East and West Berar, was, in December 1864, re-distributed, and formed into four districts instead of two. The average area of each is 4,500 square miles; but, from the circumstance that the two districts newly established are cut up by numerous ranges of hills, and in many parts thinly inhabited, the share of the revenue contributed by them is not in proportion to their size.

The population is roughly estimated at 1,530,981; and the area of cultivated land has, in consequence of the very high prices of all agricultural produce, increased from 3,670,430 acres in 1863-64, to 4,036,900 in 1864-65.

The demand for land revenue was 381,602 L., which shows an increase of 26,104 L. on that of the previous year. The collections fell short of the demand by only 10,949 L., and three-fourths of this sum has subsequently been realised.

The harvest was not good, owing to the insufficient fall of rain, which was less than 28 inches, the average being between 30 and 35. It is estimated that 67 per cent. of the cultivated land is occupied by grain, 30 per cent. by cotton, and 3 per cent. by oilseeds. The price of grain in 1864 and 1865 was three and four times the average for the 12 years from 1850 to 1861, but it has now become somewhat cheaper, in consequence of the great fall in the price of cotton.

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The survey is proceeding satisfactorily, though somewhat slowly, and measures are in course of execution for expediting its progress. The results, so far, are encouraging; the total cost has been 22,395 *l.*, while, in the two talookas of Mulhapore and Balhapore alone, the annual gain to the revenue is 10,695 *l.*

In several parts of British Burmah, and especially in the Tenasserim division, British Burmah. the crops suffered severely, in the early part of the sowing season from inundation, and towards the latter part from paucity of rain. Owing to this, and to the reduction of the rates of assessment in the Martaban district, the increase of land revenue, which has been considerable in Pegu and Arracan, has not, throughout the province, been commensurate with the increase of cultivation. Including sayer and miscellaneous receipts, however, the revenue rose from 525,340 *l.* in 1863-64 to 561,397 *l.* in 1864-65.

The entire area under cultivation was 1,767,093 acres, or about 60,000 more than in the preceding year, rice, the staple product of the country, alone covering 1,470,169 acres, instead of 1,433,840 in 1863-64. The exportation of rice kept pace with the increased cultivation, and the quantity exported by sea and land exceeded that of the previous year by 76,815 tons.

The stimulus given to this trade by the high prices realised in consequence of the great demand for food in China, has apparently taught the cultivators of the delta of the Irrawaddy the advantage of holding a lease, under which they are permitted to extend their cultivation without paying additional rent to the Government; and, in the Rangoon district, leases for five years have been accepted over an area of 83,673 acres.

The rental of fisheries increased by more than 5,000 *l.* during 10 years, and the capitation tax was upwards of 6,500 *l.* higher than in 1863-64.

At all three of the stations in the Straits Settlements there has been a slight Straits Settlements. increase in the land revenue, and the total amount collected in 1864-65 was 13,359 *l.*, against 13,260 *l.* in 1863-64.

The number of new leases issued for short periods is 445; and, in 327 cases, deeds which had been granted for the payment of a fixed sum and a quit-rent have been cancelled, and leases taken in their stead. The general failure of the crops has discouraged the peasantry, and rendered them unwilling to enter into an engagement to pay a fixed annual amount for land which, at present, is yielding scarcely any return for their labour.

The collection of land revenue in the Presidency of Madras showed a considerable falling-off in 1864-65, the amount received being 4,184,645 *l.*, or 115,147 *l.* less than in the previous year. Madras. Nearly the whole of the decrease arose in the Kistna, Tinnevely, and Madras districts, where the season was peculiarly unfavourable. There was also a considerable diminution in consequence of the revision of assessment in Trichinopoly, Coimbatore, and Bellary; but against this must be set the addition which resulted from increased facility in collecting the revenue, coercive process being required for the realisation of only 2,592 *l.* The area of land under cultivation was 15,838,828 acres, or 4,058 more than in 1863-64.

For a long period after the Madras territories came under the rule of the British Government, lands held as inam (a gift, or rent-free tenure), however defective in their original titles, were suffered to be enjoyed tax-free, and to descend from generation to generation, in tacit acknowledgment of the prescriptive right of the holders. In 1848, length of possession was formally recognised as a valid title to inams held without grants; but the rules laid down, though liberal in principle, were productive of vexation and injustice, as they enjoined inquiry on the occurrence of every lapse, by which means a vast extent of property was unsettled and held in abeyance, though the value of resumptions made by the Government was in most districts insignificant.

In 1859 an Inam Commissioner was appointed, and rules were laid down for his guidance, with the view of carrying out a full examination of all such claims, in order to define the rights of the Government, and to impart a feeling of security to the minds of the landowners. Under these regulations, proved possession of an inam for 50 years constitutes a valid title, and holders are allowed to convert their terminable tenures into permanent freeholds by the payment of a sum in commutation of the reversionary right of the Government. Inams held for a shorter period than 50 years, if granted by competent

authority, are likewise recognised absolutely or admitted to a compromise; and, in all these cases, as well as those granted for religious and charitable objects, a title-deed is issued to the Inamdar, specifying the terms of his future tenure, which is to secure him and his successors from further scrutiny by the Government regarding the origin of the grant. In this manner all the interest which the Government fairly possesses in these tenures is realised, and a large mass of landed property is turned to the fullest advantage, which, though free from tax, has hitherto possessed little value.

The operations of this Commission have been diligently carried on from the time of its institution, and, with the exception of part of the district of Trichinopoly, the out-of-door work is completed. The result of the proceedings in the year 1864-65 was the settlement of an area of 657,827 acres, of the estimated value of 145,400 £, from which an additional revenue of 11,041 £ will accrue to the Government. The number of titles confirmed from the commencement of operations up to the end of the year under report, was 339,101, involving an extent of 4,813,109 acres, the full assessed value of which was 722,142 £. These lands, from which the Government previously derived a quit-rent of 62,318 £, have, by the proceedings of the Commission, been made to yield a further revenue of 73,408 £, while the entire cost has been only 82,020 £, or little more than a single year's additional return.

Bombay.

With the exception of Ahmednuggur, the newly formed collectorate of Kulladghee, and Canara, in which the season was generally favourable for cultivation, the fall of rain in the southern division of the Bombay Presidency was scanty, and the crops were more or less injured. In the northern division also, a partial failure of crops was experienced in Ahmedabad and Surat. The net result of the year, however, showed an increase of 106,124 £ over the revenue which was received in 1863-64.

An Act (No. 1) was passed by the Bombay Council in 1865, providing for the survey, demarcation, assessment, and administration of lands held under the Government, and putting into the form of a special law, in a complete state, the system which has for many years been acted upon, for the registration of the rights and interests of the occupants of such lands.

The summary settlement of claims to unadjudicated and hereditary inams has been very nearly completed, only 16 cases remaining for disposal; and the financial result, up to the 30th of April 1865, was an annual profit to the Government of 29,947 £, exclusive of that arising from the operations in Khandeish and Colaba. A scheme for the settlement of terminable inams, that is, rent-free grants for one or more lives, by rendering them permanent on the holder agreeing to pay a certain assessment, was sanctioned during the year, with the view of extending to this class of holders the same advantages as regards fixity of tenure, which were conceded to those brought under the summary settlement. Out of 2,972 terminable inams, proposals were made to 1,078 holders, and accepted by 862 of them, the increased annual income, so far, being about 1,900 £.

The popularity of the Act (No. VII. of 1865) for the summary settlement of claims to exemption from the payment of land revenue to the Government was shown by the progress made, in 1864-65, in carrying out its provisions in the collectorates of Guzerat and the Concan. There were 191,868 villages and holdings to which it was applicable, with an annual value of 198,838 £, on which a sum of 24,854 £ would have been realisable, if the terms had been accepted in every instance. The settlement was offered in 185,624 cases (leaving only 6,244 not yet dealt with), and in only three instances was it declined, and an inquiry into title demanded.

In 1862 an Act was passed by the Bombay Council (No. VI.), authorising the Government to take measures for enabling the petty chiefs in Ahmedabad, many of whose estates were encumbered or alienated, to effect a settlement of their debts; and, during the year under report, the advance of sums of money from the public Treasury was sanctioned, to an amount not exceeding 20,000 £, the principal and interest to be repaid within a limit of 20 years. The advantages which were anticipated from this measure have been more than fulfilled; and the effect will be not merely to free the landholders from debt, and improve their estates, but to place them in a position to exercise a useful influence over the cultivators dependent on them, and to bring up their

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own children properly; while it is anticipated that there will be no difficulty in recovering the amount advanced, at the rate of a tenth part annually.

The survey operations are nearly completed throughout the whole of the Bombay Presidency. In the Island of Bombay, the preliminary measures are nearly finished for the introduction of a detailed survey on a scale commensurate with the value of the ground, which is now in many parts as costly as land in London.

In Sind the Bombay system of assessment, which is suited to the general tenure of land, and to the feelings and circumstances of the people, is being carried out, and an Act of the Bombay Council (No. 1 of 1866) has been passed, to extend to that province the formal survey law already existing in other parts of the Presidency.

There are no considerable tracts of waste land available for cultivation in this Presidency, which are not either private property, or open to any one who will take them up as private property, as fast as they can be surveyed and assessed. The system generally adopted is, to lease the land on favourable terms, subject to re-assessment at the expiration of the period; although the Government is not precluded from taking advantage of the general improved condition of the district to enhance the assessment on the conclusion of the lease, the individual is guaranteed against future increased taxation on account of any improvements he may have made by means of his own capital in his particular estate; and, before any application to take up land is complied with, the right of occupancy is usually sold by public auction. Under these rules the revenue is paid with the most exact punctuality; there is a complete transferable and heritable property in land, and the material prosperity of the country has increased in a very steady manner.

The conservancy of the forests, although attended to in some parts of India, has not in all cases been treated with the care which it deserves; but, during the year 1864, the Government laid the foundation of an improved system of forest administration for all India, having for its object the careful conservation of the forests belonging to the State, and the proper development of this part of the resources of the country. The executive management of all forest business was, as before, left to the local administrations, and general principles were laid down for their guidance, the most important being, that all Government forests were to be strictly set apart and made inalienable, and their boundaries marked out, to distinguish them from waste lands available for the public.

## 2. FORESTS.

An Act was passed by the Government of India (No. VII. of 1865), defining the nature of the rules to be made by the several local Governments, and imposing penalties in case of a breach of those rules.

The gross revenue derived from forests throughout India was, in 1863-64, 304,443 £., and in 1864-65, 351,757 £.; and, if the cost of conservancy be deducted, the net revenue is found to have risen from 113,949 £. in 1863-64 to 140,820 £. in 1864-65.

In British Sikkim alone, it is estimated that there are about 105,000 acres of forest; and there are also forest lands under the superintendence of the Government of Bengal in Assam, Dacca, Chittagong, Cuttack, Palamow, and the Rajmehal Hills.

The wholesale felling of timber, which followed the introduction of tea-planting into the Darjeeling district, was most injurious to the future interests both of the planters themselves and of the general public. To prevent any further extension of the mischief, orders have been issued that all forest lands at an elevation of 6,000 feet or upwards, which have not already been sold, shall be reserved, except such portions as may be fit for building sites. A nursery for raising useful trees is to be established in the neighbourhood of the chinchona plantation, and a seedling nursery has been formed near the barracks at Jullapahar.

A great variety of trees in the neighbourhood of Calcutta having been blown down by the cyclone, the opportunity was seized of investigating a question of much moment, in connection with the laying down of a working plan of a system of forest conservancy, namely, whether the concentric rings of trees nurtured within the tropics can be relied upon as forming a safe guide for the rate of growth, as is the case in colder climates; and Dr. John Anderson has been deputed to conduct the investigation.

North-Western  
Provinces.

The forest tracts of the North Western Provinces are situated in the divisions of Kumaon and Gurhwal, Meerut, Rohilkund, Goruckpore, and Jhansi. In the year 1864-65, the receipts amounted to 67,148 l., and the expenditure to 42,073 l.

In Kumaon and Gurhwal, the total area surveyed was 406,134 acres, of which more than nine-tenths were covered with the cheer or stone pine, with an average number of first, second, third, and fourth class trees, of 14.86 to the acre. The hill forests on the Tonse and other tributaries of the Jumna were also surveyed. The Government forests in Goruckpore cover an area of 127,527 acres, 116,384 of which are occupied by sal trees, with an average of 258 to the acre; and the Commissioner of the division has been desired to submit a definite scheme for the conservancy of these forests.

A license has been granted to the East Indian Railway Company to work, under the superintendence of the Forest Department, the cheer forests situated on the left bank of the Mundaknee, in British Gurhwal, for seven years, paying a royalty of not less than 600 l. a year; and provision has been made to guard against the destruction of any but first class trees, to preserve groves in sacred places and in the vicinity of villages, and to maintain the customary rights of the people to cut wood for building or domestic purposes.

The Rajah of Tehree has granted to the British Government a lease of the valuable forests situated in Native Gurhwal; and roads and paths are being laid out, to gain easy access to them. It is expected that these will be much used as a route into Thibet, and the inhabitants of the villages on the Jumna seem to take great interest in the operations. The outlay required in working the forests will at first be large; but there is reason to believe that it will all be repaid in three or four years.

Oude.

The survey of the forests in Oude has been completed, 252 square miles, of which 142 are covered with sal, having been marked off during the year as reserved for the purposes of the Government. Some progress has been made in clearing the trees from the noxious creepers which coil about them; and strict orders have been issued by the conservator against the cutting of saplings of the reserved woods; the villagers, however, being allowed every facility to cut inferior woods and trees.

The financial results of the three years since the commencement of operations show an excess of receipts over expenditure, amounting to 5,428 l., which is not unsatisfactory when it is considered that no timber has been felled during the last year; that the forests have been benefiting by the repose which they much needed, and that the unavoidable expense of a preliminary survey had to be incurred.

Punjab.

In the Punjab operations have been carried on, with more or less success, upon the banks of the five rivers, but deficiency of water prevented the logs from being brought down the Ravee and Beas, and in the Sutlej division the illness of the deputy conservator materially interfered with the progress of the work. From the Chenab a quantity of timber has been despatched to Mooltan to try the market at that place, and inquiries are being made to discover if deodar wood will find a profitable sale at Kurrachee. In the Nainsookh or Jhelum Division the results were very favourable.

The total receipts in the year amounted to 32,917 l., and the expenditure to 22,793 l., while the stock of timber remaining in depôt is worth 13,810 l.

Leases of the forests in their territories have been granted by the Rajahs of Chumba and Bussahir; and it is believed that there will be no difficulty in obtaining a sufficient quantity of timber to furnish sleepers for the Delhi railway.

Wood is the only fuel that can be relied upon in the Punjab for a long time to come, the nearest coal being too distant to cover the cost of carriage. It is calculated that the requirements of the railway and steamboats will amount to 1,100,000 maunds\* of firewood annually, and that the supply in the preserves, of grass and brushwood, is only sufficient for about three years' consumption, while ten years is reckoned to be the shortest period in which reproduction can take place. Strict reserves are, therefore, in course of formation, and other measures of conservancy and improved management are being adopted.

In

\* A maund is 82½ lbs. avoirdupois.



In the Central Provinces the revenue derived from the royalties on valuable kinds of timber, and from the duties levied on the common sorts of wood, fruits, grasses, and other articles of forest produce, amounted in 1864-65 to 6,433*l*. Central Provinces

A code of forest laws has been published, and tracts, amounting to an aggregate area of 2,880 square miles, have been reserved, as appearing the most likely, from their productive powers, the superior quality of their timber, or other natural advantages, to repay careful and thorough investigation. The area of the unreserved forests is about 11,000 square miles; and there are, besides, not less than 10,000 square miles of timber-bearing tracts belonging to private individuals.

Nearly all the reserved portions have been examined, and their boundaries decided on; and several have been marked off from the surrounding wastes by permanent land-marks.

The Chief Commissioner has been instructed to obtain leases of contiguous forests from Holkar and the Jagheerdar of Chandgurh, as, when the railway is opened, the resources of the country will be fully taxed to supply the demands of the Malwa, Khandeish, and Deccan markets.

A practical gardener and forester has been lately despatched from England for the purpose of superintending the teak plantations which are being formed on the banks of the Nerbudda and Taptee.

The conservator of the Central Provinces has examined the Berar forests, and recommended the adoption of a new system of management. In consequence of this change, the usual contracts for levying a tax on teak wood brought to the market have not been sold. The best teak forests are carefully preserved. Hyderabad Assigned Districts.

A large increase has taken place in the gross forest revenue of British Burmah, which rose from 80,983*l*. in 1863-64 to 93,407*l*. in 1864-65. The surplus of receipts over charges was 67,300*l*. in the latter year, whereas in 1863-64 the net profit was not more than 52,992*l*. This improvement is due chiefly to seignorage on the large quantity of foreign timber taken out by the owners from the depôt near Moulmein for export. In forest produce, which consists of bees-wax and birds' nests, there has been a slight decrease. British Burmah.

The number of logs brought out of the forests in the year was only 18,328, instead of 30,615 in 1863-64, but this decrease is partly attributable to the water of the Sittang having run out a month earlier than usual, in consequence of the operations which were being carried on to deepen and shorten the channel.

From the forests worked by contractors only 7,181 logs and sleepers were received at Rangoon; 5,880 of the finest logs remained in the creeks and rivers, owing to the sudden cessation of rain at the end of September, a month earlier than usual, and just at the time when timber is being brought down. The logs received as drift timber amounted to 9,042, and 114,079 logs of teak were imported from foreign territories, besides 29,019 pieces of converted timber.

In all the divisions forest operations were vigorously carried on by the officers of the Government, and the number of trees girdled during the year was 26,958. All the plantations were visited and thinned, and two large new plantations, in the Tharrawaddee and Sittang districts, of 30 to 50 acres each, were sown, to test the question of the expense which must be incurred for raising teak on a large scale.

In Arracan the most valuable timber is the *inga xylocarpa*, termed iron-wood from its exceeding hardness; 94 licenses were issued during the year for felling trees, and the number actually cut down was 4,476, on which a seignorage of 457*l*. was paid. The wood is valuable for railway sleepers.

The sale of permits to cut timber in the Government forests of the Straits Settlements showed an increase at Penang and Malacca, but a falling off in Singapore, where the ground has long been cleared of almost all valuable timber, the result, on the whole, being an excess of 70*l*. in the amount received in 1864-65 over the proceeds of 1863-64. Straits Settlements.

The forest conservancy in Madras, which has for some years been under the care of a special department, produced in 1864-65 a net profit of 13,391*l*., and the value of timber in depôt on the 30th of April 1865 was 64,770*l*., or 6,883*l*. Madras.



more than at the beginning of the year. The growth of the teak in the Nallumber plantations is described as being superb.

Measures have been taken for the conservation of the valuable forests which exist in the Ganjam district, and for keeping within bounds the pernicious practice of cultivation by coomery, which consists in burning down trees and spreading a coarse kind of grain in the ashes, the result, after a few years, being the growth of a low noxious jungle, very detrimental to the health of the neighbourhood.

The want of fuel being seriously felt in Nellore, the formation of a plantation of 200 acres has been sanctioned as an experiment, in order to ascertain what kinds of wood are best adapted to the purpose, and it is hoped that the example may have the effect of stimulating private individuals to undertake the cultivation.

Bombay.

In the Presidency of Bombay also, the Forest Department is of old standing; during the year under review the receipts exceeded the expenditure by 44,173 l., and there is reason to hope that the demarcation of forests now in progress will eventually effect still more favourable results.

No restrictions are placed on the rights of cultivators to hold property in teak, but, on the contrary, encouragement is given to the growth of timber by private persons.

The administration of the forests in Sind was satisfactory, and the receipts showed a net increase of 3,106 l. over those of the previous year. The demand for firewood, both for the towns and for steam requirements, has been augmented very considerably, showing the absolute necessity of husbanding the resources so as to keep up a constant supply.

In Khandeish and Sattara measures were adopted for the purpose of forming Government reserves of firewood, by which means it is hoped that the inhabitants of those provinces will gain the blessing of a regular and abundant supply of fuel.

3. ABKAREE.

The abkaree or Excise revenue is derived from the duty imposed upon all spirits, intoxicating drugs, and opium, consumed in India. In 1864-65, it amounted to 2,224,036 l., which is an increase of 163,766 l. on the sum realised in the preceding year.

Bengal.

The amount obtained in the Lower Provinces of Bengal was 689,083 l., of which 170,519 l. resulted from the sale of opium at the Government Treasuries.

The cultivation of the poppy in Assam being found to interfere with the supply of labour for the tea plantations, and there appearing to be no reason why an exception should be made to the general system of taxing the consumption of opium in other parts of the Presidency, it was determined, in 1858-59, to prohibit the growth of the plant, and to supply the wants of the district by the sale of opium at the Government Treasuries. The quantity disposed of in 1864-65 was very slightly in excess of that sold in 1863-64, but, the price having been raised from 28s. to 40s. the seer (about 2 lbs.), the net receipts from this source increased from 57,739 l. to 87,368 l.

The consumption of ganjah, or hemp, of which the young flowers and leaves are dried and pounded for smoking, has fallen from 10,520 maunds in 1863-64, to 9,072 in 1864-65; but, in spite of this large decrease, the revenue derived from the drug rose from 76,030 l. to 78,108 l., in consequence of the enhancement of the tax.

The proceeds of the duty levied on spirits and minor articles showed a decrease of 14,388 l., owing to the further extension of the system adopted in 1859-60 of imposing a fixed tax on every gallon of spirit actually brought into the market for consumption, and prohibiting distillation except in licensed buildings, instead of the out-still system under which every retail vendor was allowed, by paying a daily tax, to manufacture upon his own premises as much spirit as he could sell. The new system tends to check smuggling, and does away with the incentive to establish new shops, and is, accordingly, opposed by the spirit vendors. The Government, however, are determined to persevere with it, as the only means of levying an equal and tangible duty on spirits, while it removes all reproach on the ground of raising a revenue by the promotion of drinking.

In the North-Western Provinces, the Excise revenue increased by 43,091 *l.*; owing, in a great measure, to the sale by auction of the licenses to retail liquor, the shops for which are strictly limited in number. The introduction of the central distillery system into these Provinces has proved entirely successful, and the object of obtaining the largest amount of revenue, without extending the consumption of liquor, is being realised. There has also been an increase in the receipts both from drugs and opium. North-Western Provinces.

Owing to the unfavourable season, the increase of the Excise revenue in Oude was not so great as might otherwise have been expected; yet although the scarcity of food materially reduced the means of consumers, the net receipts from spirits were 1,815 *l.* more in 1864-65 than in 1863-64. The number of retail shops increased from 4,574 to 5,038, the proportion being one shop to every 4½ square miles and 1,800 persons. The system of fees for licenses is working well, and must tend to diminish the facilities for fraud in the issue of liquor. The receipts from the sale of opium and farm of drugs showed a decrease of 2,657 *l.*, which occurred entirely in the city of Lucknow, and is attributable to the high prices of food. Oude.

The central distillery system has been established throughout the Punjab, and the receipts have increased from 72,016 *l.* to 79,864 *l.*; and almost all the local authorities assert that, while financially it has been advantageous to the State, it has proved morally beneficial to the people, by diminishing the consumption of spirits. Smuggling, however, is believed to prevail in the districts adjoining the native states. The receipts from opium and drugs were 5,352 *l.* in excess of those of the previous year. Punjab.

The testimony of the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces is equally strong in favour of raising the Excise revenue by still-head duty on the distillation of spirits and license fees leviable from retail vendors, instead of by farming the monopoly of the manufacture and sale of spirits and drugs. The income of the year was 93,183 *l.*, as compared with 71,846 *l.* in 1863-64, the increase being due partly to a larger consumption of spirits consequent on the growing prosperity of the population, and partly to improved administration and better adaptation of the system to the wants of the people. The change has already begun to produce a good effect on the half-civilised tribes dwelling among the hills and forests, and as yet it has not given any impetus to illicit distillation or smuggling. Central Provinces.

The duty on opium yielded 759 *l.*, or 45 *l.* less than in 1863-64. A small special duty is levied on the cultivation of the poppy, but the amount is inconsiderable.

In the Hyderabad Assigned Districts the receipts on account of *abkaree* in 1864-65 were 66,136 *l.* Hyderabad Assigned Districts.

In British Burmah they amounted to 99,740 *l.*, showing an increase of 17,998 *l.* on the collection of 1863-64. British Burmah.

At Singapore there was a falling off in the sale of the spirit farm, and in Penang and Malacca there was a slight advance, the result being a decrease in the Excise Revenue of the Straits Settlements, from 131,516 *l.* to 126,712 *l.* Straits Settlements.

The license and permit system was introduced into the Madras Presidency by Act III. of 1864, and the immediate effect was to reduce the revenue from 405,165 *l.*, in 1863-64, to 396,054 *l.*, in 1864-65; but the decrease is considered to be more apparent than real, and the administration of the law has been simplified. Madras.

In the Bombay Presidency the *abkaree* revenue increased from 321,954 *l.* to 367,323 *l.* The Excise still-head duty on spirits rose from 51,468 *l.* to 59,239 *l.*, the principal portion of the increase being due to a larger quantity of spirits having been made at the Oorun and Bhandoop distilleries in 1864-65 than in the preceding year. Bombay.

In the year 1860 a tax of 4 per cent. (1 per cent. of which was to be applied only to reproductive works) was imposed throughout India, for a period of five years, on all incomes exceeding 50 *l.* annually, and a tax of 2 per cent. on such as were under 50 *l.*, but above 20 *l.* 4. ASSESSED TAXES.

In 1862 an Act was passed exempting altogether incomes which did not amount to 50 *l.*; and, from the 31st of July 1863, the tax on incomes exceeding

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that sum was reduced to 3 per cent. The Act under which it was levied expired on the 31st of July 1865, and has not been renewed.

The receipts from assessed taxes for 1864-65 were 1,281,817 *l.*, in lieu of 1,483,622 *l.* for the preceding year, during the first quarter of which the rate of 4 per cent. had been in force.

## Bengal.

In the Province of Bengal, the number of persons assessed in 1860-61 and 1861-62 was a little over 250,000, and the amounts realised in the two years were 187,786 *l.* and 635,585 *l.* respectively. In 1862-63, on the passing of the Act exempting persons whose incomes were under 50 *l.*, the number assessed fell to 64,677; in 1863-64, it was 59,927; and in 1864-65, 53,773. During the same time, the receipts have been 629,197 *l.* in 1862-63, 478,392 *l.* in 1863-64, and 385,005 *l.* in the year under report. The net receipts hitherto, in the five years, have been 1,438,492 *l.*, which is as nearly as possible 2 *d.* a head per annum, and there is a balance of 87,363 *l.* still to be recovered. The cost of collecting the tax was about 3½ per cent. in Calcutta and the suburbs, and nearly 9 per cent. in the remainder of the Province, on the sum realised.

## North-Western Provinces.

In the North-Western Provinces, income tax to the amount of 207,617 *l.* was paid in 1863-64 by 41,055 persons. In 1864-65, 39,905 persons paid sums aggregating 169,059 *l.* The moral obligation to furnish trustworthy statements was generally disregarded by the natives; and only 6 per cent. of the payers were taxed on the returns made by themselves, while the amount of surcharge was nearly 300 per cent.

## Oude.

The assessments in Oude during the year amounted to 24,442 *l.*, and the collections, including arrears of former years, to 29,754 *l.* The charges were only 288 *l.*, or less than 1 per cent.

## Punjab.

The receipts in the Punjab were 52,280 *l.*, or 9,995 *l.* less than in the previous year; and it is anticipated that the whole demand, except about 670 *l.*, will ultimately be recovered.

## Central Provinces.

The number of persons taxed in the Central Provinces was about 5,000, and 98 per cent. of the demand was realised during the year. The total amount collected in 1864-65 was 29,868 *l.*, as compared with 28,712 *l.* in 1863-64.

## Hyderabad Assigned Districts.

In the Hyderabad Assigned Districts the receipts were 1,248 *l.*

## British Burmah.

In British Burmah they amounted to 13,095 *l.* Many of the Chinese population of Rangoon withdrew to the Straits Settlements, in order to avoid the tax.

## Madras.

In Madras, the proceeds of the income tax amounted to 147,867 *l.*, showing a falling-off of 17,093 *l.*, which is attributable to the provision that the original assessments might be reduced, on proof of the income being given, but were under no circumstances to be enhanced.

## Bombay.

In Bombay, the assessed taxes amounted to 337,250 *l.*, as compared with 374,500 *l.* in the preceding year.

## 5. Customs (exclusive of Salt).

On the 7th of April 1864, an Act (No. XXIII.) was passed by the Government of India, making certain alterations in the Customs' duties; and further changes were effected by Acts XVII. and XXV. of the following year. The principal points of difference from the former tariff are, that the import duty on wines, beer, iron, hops, and tobacco is reduced; an export duty of 3 *d.* a maund is imposed on grain and pulse of all kinds, and that on saltpetre reduced from 4 *s.* to 2 *s.* a maund. The duty on the last-mentioned article has since been still further reduced, and is now 3 per cent. *ad valorem.* In consequence of these changes, the amount realised fell from 2,384,061 *l.* in 1863-64 to 2,296,929 *l.* in 1864-65.

## Bengal.

The revenue from Customs in Bengal amounted in 1864-65 to 942,113 *l.*, against 998,839 *l.* in the preceding year. There was a decrease of nearly 24,000 *l.* on imports generally, although piece goods and twist, in spite of a diminution of the quantity imported, paid, in consequence of the increased valuations, an additional duty of 44,882 *l.* and 13,261 *l.* respectively. In exports also there was a decrease of about 50,000 *l.* on saltpetre, but the receipts on several other articles were increased, and the general result was a falling off to the extent of upwards of 33,000 *l.*

The competition of artificial saltpetre, which can now be produced at a rate lower than that at which Bengal saltpetre can be laid down in Europe or America, is partly the cause of the great decline in this item of revenue. The duty has consequently been reduced, as above mentioned, from 4 s. per maund to 3 per cent. on the value.

The gross collections from Customs in the North-Western Provinces during 1864-65 amounted to 60,213 l., being an increase of 2,558 l. on the proceeds of 1863-64. North-Western Provinces.

The receipts in the Punjab amounted to 82,619 l. in 1864-65, as compared with 77,849 l. in 1863-64. On all the Customs' lines the revenue increased materially, a point which is very satisfactory, if the depressing effect caused by the great fall in the price of cotton be taken into consideration. There is reason also to anticipate an increase of the trade in sugar, now that the inordinate speculation in cotton has been checked. Punjab.

Considerable reductions have been effected by the Maharaja of Cashmere in the rates of Customs' duty levied on goods passing through his territory.

In the Central Provinces the extension of the Customs' cordon westward has necessarily led to a fall in the duty on sugar, as that which is consumed in the Lower Nerbudda Valley and Nagpore no longer has to pay tax for crossing the boundary; the sum realised in 1863-64 was 21,978 l., and in 1864-65, 10,194 l. Central Provinces.

Owing to the great addition in the quantity of rice exported from British Burmah, and to the increase in trade generally, the Customs' duties in that Province produced in 1864-65, 205,524 l., instead of 170,545 l. in 1863-64. British Burmah.

In the Straits Settlements, they increased from 368 l. in 1863-64, to 480 l. in 1864-65. Straits Settlements.

At Madras the Customs' duties realised only 203,878 l., or 25,974 l. less than was obtained in 1863-64. The value of imported merchandise increased from 4,026,547 l. in 1863-64 to 4,180,248 l. in 1864-65, while that exported fell from 8,777,812 l. to 8,367,179 l. Madras.

The reduction of the Customs' duties caused the receipts on the importation of tobacco in the Bombay Presidency to diminish by 2,665 l.; that realised from spirits showed a loss of 12,954 l.; and on other articles there was a falling off to the extent of 13,830 l. On the exports also there was a decrease of 1,979 l., due chiefly to the special exemption of grain sent to the ports of Kattywar, Cutch, and Cambay, in consequence of the famine prevailing in those districts. Bombay.

The diminution of this branch of the revenue, which fell from 825,643 l. in 1863-64 to 791,890 l. in 1864-65, is, however, partly attributable to the exceptional circumstances of the latter year. The high price of cotton led to a great trade in that article, by which the duties in question did not benefit; and the accumulation of money resulting from the importation of the specie requisite to make the purchases for the home market, gave rise to much speculation in joint-stock companies, banks, and other financial schemes, to the detriment of legitimate trade.

In the Thur and Parkur Districts, a tax on the export of ghee realised 6,876 l., and its popularity and profitableness, as a substitute for the income tax, was unquestionable.

The mode of collecting the revenue from salt varies in the several provinces of India: in some cases it is derived from a system of Government sale; in others from Excise; and in others from Customs' duties. Throughout the whole of India the sum of 5,523,584 l. was realised, as compared with 5,035,696 l. in 1863-64. SALT

Owing to the inability of the Government to compete with the low price of the salt which is imported, it was recently decided to withdraw entirely from the manufacture in Bengal; and it therefore became necessary to take measures for reducing the stock of 7,500,000 maunds remaining in store. Bengal.

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Accordingly, in communication with the Salt Chamber of Commerce at North-wich, it was determined to sell the salt, by public auction, at an upset price, to be fixed on the 1st of July in each year, and at the rate of not more than 2,000,000 maunds on any one occasion.

The quantity cleared in the Calcutta Custom House during the year 1864-65 was 8,454,482 maunds, against 7,253,076 in 1863-64, and the revenue was proportionally enhanced. The receipts from the sales of the old Government salt, which, in the previous year, fell off by 250,517*l.*, showed a further decrease of 89,942*l.* There was a diminution of revenue on the clearances of excise salt to the extent of 4,631*l.*, and no fresh licenses for the manufacture were granted during the year. On the whole, however, the proceeds of the duties on salt amounted to 2,784,547*l.* in 1864-65, instead of 2,439,926*l.* in the previous year.

## North-Western Provinces.

In spite of great fluctuations in the salt trade in the North-Western Provinces, the revenue during the year increased from 402,994*l.* to 411,880*l.*, owing mainly to the recently organised preventive establishment, which, by checking contraband supplies, created an enlarged demand. The great stagnation in the saltpetre trade naturally caused a decrease of duty on the salt reduced in refining saltpetre.

## Oude.

The same cause operated severely against the revenue derived from the duty on salt in Oude; the gross receipts increased from 1,636*l.* to 2,298*l.*, but the excess of the cost incurred for the suppression of its illicit manufacture, over the receipts from licenses, duty, and saving of establishment, was not less than 2,961*l.*; the number of seizures made was 1,136, and 1,655 persons were convicted of infringement of the law.

## Punjab.

Although there was a decrease of nearly 900*l.* on the Indus salt line, the duty in the Punjab increased, on the whole, from 673,111*l.* to 689,499*l.*

## Central Provinces.

The total amount of the salt tax received in the Central Provinces did not, in 1861, exceed 70,000*l.*; but since that time a Customs' line has been established over 600 miles of the border, and the statistics of the trade show an increase of 37 per cent. in the importation of salt in 1864-65, part of which is, no doubt, due to improved registration, but much is owing to increased consumption. The receipts for the year amounted to 142,508*l.*, or 18,091*l.* in excess of those of 1863-64.

## Hyderabad Assigned Districts.

In the Assigned Districts of Hyderabad, the salt contracts sold for 4,123*l.*, or 971*l.* less than in the previous year.

## British Burmah.

In British Burmah the manufacture of salt continues to decline, as the people find the cultivation of rice more profitable; and the import duty has been reduced to 4½*d.* a maund, in order to equalise it with the excise. The receipts were 8,583*l.* in 1864-65, as compared with 6,570*l.* in 1863-64.

## Madras.

The revenue derived from the sale of salt in the Presidency of Madras, where it is manufactured and sold on the part of the Government, amounted in 1864-65 to 1,036,078*l.*, which exceeded the receipts of the preceding year by 136,806*l.*; the price remained the same, namely, 3*s.* a maund, but the consumption increased largely, having risen from 640,261 to 747,805 maunds, a result which bears testimony to the prosperity of the people, and the beneficial effects of the improvements which have taken place in the administration and communications, and the consequent decrease in the cost of carriage.

## Bombay.

The trade in salt in the Bombay Presidency is largely carried on by individuals who usually bring grain down to the coast, and return laden with salt. In the year under report, so much land was under cotton cultivation, and so little under grain, that there was not much of the latter for export from above the ghauts; and this told unfavourably on the salt trade, in the revenue derived from which there was a reduction from 484,438*l.* to 444,068*l.* The duty, which is levied in the form of excise, was raised, in the course of the year, from 2*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.* per maund; but no change was made in the rate prevailing in Sind, where 1*s.* a maund is charged on the quantity manufac-

tured, and where, under a carefully watched license system, the receipts have risen from 7,353 *l.* to 10,254 *l.*

The cultivation of the poppy is prohibited in Bengal, except for the purpose of selling the juice to the officers of the Government at a certain fixed price. It is manufactured into opium at the Government factories at Patna and Benares, and then sent to Calcutta, and sold by auction to merchants who export it to China. 7. OPIUM.

In the Bombay Presidency, the revenue is derived from the opium which is manufactured in the native states of Malwa and Guzerat, on which passes are given, at a certain price per chest, to merchants who wish to send opium to the port of Bombay.

The poppy is not cultivated in the Presidency of Madras.

The gross revenue derived from opium has averaged during the last 10 years about 6,500,000 *l.* sterling, having risen from 5,011,525 *l.* in 1856-57 to 8,055,476 *l.* in 1862-63; the price was, however, exceptionally high in the last-mentioned year, and in 1863-64 the sum realised was 6,831,999 *l.*, while in 1864-65 it again rose to 7,361,405 *l.*

In Bengal, the number of chests of opium sold in 1864-65 was the largest ever offered in any one year, being 54,486 as compared with 42,619 in 1863-64. The area of land under cultivation was, however, only 801,003 beegahs (a beegah being about five-eighths of an acre), or 8,353 less than in the preceding year; and the quantity of opium made during the season was 47,777 chests, besides that sold at the Government Treasuries under the Excise system. Bengal.

The gross receipts of the year were 5,255,447 *l.*, or 91,329 *l.* less than was realised in 1863-64; but the difference in the net receipts is even more considerable, owing to an increase of 46,499 *l.* in the charges attendant on the cultivation. The net revenue, accordingly, which amounted to 2,894,095 *l.*, showed a falling off from the previous year of 148,590 *l.*, but against this may be set an increase of 45,886 *l.* from the sale of the abkarree opium, which produced a sum of 158,525 *l.* in the year under report.

In 1861-62, the price paid to the cultivators, being deemed insufficient, was raised from 8 *s.* to 10 *s.* a seer. It was, however, found that the effect of this measure was to very nearly double the area of cultivation in three years, and to raise the provision from 29,358 chests in 1860-61 to 64,269 chests in 1863-64; whilst the selling price, which in 1861-62 was 137 *l.* per chest, fell to 85 *l.* in 1863-64, and the charges were considerably increased. It was, therefore, determined to reduce the price paid to the growers to 9 *s.* the seer. The further extension of poppy cultivation has been prohibited, both in Benares and Behar, and the less productive sub-agencies in Benares have been closed.

The quantity of opium produced in Oude, about 4,700 chests, was at least one-fourth less than in the previous year, the falling-off being due to the unfavourable season, as the area under cultivation was greater.

The number of chests of opium transmitted from Bombay to China in 1863-64 having been scarcely sufficient to meet the demand, a larger quantity, by 10,356  $\frac{1}{2}$  chests was sent by the merchants in the following year; and, as the pass duty was 60 *l.* per chest throughout the year, the increase of the revenue under this head was 621,390 *l.* Bombay.

The principal portion of the revenue derived from the stamp duties is obtained from the use of stamps in judicial proceedings. It continues to increase steadily, and in 1864-65 the total receipts amounted to 1,972,098 *l.*, as compared with 1,735,216 *l.* in the preceding year. 8. STAMPS.

In Bengal the receipts were 600,906 *l.*, in addition to which stamps to the amount of 474,852 *l.* were supplied to the other provinces of the Presidency of Fort William. Bengal.

Stamping machines have been introduced into the North-Western Provinces and the Punjab, by which the necessity for sending documents to Calcutta to be stamped will in future be avoided.

In the North-Western Provinces, a Commissioner of Stamps has been appointed, the provisions of the stamp law have been more generally enforced, and North-Western Provinces.

## STATEMENT SHOWING THE MORAL AND

and the number of prosecutions for evading it has greatly increased. The result has been, that, in 1864-65, the receipts amounted to 237,708 *l.*, showing a net increase of 10,823 *l.* on the previous year.

- Oude. Care has been taken in Oude also to realise the full duty prescribed upon complaints and other legal papers, and the increase of revenue has been general throughout the Province; the receipts, which in 1863-64 showed an excess of 7,582 *l.* over the preceding year, having in 1864-65 made a further advance of 7,641 *l.*
- Punjab. There is a steady increase perceptible in this branch of income in the Punjab, which in 1863-64 exceeded the receipts of 1862-63 by 8,970 *l.*, and in 1864-65 showed a further addition to the revenue of 8,349 *l.* There is, moreover, reason to expect that, when the arrangements now under consideration for increasing the number of non-official stamp vendors are carried into effect, and the penalties for evasion become better understood and more rigidly enforced, the revenue will be greatly augmented.
- Central Provinces. The increased prosperity of the people in the Central Provinces, and the more widely diffused knowledge of the requirements of the stamp law, have in that division also produced the natural result of an improvement of the income from this source; and the receipts show an increase from 38,201 *l.* in 1863-64, to 50,742 *l.* in 1864-65.
- Hyderabad Assigned Districts. The stamp duties in the Assigned Districts of Hyderabad rose from 15,125 *l.* in 1863-64 to 16,727 *l.* in 1864-65.
- British Burmah. In British Burmah an improvement of 3,082 *l.* has arisen from the stamps on judicial and law papers.
- Straits Settlements. The unsatisfactory state of commercial affairs in the Straits Settlements has produced a falling-off in the stamp revenue, which was only 25,521 *l.* in 1864-65, instead of 26,175 *l.* in 1863-64.
- Madras. In Madras the receipts rose from 238,342 *l.* in 1863-64, to 269,409 *l.* in 1864-65, the increase being in part due to the introduction of the Registration Act.
- Bombay. In Bombay the addition to the stamp revenue was still greater, the amount realised having been 445,688 *l.* in 1863-64, and 573,009 *l.* in 1864-65.

## II. FINANCE.

## I. RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS.

In the year 1856-57, immediately preceding the mutiny, the total expenditure of the East India Company, both in India and England, including the interest guaranteed by the Government on the paid-up capital of the various Indian Railway Companies, exceeded the revenues and receipts of the year by 474,208 *l.*

The enormous cost of the military operations in the years 1857-58 and 1858-59 produced a deficit in the finances of India, which amounted, in those two years, and in 1859-60 respectively, to 8,390,642 *l.*, 14,187,617 *l.*, and 10,769,861 *l.*

The cessation of war and consequent reduction of the army, and the efforts of the several Governments and administrations in India, aided as they were by the cordial support of the Home Government, and by the financial experience of Mr. Wilson and Mr. Laing, who were specially despatched from England to assist in the measures required for producing an equilibrium, resulted in the conversion of the large deficit of upwards of 10 millions in 1859-60 into a surplus in 1862-63, which, owing to an unusually large receipt from opium, was no less than 1,827,346 *l.* In the following year the surplus amounted to 78,347 *l.*; the falling-off being attributable to diminished receipts from opium and income tax; but in 1864-65 there was a deficit of 193,521 *l.*

This position of affairs is not attributable to any falling-off in the revenue, which, on the contrary, rose from 44,613,032 *l.* in 1863-64, to 45,652,897 *l.*, in 1864-65, showing an increase of 1,039,865 *l.* within the year, mainly due to the improvement of 529,406 *l.* in the receipts from opium, and of 487,888 *l.* in those from salt, to which reference has already been made.



It is, then, to the expenditure that we must look for the cause which converted the surplus into a deficit; and it will be seen that the increase of receipts was more than counterbalanced by an addition of 1,311,733 *l.* to the charges, which amounted in 1863-64 to 44,534,685 *l.*, and in 1864-65 to 45,846,418 *l.*

Of the total increase, the sum of 70,488 *l.* occurred in the charges attendant on the cultivation of opium. The military expenditure, which in 1864-65 amounted to 13,494,467 *l.*, exceeded the cost of the previous year by 797,398 *l.*; of this sum, about 160,000 *l.* arose from the war with Bhotan, and the remainder from the increased price of provisions, the higher pay of medical officers, and the grant of full batta to all troops, whether serving within 200 miles of the Presidency town or beyond that limit. The rest of the increase is due to additional expenditure on account of the civil administration.

The amount of the public debt of India, including that incurred in this country, was, on the 30th of April 1857, 54,490,793 *l.* In the course of the next five years the debt was very largely increased, and, on the 30th of April 1862, it had risen to 98,779,911 *l.* Since that time, the Government have been enabled to pay off some portion of it, and, at the date of the last accounts received from India, the principal sum had been reduced to 92,811,793 *l.* 3. DEBT.

In 1863 the services of Mr. Foster, the Assistant Paymaster General, and Mr. Whiffin, one of the assistants to the Accountant General of the War Department, were placed at the disposal of the Government of India, in order to assist in the investigation of the system of account adopted in the Public Works Department. These gentlemen, after having completed the more immediate object of their mission, were employed by the Governor General in Council to examine the general system of the Indian accounts, and they submitted reports upon those connected with the military expenditure, and upon the mode of conducting business in the Department of Accounts. With their assistance, the whole system of Indian account has been remodelled, the mode of checking by pre-audit abolished, and modifications effected in the Budget form, which had been previously introduced by Mr. Wilson on the plan adopted in England. Mr. Whiffin returned to this country in 1864, but Mr. Foster remained in India till the beginning of the year 1866, in order, by his personal superintendence and co-operation with the officers of the Financial Department, to assist in carrying this important change into effect. Within the last few days a final report has been received from him, recapitulating the measures which have been adopted with that view. 8. ACCOUNTS.

On the 16th of July 1861, an Act (No. XIX.) was passed by the Government of India, providing for the issue of a paper currency by a Government department of Public Issue, by means of promissory notes for sums of not less than 10 rupees or 1 *l.* in value. Circles of issue were to be established from time to time, as might be found necessary, and the notes were to be legal tender within the circle in which they were issued, and to be payable at the place of issue, and also at the capital city of the Presidency within which that place was situated. 4. BANKING AND CURRENCY.

A further Act (No. XXIV.) was passed in the same year, authorising the Banks of Bengal, Madras, and Bombay, to enter into arrangements with the Government for managing the issue, payment, and exchange of the currency notes, and such of the business previously transacted by the Government treasuries as it might be desirable to transfer to them; and, on the 28th of February 1862, an Act (No. IV.) was passed, repealing the power previously held by the Bank of Bengal to issue its own promissory notes, placing the affairs of the bank on a new footing, with power to enlarge its capital very considerably, and actually transferring to it the management of a large part of the treasury business of the Government, and also that connected with the recently established paper currency.

Similar acts were passed with reference to the banks of Madras and Bombay.

An arrangement has been recently concluded with the Bank of Bengal for carrying out the details of this measure, and the terms of an agreement with the Bank of Madras are under consideration.

In the first instance, the issue of notes was entrusted to the bank, but it being, in the opinion of the Secretary of State in Council, necessary, according to sound principles and experience, that the functions of banking and currency should not be united in one establishment, the management of the issue was



shortly afterwards placed in the hands of a commissioner whose office is at the Mint.

Ten currency circles have been established, the head quarters of which are at Calcutta, Allahabad, Lahore, and Nagpore, Madras, Calicut, Trichinopoly, and Vizagapatam, Bombay, and Kurrachee, and instructions have been issued for receiving the notes of branch circles at *any* Government treasury in payment of taxes, and for converting them at any place of issue where the officer in charge anticipates no risk in doing so.

The total amount of notes now in circulation is in value a little above 7,000,000 *l.*

Some inconvenience was experienced in the year 1863, in consequence of the excessive demand at Bombay for coined rupees, which were required by merchants for remittance into the interior, in order to purchase cotton for the home market. Prompt measures, however, were taken to meet the emergency, by increasing the working powers of the Mint, and sending rupees to Bombay from the other Presidencies.

The question of the introduction of a gold currency into India has been carefully considered by the Government. It was felt to be undesirable to attempt to make so radical a change as authoritatively to substitute the sovereign as the standard coin, but it was urged that it might be made legal tender for the same value as 10 silver rupees, and that a reformation might thus be gradually effected, under which gold would become the general metallic currency of the country, with silver as the auxiliary. The principal objections urged to such a course are two: the first is, that a contract made between a debtor and creditor must be maintained, and that, in a country where all obligations have been contracted to be paid in silver, to make a law by which they could forcibly be paid in anything else would be a breach of public faith, defrauding the creditor for the advantage of the debtor. The second objection is found in the fact, of which France has afforded a conspicuous illustration, that, where coins of the two metals are equally legal tender, obligations will always be met by payment in the coin which the circumstances of the day render the cheaper of the two; and as the sovereign, whether coined in India or imported from England or Australia, is, with reference to any probable price of silver, intrinsically more valuable than 10 rupees, by an amount varying from 4 *d.* to 1 *s.* on each sovereign, it seems to follow that the silver coin would always be preferred by debtors in discharging their obligations, and that an enactment to render the sovereign a legal tender for the value of 10 rupees would probably be almost inoperative.

In order, however, to facilitate the use of the sovereign in all parts of India, and to pave the way for a gold coinage whenever it may be found advisable to introduce it, it was, on the 23rd of November 1864, notified that sovereigns and half-sovereigns, according to the British and Australian standard, would be received in all the treasuries of India for the same sum as 10 and five silver rupees respectively, and would be paid out again at the same rate, unless objection were raised to receiving them. Such a course would impose no obligation on the person paying, and no loss could accrue to the Government unless so great a change should occur in the value of gold as to render a sovereign worth less than 10 rupees, in which case it would be a very simple measure to alter the rate at which they would be received.

Authority was also given for issuing notes in exchange for sovereigns to a moderate amount.

The effect of these orders was that sovereigns and half-sovereigns to the amount of 370,986 *l.* were received by the Bank of Bengal, between the 1st of December 1864 and the 9th of March 1865, and upwards of 100,000 *l.* was paid out again in the same coins; whilst 160,000 Australian sovereigns were remitted to England, and there sold at the rate of 4 *l.* 17 *s.* 9 *d.* per ounce.

Subsequently, a memorial having been submitted by the Chamber of Commerce at Calcutta in favour of a gold coinage, the Governor General in Council, on the 3rd of February 1866, appointed a Commission composed of members of the Government and gentlemen connected with the mercantile and banking community of Calcutta, under the presidency of Sir William Mansfield, to inquire into the operation of the Paper Currency Act, to ascertain whether it could be rendered more effective by any improved arrangements, and in particular by the introduction of a five-rupee or ten-shilling note, and, generally,

to

to report upon any extension of the monetary system which the increasing commerce and prosperity of the country may seem to require.

At the close of the year 1862, the money order system was introduced into India, the measure being, in the first instance, restricted to the Lower Provinces of Bengal. It is founded on the system adopted in England; but in India it has been deemed preferable to carry it out through the agency of the district treasuries instead of the post-office. The result indicates that the public are availing themselves of it largely, in order to make small remittances from one station to another; the number of orders issued increased from 26,032 in 1863-64 to 37,187 in 1864-65, the amount remitted being 15,189*l.* in the former, and 212,108*l.* in the latter year. The average value of the orders was 5*l.* 14*s.* 1*d.*

5. MONEY  
ORDERS.

The financial result to the Government was a receipt of 2,318*l.* for commission, and 212*l.* from orders which lapsed, in consequence of payment not being demanded for 12 months; the working expenses for the year amounted to 957*l.*

### III. PUBLIC WORKS.

In the year 1845 two private associations, termed the East Indian and the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Companies, were formed for the purpose of constructing lines of railroad in India; but the projectors found it impossible to raise the necessary funds for their proposed schemes without the assistance of the Government.

1. RAILWAYS.

It was, therefore, determined by the East India Company to guarantee to the railway companies, for a term of 99 years, a certain rate of interest upon the capital subscribed for their undertakings; and, in order to guard its own interests and provide against the evil effects of failure on the part of the companies, power was reserved by the Government to supervise and control all their proceedings by means of an official director in England and of officers appointed for the purpose in India.

The land required for the railway and works connected therewith is given by the Government, free of expense; and the stipulated rate of interest is guaranteed to the shareholders in every case, except that of the traffic receipts of a line being insufficient to cover the working expenses, in which event the deficiency is chargeable against the guaranteed interest. Should the net receipts, on the other hand, be in excess of the sum required to pay the amount guaranteed, the surplus will be divided in equal parts between the Government and the shareholders, until the charge to the Government for interest in previous years, with simple interest thereon, shall have been repaid, after which time the whole of the receipts will be distributed among the shareholders.

The railway companies have the power of surrendering their works, after any portion of the line has been opened for three months, and of receiving from the Government the money expended on the undertaking; and, on the other hand, the Government have the power, at the expiration of a period of 25 or 50 years from the date of the contracts, of purchasing the railway at the mean value of the shares for the three previous years, or of paying a proportionate annuity until the end of the 99 years, when the land and works will revert to the Government, unless the railway companies have previously exercised their powers of surrender.

As a rule, the roads are constructed, in the first instance, for a single line of rails, the bridges, tunnels, and cuttings being made suitable for a second line. The gauge in all cases is 5 feet 6 inches.

The East Indian Railway Company was originally formed in 1845, with a view to the construction of a line from Calcutta to Raneegunge, in order to bring down the coal which abounds in that neighbourhood, and to develop the mineral resources of the district.

East Indian  
Railway.

The company was incorporated by an Act of Parliament on the 1st of August 1849, and the engineers commenced work in 1851. In September 1854, 37 miles were opened for traffic; and in February 1855 the whole line of 121 miles to Raneegunge was completed.

In the meantime, however, a general system of trunk railways for India had been determined upon, and the line from Calcutta to Agra and Delhi was

offered

offered to the East Indian Railway Company. Starting from Howrah, on the right bank of the Hooghly, opposite to Calcutta, this colossal line proceeds in a north-westerly direction to Burdwan, whence the branch to Raneegunge strikes off to the west, while the main line runs due north to Rajmahal, thus connecting Calcutta with the Ganges, and enabling traders to avoid the navigation of 250 miles of one of the most dangerous portions of the river. At Rajmahal the railway turns westward and proceeds up the right bank of the Ganges, past Monghyr, where it is driven through the only tunnel in its course, a length of 900 feet through a hill of clay slate and hard quartz rock, to Patna, Benares, and Allahabad. Soon after leaving Patna, it is conveyed across the river Soane by a magnificent bridge, which consists of 27 iron girders of 150 feet each, supported on brick foundations, and which, it is believed, is exceeded in magnitude by only one other in the world. At Allahabad the railway crosses the river Jumna by another very fine bridge, which was opened for traffic on the 15th of August 1865; it has 15 spans of 200 feet, the rails being laid upon the top of the girders, and the space beneath made available for an ordinary carriage road 11 feet in width. The line then takes a north-westerly course through Cawnpore, into the heart of the Upper Provinces, and, at a point 20 miles from Agra (with which it is connected by a branch), it strikes northward past Allyghur to Ghazeeabad, where it meets the Punjab Railway, and whence a short junction line of 12 miles unites it with the city of Delhi.

The whole of this great undertaking has been finished, except the bridge over the Jumna into Delhi, which is expected to be completed in the course of the year 1866; and there is thus a continuous length of upwards of 1,000 miles opened for public traffic.

Nor is this all which has been effected by the East Indian Railway Company. Considerable progress has been made on a very important line of 225 miles, which, starting from Allahabad in a south-westerly direction, penetrates the cotton growing district of Jubbulpore, where it will join the Great Indian Peninsula Railway, and form the connecting link in the communication between Calcutta and Bombay. Moreover, the branch which was opened in 1855 to Raneegunge, and which has since been extended to Barrakur, is to be further carried over the Nargoenjoo Pass to Luckieserai, by which the distance between Calcutta and the north-west will be shortened by 71 miles. A branch of 26 miles will at the same time be constructed to open up the Kurhurbalee coal-fields.

The total length of the East Indian Railway, with all its branches, is about 1,500 miles, of which 1,127 have been opened. The line of rail is at present single throughout its course, except for the first 67 miles from Calcutta; but the cord line to Luckieserai will be made double, and also the portion between Luckieserai and Allahabad.

Great Indian  
Peninsula Rail-  
way.

Scarcely inferior to the East Indian Railway in actual length, and, perhaps, even more remarkable as an engineering work, is the Great Indian Peninsula Railway, the object of which is to establish means of communication between the three Presidency towns, and to connect the great cotton growing districts of Central India with the seaport of Bombay.

As in the case of the East Indian Railway, the operations of this company were at first very limited. It was incorporated in the year 1849, and entered into a contract for the construction of a line from the town of Bombay, through the island of Salsette, and across the Tannah estuary, to Callian, a distance of 33 miles, together with a short branch to Mahim, at the northern extremity of Bombay Island. The works were commenced in October 1850, and finished in May 1854.

At the end of that year the company undertook the extension of this line into the interior, to unite with the East Indian and Madras Railways. At Callian it is divided into two great branches, the one going to the north-east, the other taking a south-easterly direction.

The great physical difficulty, in either case, was to surmount the ghauts, a lofty range which runs parallel to the sea along the whole west coast of the peninsula, and forms a barrier to the conveyance of the rich produce of the Deccan to the port of Bombay.

The

The northern line is carried over the Thull Ghaut by an incline nine miles and a quarter in length, in the course of which it attains an elevation of 972 feet. It then proceeds, by Nassick and Chalisgaum, to Bhosawul, at which point an important branch runs eastward, through the great cotton district of Oomrawuttee, to Nagpore. The main line, shortly after leaving Bhosawul, crosses the River Taptee, and continues its course to the north-east, up the valley of the Nerbudda, to Jubbulpore, where it meets the East Indian Railway.

The southern of the two great branches is taken through the mountains at the Bhore Ghaut by an incline nearly 16 miles long, with a total elevation of 1,831 feet, the difficulties of the course being overcome by such a series of cuttings, tunnels, viaducts, and embankments as can hardly be rivalled in any other part of the world, except on the sister incline over the Thull Ghaut. The railroad is then continued to Poona, Sholapoor, and Kulburga, at which place it has been proposed that a line of 119 miles should branch off eastward to Hyderabad, the capital of the Nizam's territories, while the main line proceeds, across the River Kistna, to Raichore, where it forms a junction with the railway from Madras.

The distance from Bombay to Jubbulpore is 615 miles, and that to Raichore 441; and the operations of the company extend over a total length, including the branches, of 1,266 miles.

The section over the Bhore Ghaut was opened on the 21st of April 1863; but in consequence of damage done by the rains, it was found necessary to suspend traffic operations until the following November, when the line was again opened for the conveyance of both goods and passengers. The Thull Ghaut incline was opened on the 1st of February 1865; and traffic is now carried on between Bombay and Khundwa, 352 miles, on the north-east portion; between Bhosawul and Kowtah, 177 miles, on the Nagpore branch; and between Bombay and Sholapoor, 282 miles, on the line to the south-east.

It has been decided to construct a double line as far as Bhosawul, in the direction of Jubbulpore, and also to Lanowlie at the top of the Bhore Ghaut incline.

The Madras Railway Company was established in the year 1852, with the view of constructing a railway from the city of Madras to the western coast. Operations were commenced in June 1853, and on the 1st of July 1856, the first section, as far as Arcot, a distance of 65 miles, was open to the public.

Madras Railway.

In 1858, a further contract was entered into, for a line towards the north-west, to meet the south-eastern branch of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway, and thus form a direct communication between the Presidency towns of Madras and Bombay.

The country through which the line to the western coast passes presented few obstacles to its progress, the only engineering difficulties being to convey the line across the several rivers which traverse its path.

Leaving Arcot and Vellore a short distance on the left, and throwing out a branch on the right to the important military station of Bangalore, it turns southward through the Shevaroy Hills to Salem, beyond which point it resumes a westerly direction, and, passing through the cotton fields of Coimbatore, finds its way, by a break in the Ghauts, to the port of Beypoor on the coast of Malabar.

The whole of this line, from Madras to Beypoor, 406 miles in length, was opened for traffic in May 1862; and, on the 1st of August 1864, passengers were conveyed on the Bangalore branch, which is 86 miles long, and which attains a height of 3,000 feet on the Mysore table land.

The north-west line, leaving the other at Arconum, 42 miles from Madras, proceeds through Cuddapa, and across the river Pennar, to Gooty, near which point a branch strikes off on the left to the town of Bellary, while the main line crosses the Toongabudra, and at Raichore joins the line from Bombay. This portion of the railway is 338 miles in length; and, as its path is crossed by 12 rivers and two ranges of hills, the works in some parts are very heavy. It has already been opened to Cuddapa, a distance of 119 miles, and it was expected that a further section of 32 miles would be ready for traffic by Midsummer 1866.

**Bombay, Baroda,  
and Central India  
Railway.**

The Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway Company was formed to connect Bombay with the cotton districts of Guzerat and Central India. It was incorporated in July 1855, and the cutting of the first sod took place in May 1856.

Starting northwards from Bombay, through the island of Salsette, and crossing the Bassein channel and the Veturnee river, the railway follows the line of the coast, passing Damaun and Surat, at which place it is carried over the Taptee river by an iron bridge of about 2,000 feet in length. A still more serious obstacle to its progress presented itself in the River Nerbudda, which the railway crosses by another iron bridge, 3,800 feet long. Continuing its northerly direction, it proceeds through Broach to Baroda, at which point it turns to the north-west, over the Mhye river, and terminates its course at Ahmedabad, 310 miles from Bombay. The whole line is open, except a section of four miles within Bombay island, from Grant Road to Colaba, which is to be conducted over land now in course of being reclaimed from Back Bay.

**Sind Railway.**

The Sind Railway Company was incorporated by an Act of Parliament passed on the 2nd of July 1855, and was reconstituted in August 1857. Although its affairs are under a single board, the operations of the company in reality embrace four separate concerns, for each of which the capital raised is kept distinct from that of the other three. The object of the combined undertakings is to establish communication between the port of Kurrachee and the Punjab, and to connect the chief cities of that province with the East Indian Railway at Delhi.

The first portion, or Sind Railway proper, proceeds from the harbour of Kurrachee, across the Rivers Bahrum and Mulleer, and through the Karatolla Hills, to Kotree, on the Indus, opposite Hyderabad, and thereby enables traders to avoid the delays attendant on the navigation of the delta of the river. The length of the line is 109 miles; it was commenced in April 1858, and was opened for traffic on the 11th of May 1861, with the immediate effect of developing a considerable trade in cotton which had not been previously seen on the Indus, as well as in indigo, grain, wool, and other products.

**Indus Steam  
Flotilla.**

The navigation of the Indus from Kotree to Mooltan, a distance of 570 miles, is performed by vessels of the Indus Steam Flotilla, which ply twice a month over the course, the larger vessels being employed on the portion of the river above the Sukkur Pass, and smaller steamers being used between that place and Kotree.

**Punjab Railway.**

The Punjab Railway starting from Sher Shah, on the banks of the Chenaub, about 12 miles below Mooltan, passes through that city, and thence follows a nearly straight course up the left bank of the Ravee, as far as Lahore, at which place it turns directly to the east, until it reaches Umritsur. This line, which is 253 miles long, was commenced in February 1859; on the 10th of April 1862, the section between Umritsur and Lahore, 32 miles in length, was opened; in May 1863 the section between Mooltan and Sher Shah was pronounced to be in working order; and, on the 24th of April 1865, the complete line was declared available to the public.

**Delhi Railway.**

The railway from Umritsur to Delhi follows a south-easterly direction through the Punjab, and, crossing the Beas at Wuzeer Ghaut, proceeds by Jullunder to Phillour, at which place it is conveyed over the Sutlej. Continuing its course through Loodiana, Sirhind, and Umballa, it crosses the Jumna shortly before reaching Seharunpore, where it turns southward, and passing through Mozuffernugger and Meerut, arrives at Ghazeeabad, whence the trains will run into Delhi over the branch constructed by the East Indian Railway Company. The length of the whole line is 320 miles; the contractors commenced work in 1864; and, although no portion has yet been opened, it is anticipated that the section between Ghazeeabad and Meerut will be ready for traffic by the end of the year 1866.

**Eastern Bengal  
Railway.**

In 1857, the Eastern Bengal Railway Company was formed for the purpose of affording railway accommodation to the thickly populated districts lying north and east of Calcutta, which are richly cultivated with indigo, sugar, oilseeds, rice, and other grain. Starting from the Calcutta side of the Hooghly, it proceeds up the right bank of the Matabanga, to Kooshtee, on the Ganges, opposite Pubna, thus enabling merchants to send their goods direct to and from Calcutta,

Calcutta, without undergoing the delay and danger of the navigation of the Sunderbunds. The works were commenced in April 1859, and the line was opened throughout its entire length of 114 miles, in November 1862.

Arrangements have been made for conveying passengers and goods by steam-boats, from Koushtee to Dacca, and also to Assam.

In August 1865, it was determined to extend the line, a distance of 45 miles, to Goalundo, at the confluence of the Bramapootra and the Ganges, with the view of intercepting the traffic from the countries on the north-east; and the railway company have agreed to construct it as part of their original undertaking.

The necessity for increased accommodation for ships trading to Calcutta, and the dangers of navigating the Hooghly, led to the formation, in 1857, of the Calcutta and South Eastern Railway Company, with the object of constructing a short line of 29 miles from Calcutta in a south-easterly direction to the harbour and town which it was contemplated to establish on the Mutlah estuary. The whole railway was opened for traffic in March 1862, with the exception of the bridge over the Piallee, which was not finished till a rather later date; but it was not until the beginning of 1865 that a company was formed to build the necessary jetties and wharves required to make Canning Town a trading port.

Calcutta and  
South-Eastern  
Railway.

The Great Southern of India Railway Company was constituted in 1857, its object being, as its name implies, to construct railways in the Southern Provinces of India. The line at first sanctioned runs due west from Negapatam on the east coast, by Tanjore, to Trichinopoly, through a country extensively cultivated with rice and cotton crops. Operations were commenced in May 1859, and the whole line of 79 miles was thrown open for traffic in March 1862. An extension of 87 miles was subsequently authorised to enable it to be taken through Caroor, and up the right bank of the Cauvery, to join the Madras Railway at Errode.

Great Southern of  
India Railway.

The length of rail in course of construction by these eight companies is 4,944 miles, of which 2,519 were in working order on the 1st of January 1864. Between that date and the end of the official year 1864-65, 667 miles were completed, making the total length open on the 1st of May 1865, 3,186 miles, a distance which was increased to 3,332 miles by the end of the year 1865-66. These figures, however, do not adequately represent the full benefit which has resulted from the progress recently made, inasmuch as the completion of one portion of 10 miles, over the Thull Ghaut, and another of 121 miles between Bombay and Bulsar, has brought into full operation the Great Indian Peninsula and the Bombay and Baroda lines, for a distance of 352 and 306 miles respectively, while the recent opening of the Allahabad Bridge has put within 37 hours' journey of each other two cities, Calcutta and Delhi, which in distance are 1,020 miles apart. A very useful branch was also opened on the Madras Railway, as has been already stated, by which the important military station of Bangalore, and the salubrious climate of Mysore, have been put within eight hours' journey of the town of Madras. So great was the traffic which the completion of these sections threw upon the railways, that the locomotive power was strained to the utmost; and there appears to be every probability that, in some cases, the amount of guaranteed interest will be exceeded by the earnings of the line, even before the whole of the capital expended can be turned to profit.

Present state of the  
railways.

The capital estimated to be required for the several undertakings which have been sanctioned is 81,000,000 *l.*; and, of this sum, authority has been given for raising 72,424,000 *l.* The amount raised, up to the 30th of April 1866, was 60,860,000 *l.* (of which only 754,231 *l.* was subscribed in India); and the sum advanced by the Government for expenditure was 60,645,000 *l.*, of which rather more than one-third was for charges incurred in England. The amount spent in the year 1864-65 was 3,806,044 *l.*, of which 1,387,699 *l.* was expended in England, and 2,418,345 *l.* in India. An unusually large outlay is anticipated in the ensuing year, owing to the vigorous efforts which are being made to complete the work on the lines in course of construction, and to the large supplies of locomotive engines and rolling stock required to equip the open lines.

This, however, by no means shows the whole of the actual cost of the lines. There must be added, in the first place, the value of the land which is purchased by the Government and given to the railway companies. This is estimated at about 300*l.* per mile on an average, or, in all, including sites for stations, 1,500,000*l.*

Secondly, the loss by exchange, as it is usually called, must be added in reckoning the whole expenditure. When the contracts were made with the railway companies, the rate of exchange for the rupee was 1*s.* 10*d.*, and it was stipulated that the same value should be preserved in all the accounts between the Government and the companies. The money raised by the several companies is paid into the Home Treasury, and they subsequently withdraw whatever amount they may require for the purchase of materials in England, the balance being credited to them in India for the railway expenditure in that country, at the rate of 1*s.* 10*d.* the rupee. So long as the value of the rupee remained at 1*s.* 10*d.*, no loss or gain ensued under this arrangement; but when it rose to 2*s.*, a loss of 2*d.* on each rupee resulted to the Government; or, in other words, whatever sum was spent on railways in India, eleven-twelfths was capital subscribed by the companies, and the remaining twelfth was a direct advance by the Government from its own resources.

On the other hand, the receipts from the railways are credited in India in rupees, and paid to the shareholders of the company at the rate of 1*s.* 10*d.* the rupee; and, therefore, the Government is reimbursed 2*d.* on each rupee, which forms a set-off against the loss previously incurred.

In the year 1864-65, the loss to the Government on their advances was about 220,000*l.*, against which must be set a gain of about 90,000*l.* on the receipts, which was credited to the railway companies at the rate of 1*s.* 10*d.* towards the payment of the guaranteed interest. The loss to the Government will each year diminish, and when the traffic receipts shall exceed the expenditure of capital, the gain, which has hitherto been on the side of the companies, will accrue to the Government.

In 1862-63 the net receipts from traffic on 2,151 miles of railway were 690,834*l.*; in 1863-64, 2,489 miles were open, and a revenue of 915,077*l.* was obtained.

The complete accounts for 1864-65 have not been received for all the lines; but, excluding the Bombay and Baroda Railway, the mean number of miles over which traffic passed was 2,569, and the receipts were 1,341,337*l.*

The amount of guaranteed interest paid by the Government to the various companies, up to the 31st of December 1864, was 13,169,178*l.*, and a further sum of 2,796,671*l.* was paid during the year 1865. On the other hand, about 4,900,000*l.* had been received from the earnings of the railways up to the same date; and there was, accordingly, a sum of about 11,000,000*l.* sterling still due from the companies to the Government. Although it will be some time before the latter will receive back the large amount advanced by them, the condition of some of the railways gives reason to hope that, at any rate, a considerable portion will ultimately be repaid. Moreover, the free conveyance of the mails, and the reduction in the expense of transporting troops and stores, will effect a considerable saving; and the indirect gain to the State, arising from the greater security afforded to the country and the impulse given to commerce and agriculture, is incalculable.

The fares charged to passengers vary on the several lines, from 1½*d.* to 2½*d.* per mile for the first class; ¾*d.* to 1*d.* for the second; and ¼*d.* to ½*d.* for the third and fourth. The rate of charge on goods varies, according to the class of the articles, from 1*d.* to 7*d.* per ton.

The number of passengers conveyed by the several railways during the year was 11,781,683, more than 94 per cent. of whom travelled in the third-class carriages.

There were 2,958 Europeans and East Indians employed in the several departments of the railways in 1864, and 38,577 natives of India. It is not at present found practicable to entrust to the latter duties for which professional knowledge and skill, or nerve and presence of mind are needed; but attempts are being made, with some success, to train them for such employment, and one native, after qualifying himself, has been selected as a fourth-class engineer on the Madras Railway, while there are two or three native engine drivers employed on the Great Indian Peninsula line.

The



Two companies have been formed for the purpose of constructing light lines of railway without the assistance of a preliminary guarantee from the Government. Unguaranteed railways.

The Indian Branch Railway Company, in 1863, laid down a line, about 27 miles in length, with a gauge of 4 feet, from Nulhattee, a station on the East Indian Railway, 144 miles from Calcutta, to Azimgunge, opposite to Moorshe-dabad; it was opened on the 21st of December, and traffic was carried on throughout the following year, though not to so great an extent as was anticipated. They have also obtained a concession of an important system of railway communication in Oude and Rohilcund, and considerable progress has been made on the section between Cawnpore and Lucknow, which it was hoped might be opened in the summer of 1866. In this case the gauge of 5 feet 6 inches has been adopted, as on the main line. Indian Branch Railway Company.

In the south of India a branch line has been constructed by the Indian Tramway Company, from the Arconum junction on the Madras Railway to Conjeveram. This line, which is 19 miles in length, was opened on the 1st of August 1865. Light rails are employed, with a gauge of 3 feet 6 inches. Indian Tramway Company.

The aid which is given by the Government to these companies, takes the form of a subsidy, not a guarantee. Each case is decided according to the character of the project; the land is provided by the Government, free of cost, for a term of 99 years; and on the completion of the works, the Government will grant a subsidy, which is in no instance to exceed 100 *l.* a mile per annum, for 20 years, together with a special allowance for every bridge of which the estimated cost may be greater than 10,000 *l.*

In the early part of 1852, the working of an experimental line of electric telegraph, which had been constructed between Calcutta and Kedgerree, was reported by Dr. O'Shaughnessy (now Sir William O'Shaughnessy Brooke) to have been entirely successful, and that officer was thereupon directed to undertake the construction of a complete system of telegraphic lines throughout India. By the ability and energy which he displayed, and by the exertions of the other officers of the telegraph department, electric communication has been carried over the length and breadth of India, and the aggregate extent of wire is now not less than about 14,000 miles. 2. TELEGRAPHS.

After an interruption of more than three years, British Burmah was, during the year under report, once more connected with Calcutta by the construction of a land line through Arracan, in lieu of the deep-sea cable, which, after a short trial, utterly failed.

In 1858-59 schemes were proposed for establishing telegraphic communication between England and India, both by way of the Red Sea and the Persian Gulf. The line was laid, and messages were actually transmitted by the former route; but, after a short period, the signals failed, and all attempts to restore the communication, for any length of time, proved fruitless.

Greater success has, however, attended the construction of the alternative or Indo-European line, which, proceeding from Kurrachee in a westerly direction, along the Mekran coast, by Gwadar, to Bunder Abbas, and thence up the Persian Gulf to Bushire and Fao, at the head of the Gulf, has a total submarine course of nearly 1,500 miles; a land line also has been constructed as far as Gwadar. From Fao the line is conveyed overland to Bussora, and thence across Turkish Arabia to Bagdad, Mosul, and Diarbekir, whence it proceeds through Asia Minor, by Siras, till it joins the European system at Constantinople. The length of the whole line, from Kurrachee to Constantinople, is about 3,000 miles, one-half of which is submarine.

From Bagdad another line has been taken through the heart of Persia to Teheran, and thence southwards to Ispahan, Shiraz, and Bushire.

A Committee of the House of Commons was appointed, in the early part of this Session, to inquire into the practical working of the present system of telegraphic and postal communication between England and the East Indies, but it has not yet made a report.

Foremost among the works of irrigation which have been constructed in India must be mentioned the Ganges Canal, which, starting from the high land at Hurdwar, where the river forces its way through the Siwalik Hills into the open plain, conveys its fertilizing stream through the whole length of the 8. IRRIGATION WORKS, CANALS, &c.  
Ganges Canal.



Doab, until one branch joins the Jumna a little above Humeerpore; and another at Cawnpore repays to the Ganges a portion of the water borrowed nearer its source.

The main canal alone is 525 miles; and, when the chief branches are all completed, the entire length of the work will be very nearly 900 miles, independently of the many hundred miles of distributing watercourses and minor channels attached to it.

It was opened for the double purpose of irrigation and navigation, on the 8th of April 1854; and, during the famine with which Upper India was visited in 1860, ample proof was given of the incalculable benefits already conferred by it on the country through which it passes, although the means of distributing the water are still very imperfect.

In 1863-64 the gross revenue derived from it was the largest received up to that time, namely, 77,390 *l.*, but the extension of the irrigation during the succeeding year caused the income to increase to 98,641 *l.*

Considerable defects having been found to exist in the bed of the canal, in consequence of erosion from the velocity of the stream, a committee of engineer officers was appointed to consider the best plan of remedying the defects; and an elaborate report was drawn up by Captain Crofton, in the year 1864, on the alternative projects recommended by them. It appears evident that the main cause of the evils which impair the efficiency of the work is the too great slope of the bed, as originally constructed; but there seems to be no necessity for forming a supplementary line, as had been suggested, which would entail on the Government an expenditure of more than 800,000 *l.*, and orders have been given for carrying into effect certain modifications of the existing works by which the velocity of the water will be reduced to such a current as the earthen channel will safely bear. It is anticipated that the cost of the improvements, the loss of revenue during the stoppage of the canal, which may be requisite for an entire year, and the compensation which will have to be paid to cultivators who have commenced irrigation, and sunk money in watercourses, will amount, in the aggregate, to 550,000 *l.*

While regretting the necessity for incurring the additional expense, the Government of India bear the strongest testimony to the value of the benefit which has been bestowed upon the country by the original projector, Sir Proby Cautley; and they see no reason to doubt that, when the modifications are completed, the canal will not merely be well adapted for irrigation, but will also be an efficient navigable channel.

Other Canals in  
the North-Western  
Provinces and  
Punjab.

The Eastern and Western Jumna Canals, commencing at the point where the Jumna descends from the Himalayas, irrigate the country on either side of the river, till they join it again at Delhi. The main canal, on the eastern side, is 130 miles long, with 610 miles of branch channels; and the gross income in 1864-65 was 33,945 *l.*, instead of 26,502 *l.* in 1863-64. The main channel of the Western Jumna Canal, including its principal branches, is 445 miles in length, and it is of great service in irrigating the naturally sterile country around Hissar; the receipts have, for nearly 20 years, amounted, on an average, to about 13 per cent. on the sum expended by the British Government in recovering the canal from the state of dilapidation into which it had been permitted to fall during the Mahomedan rule. Defects have, however, arisen from the large volume of water poured into it of late years, for purposes of irrigation; and sanction has been given to an estimated outlay of 171,400 *l.* in the construction of permanent head works, works for drainage and escape, and 510 miles of new distributing channels.

In the Punjab there are two kinds of canals, inundation and permanent. The former, which are fed from the rise of rivers in the spring, when the snows melt, and are empty during the winter, when the streams are not high enough to enter them, supply water to the south-western portion of the province. They comprise the Upper and Lower Sutlej systems, with 213 and 659 miles of channel respectively, the Dehra Ghazee Khan system, 578 miles in length, and the Mooltan canals, the channels of which extend over 659 miles. The receipts derived from the Sutlej and Chenab inundation canals in 1863-64 were 4,294 *l.*, but in 1864-65 they were only 3,815 *l.* The principal permanent canal in the Punjab is that of the Barea Doab, having a central line which, when completed, will be 247 miles in length, besides 219 miles of branches. The receipts from this canal rose from 35,125 *l.* in 1863-64 to 48,587 *l.* in 1864-65, and the estimated

estimated cost of the whole work is 1,350,000 £. Including the Western Jumna Canal, the revenue derived from works of irrigation in the Punjab increased by 18,422 £ during the year. The expenditure in 1864-65 was 47,879 £ in new works, and 74,217 £ in establishment and repairs.

Besides these great works, there are about 66 miles of canal in the Dhoon, and 153 miles in Rohilcund, and also a large tank or artificial reservoir, with various channels and escapes, at Agra, which together produced a gross income of 7,410 £ in 1864-65, whereas 7,435 £ was realised in the previous year. A scheme is under consideration for reclaiming the Terai or marsh land at the foot of the Himalayas, in Rohilcund, by a combined system of drainage and irrigation.

In Oude, operations were begun in 1864-65, for the purpose of clearing the channel of the Gogra, and rendering it navigable as far as Byram Ghaut. Oude.

The principal irrigation works in the Madras Presidency are, first, the innumerable tanks, or artificial lakes, of various sizes, which in times past were constructed by the natives of India, who, taking advantage of the natural slopes and basins formed by the configuration of the ground, and throwing embankments across the outlets of the valleys, obtained an area for storing such a volume of water as the local wants might demand; and, secondly, the anicuts, that is, dams or weirs, at the deltas of the great rivers which flow into the Bay of Bengal. Madras.

The most northern of these rivers is the Godavery, which, near Rajahmundry, about 55 miles from the sea, divides into two streams, forming a delta of rich alluvial country. A little above this point, the river is 2,000 yards broad, but it soon expands into a width of three times that extent, parted, however, by islands, into four branches. At this place, named Dowlaishweram, an anicut has been thrown across each channel, the united length of the four dams being 3,955 yards; and upwards of two miles of stream is thus blocked up by a solid well protected mass of stone, in lime cement, with a breadth at the base of nearly 130 feet, and a height of 12 feet above the natural surface of the water. Godavery Irrigation.

From Dowlaishweram, one channel is conveyed along the left bank of the river, while another, adapted to navigation, leads straight to the port of Cocanada. The district lying between the two branches of the river is also intersected by canals, as well as the space between the Western Godavery and the Colair Lake. Altogether, there are 840 miles of main channel, irrigating 780,000 acres of land.

A similar series of canals to that carried out in Rajahmundry is in course of construction in the delta of the Kistna. At Beswarah, 60 miles from the sea, an anicut has been thrown across the river, in order to raise the water to the height required for the irrigation of the land in the neighbourhood. The dam is 1,250 yards in length, and has a breadth of 805 feet at the base, and a height of 14 feet above the summer level of the stream. Thence the water is conducted over the districts of Guntoor and Masulipatam, on either side of the river; and it is estimated that, when completed, about 500,000 acres, of which 190,000 are already brought under cultivation, will be irrigated by 290 miles of channel. From Beswarah navigable canals are in progress, one of which, passing by Ellore, will unite the waters of the Kistna to those of the Godavery; another, leading to the port of Masulipatam, was completed during 1864, but the works sustained considerable damage from the effects of the cyclone; and the third, on the Guntoor side of the river, will convey vessels to the harbour of Nizampatam. Kistna.

In 1853 an anicut was commenced at Nellore, on the Pennair, at a spot where the river narrows to a width of only 520 yards. The work was finished in 1855, but both in 1857 and 1858 a great breach was made in it by violent storms, and it was finally completed in 1861. The supply of water being precarious, it has been necessary to supplement the river by a series of tanks, from which water can be distributed when the stream fails. The principal channel, called the Jaffer Sahib, was nearly completed in the year under report. Pennair.

The districts of Trichinopoly and Tanjore are watered by the River Cauvery, the main stream of which, in the latter part of its course, receives the name of the Coleroon, the southern branch retaining the original title of the Cauvery. Cauvery and Coleroon.

Upwards of 1,600 years ago an anicut, 360 yards long and about 50 feet broad and 15 deep, was constructed by the natives across the principal river, at the lower extremity of the island of Seringham. In course of time, the Cauvery was found to be gradually deteriorating by the formation of deposits at the head of the island, in consequence of the larger volume, swifter course, and more direct channel of the Coleroon; and, accordingly, the old weir was considerably raised soon after the province was acquired by the English. Still the root of the evil remained, at the separation of the two streams; and in 1836 Captain Cotton of the Madras Engineers (now Major General Sir Arthur Cotton), carried out his plan for remedying the evil, by throwing a dam of masonry, 750 yards long, across the Coleroon, just below its junction with the Jyaur, the height being regulated so as to ensure about half the volume of water passing into the Cauvery. A series of sluices was constructed to admit of the escape of the surplus water from the Cauvery; and in 1843, as it was found that there was danger of the channel of the Coleroon suffering in its turn, the dam was lowered, on the recommendation of Colonel Sim; and control has thus been completely obtained over the two streams. Towards the sea the main river is almost lost amongst the immense number of irrigating channels, and the regulation of the supply of water is aided by two other weirs, one of which crosses the Cauvery and Vennar, one of the principal branches, and the other was thrown across the Coleroon 70 miles below the head at Seringham, in order to meet the wants of the district of South Arcot. The total area brought under irrigation by water drawn from these rivers is upwards of 700,000 acres.

Palar.

The embankment on the River Palar, which passes through the districts of North Arcot and Chingleput, was raised in the year under report from 5 to 7 feet in height.

Navigation of the Godavery.

Before quitting the subject of canals in the Madras Presidency, it may be well to describe the important operations on the Godavery, designed to improve the navigation of the river above the point where the works of irrigation commence. In order to provide a cheap means of communication from the provinces of Central India to the sea, a scheme was set on foot, in 1855, for rendering navigable that portion of the Godavery and its tributary, the Wurdah or Pranhita, which lies between the cotton-producing districts and the Rajahmundry anicut, whence the canals branch off to the sea, a total distance of 445 miles. The obstacles to navigation consist of three rocky reaches or barriers, in length 8, 14, and 36 miles respectively, of which the two lower are passable by steamers at certain times during the flood season, but the third is scarcely navigable at all. The open portions of the river between the barriers have a gentle slope well adapted to navigation.

The first barrier occurs at a point 142 miles from the mouth of the river; the distance between this and the second barrier is 70, and that between the second and third 75 miles; and above the last there is a clear space of 100 miles to Hingenghat, in the cotton country. It was originally proposed to construct, at the first barrier, where the river is a mile in width, a weir, 5,360 feet long and 15 feet high, with a lateral canal 24 miles in length, and locks to complete the communication; at the second, a weir, 1,300 yards long, with locks in the river bed; and at the third, a weir of 400 yards, with 32 miles of canal and locks. Although the river was surveyed, and an estimate for the work submitted, operations were not actually begun before 1861.

About the same time, another proposition was brought forward for laying down tramways, as a temporary measure, at each of the barriers, so as to open a traffic which, by the time that the permanent works were completed, might become important and remunerative.

This plan was adopted, and in May 1862 sufficient progress had been made for the Government of Madras to feel justified in declaring the line open for traffic, the transport at the barriers being effected by means of carts, pending the completion of the tramway. With every disadvantage from the badness of the roads and the smallness of the steamboats, 3,000 passengers and 1,290 tons of goods, including about 1,000 bales of cotton, were brought down during the season from Chanda, the chief town in the southern part of the cotton country.

In the following year, the works were placed under the superintendence of the

the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces, who made an able report on the subject; and the tramroad scheme was suspended by the Government of India, in order that the whole of the available labour and money might be devoted to the main works.

The total expenditure from 1855 up to the 1st of May 1865 was 201,295 £, and the work has been almost entirely limited to the operations at the first barrier. It is estimated that about 40,000 £ more is required to open navigation at this point for four or five months in the year; and an expenditure of another 2,000 £, still further to clear the channel, will extend this period to six or seven months for steamers, and the whole year for boats.

Provision has been made for an outlay of 130,000 £ at the second barrier; and the completion of those works would render the river navigable for boats drawing from two to five feet of water, to a distance of 309 miles from the sea, besides 80 miles of the main stream of the Godavery above its confluence with the Pranhita, at a total expenditure, including establishments, of about 430,000 £.

Two proposals have been made with regard to the communication above this point. The one is to construct a weir, 20 feet high, at the top of the third barrier, by which the 40 miles of river between it and Bullarpoor would become a deep piece of still water, navigable at all seasons of the year; and from the pool just above the weir, to lead off a canal 33 miles long, which in its course will descend 144 feet, to the level of the river below the barrier. The other plan is to substitute for the canal and river a road from the foot of the barrier to the neighbourhood of Chanda. Major Haig, who has had much experience in the works on this river, advocates very strongly the construction of the weir and canal, at an estimated expense of 131,900 £, rather than of the road for 75,000 £. The carriage of produce by the river the whole way from Chanda to Cocanada, 384 miles, is estimated, he says, to cost 16 s. a ton, and, by the combined route of partly road and partly river, the charge is calculated to be 49 s. a ton; in other words, the substitution of the piece of road for the last portion of the navigation works would increase the cost of export threefold. Detailed surveys and estimates have been called for, and directions given for the speedy prosecution of the work on whichever of the two plans may appear to the Government of India to be preferable.

Inland navigation is carried on by means of the East Coast Canal, for a distance of 110 miles from Sadras northwards, and some progress has been made with the continuation of it in the Nellore district. East Coast Canal.

In British Burmah it has become very desirable to reclaim, from the periodical inundations of the rivers, certain tracts of land which are now rendered more or less unproductive, and which are much needed for the new settlers who are continually emigrating from Upper Burmah to the British territories; and sanction was recently given for the erection of an embankment, on only one side of the river, so as not to interfere with the effective waterway, from Kyazemgyee to the Patashin, down the right bank of that river, and along the right bank of the Irrawaddy to a spot below Myanoung. The Patashin embankment has already been completed at a cost of 11,000 £; and, should it be found to answer the purpose for which it was designed, it is intended to continue operations of a similar character in the delta of the Irrawaddy, as circumstances may render desirable. British Burmah.

In order to afford good communication between the Pegu and Sittang rivers, the Pyne Kyun Creek is being widened and deepened, at a cost of 20,000 £. The cutting of the canal has already had the effect of draining a large tract of marshy inundated country; and, besides affording a navigable channel between the two rivers, it will bring into cultivation, for rice crops, about 100,000 acres of waste lands, which may be expected to yield in due time an annual revenue of 10,000 £.

In the district of Khandeish some important irrigation works are being constructed, by throwing dams across the rivers, as has been so successfully done in the Madras Presidency. The progress of the contractor for the works on the Girna was very slow in 1864-65, and nearly the whole of the operations were carried on by the Government department; the masonry weir, 1,550 feet in length, was completed to its full height, and bore the monsoon floods without Bombay.

any injury whatever. The Panjur dam, which is approaching completion, was delayed for a similar reason to that which retarded the Girna work. In Sattara, the weir across the Kristna, 2,000 feet long, was raised to within six feet of its full height; the canal will have a length of 45 miles. The Rewaree channel, which was completed in 1864-65, though only four miles long, is very valuable, and the cultivators are eagerly using the water. The tank at Koorgaun, near Barsee, was nearly completed, and considerable improvements were effected in the Mudduck tank and canal in Dharwar.

Sind.

The cultivation of the province of Sind is dependent on the rise of the Indus, the waters of which are distributed over the face of the country by a network of canals, thrown off to the number of several hundreds, on both sides of the river. As constructed under native rule, they were often of considerable dimensions, and well planned in general direction, but irregular in shape, and liable to be frequently blocked up by earth washed away from the loose banks of the river, or by sand left in front of their heads by the receding waters; the variation in the height to which the Indus rose in different years also materially affected the annual production of the lands dependent on these channels for irrigation.

To remedy these defects, it was proposed by Captain Fife, of the Bombay Engineers, in 1856, to cut, from points where the banks are permanent, trunk canals, running in a direction nearly parallel to the course of the river, and capable of being maintained when the stream should be at its lowest level, the existing canals, which they would cross at right angles, serving as distributing branches. A general approval was given to the scheme, and the preparation of detailed estimates was ordered.

In 1859, Sir Bartle Frere, then Commissioner in Sind, submitted his views on Captain Fife's revised plan of irrigational works in that province, either at the time in progress, or to be subsequently carried out. The most important of these is the great project for watering the whole eastern portion of the country, by conducting a stream from the Indus to the Narra, which had for many years almost wholly ceased to flow, the consequence being that the valley had become a depopulated desert. A cutting of about 13 miles was accordingly made from Roree, on the Indus, to the ancient channel of the Narra; and, at a place called Mittrow, nearly opposite Duddur, a canal is being constructed, 120 miles in length, to distribute the water thus restored to the Narra over the vast plain of Meerpoor. During 1864-65 it was completed to a distance of 70 miles from Mittrow.

Another work calculated to be of much benefit to the country is the improvement of the Foulalee, a natural channel in the Hyderabad Collectorate, which was falling into decay; levels and surveys for no less than 324 miles of minor watercourses were executed in that district alone, in the year under review.

Many other new works have been projected, and a large sum is annually expended in clearing those already constructed, from the deposits left by the fall of the river. Labour was very scarce during the year, and recourse was had to the employment of convicts to a considerable extent.

Besides these great undertakings, and minor works, such as the circular canal round Calcutta, and the immense tanks in Central India, all of which have been made or repaired by the Government, extensive irrigation works are in course of construction by two private companies.

Madrass Irrigation  
Company.

The Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, formed in reliance on the engineering experience of Sir Arthur Cotton, whose name is so well known in connection with the works of the Godavery and other rivers of the Madras Presidency, received from the Government a guarantee of five per cent. interest on a capital of one million sterling for 25 years; and they obtained from Parliament power to raise another million without any guarantee, but, owing to the state of the market, no money was subscribed. Their scheme was to make a canal both for irrigation and navigation, from Sunkasala on the Toongabudra river, through Kurnool (at which point it would be carried across the Hindry by an aqueduct, 722 feet long) to Cuddapa, and thence to join the East Coast Canal, near Nellore.

In consequence, however, of the cost of the work being found to exceed the original estimates, the operations have been restricted to the portion between  
Sunkasala

Sunkasala and Cuddapa, 177 miles in length. The anicut at Sunkasala, 1,500 yards long, and 12 feet above the bed of the river, has been recently completed, and the Hindry aqueduct was, with some trifling exceptions, finished during the year under report, and on the 10th of July 1864 water was admitted into 18 miles of the main canal; whilst, although some of the sections are still in a very backward state, considerable progress has been made along the whole channel to the 143rd mile.

The total outlay up to the end of the year 1864-65 was 760,796*l.*; and it is estimated that the expenditure at the end of March 1866 had probably been about 942,258*l.* As the amount of guaranteed capital remaining is insufficient for the completion of the work to Cuddapa, Her Majesty's Government have very recently consented to advance such further sums, not exceeding 600,000*l.*, as may be requisite for that purpose, the Irrigation Company agreeing, in the event of the canal not being in working order by the 1st of July 1871, to make it over to the Secretary of State in Council, in exchange for such an amount of India Government Five per Cent. Stock as will be equivalent, at the price of the day, to the capital expended.

In Orissa, the East India Irrigation Company projected a scheme for protecting that part of the country from inundation by the rapid current of the Mahanuddy, and supplying it with drainage, irrigation, lines of communication, and access to the sea; for forming canals connecting the districts of Balasore and Midnapore with the Hooghly at Calcutta; and for constructing a canal to be substituted for a part of the Mahanuddy in which navigation is very dangerous, so as to open up the rich cotton-producing plateau of Chutteesghur or Raepore in the Central Province. The Government of India, however, did not approve of the whole of this project, and only gave their sanction to the lower section, consisting of massive weirs on the Mahanuddy and Beropa rivers at Cuttack, and on the Cossaye at Midnapore, with four main canals for irrigation and navigation, and a tidal canal for navigation only, connecting Calcutta with Baligai. The work is being carried on without any guarantee from the Government.

East India Irrigation Company.

The Soane canal scheme was designed by Colonel Dickens, to supply irrigation to Southern Behar, by throwing a weir across the River Soane, a little above the point where it is crossed by the Grand Trunk Road, and constructing on either side of the dam two main channels, which, after a course of 10 or 12 miles, should spread into fanlike systems of watercourses for irrigation, while navigable channels would be carried to Benares, Patna, &c. The question is under consideration whether these works, which would comprise altogether a length of 681 miles of irrigation and 145 of navigation channels, shall also be undertaken by the East India Irrigation Company, or be constructed by the Government.

Soane Canal Scheme.

In 1858 when doubts were entertained of the ability of the Government to raise funds for the execution of works of irrigation on an extended scale, it was thought right to accept, as an experimental measure, the offer of a private company to carry out a particular undertaking. The close connection, however, between the interests of the Government which receives and the cultivator who pays the rent of the land, appears to render it undesirable that such works, and the arrangements connected with the returns from them, by which those interests may be so materially affected, should be in other hands than those of the Government; and it may be found advisable that the State should undertake directly all the irrigation works which it can practically manage, and, when the available balances prove insufficient to supply the requirements of the country, should raise funds by means of loans.

Execution of Irrigation Works by Private Companies.

It is impossible, in a report of this nature, to give an account of the various roads, the construction of which has been sanctioned or proceeded with in the year under review; but a brief mention may be made of some of the larger schemes which have been brought under the consideration of the Government.

4. ROADS.

The necessity of providing cross-roads or feeders to the railways, by which the traffic of the country may be attracted to the great lines of communication, has not been overlooked; their construction has been vigorously undertaken

## STATEMENT SHOWING THE MORAL AND

by the local authorities in the several districts; and the importance of such roads has been urged on the rulers of native states through whose territories the railways pass.

Bengal.

In Bengal an outlay of 80,000 *l.* has been sanctioned for the completion of the bridge across the Barrakur, on the Grand Trunk Road; a branch road from Patna, through Jehanabad, to Gya, is in progress; and one from the Ganges to the Himalayas, at Darjeeling, 136 miles in length, is open throughout, only one river remaining unbridged.

Two trunk lines of road are about to be constructed in Assam, one of which, running through the entire length of the province, will serve to restrain the flood waters of the Brahmapootra, and to facilitate the reclamation of swamps which have hitherto been periodically inundated, and at the same time it will be made capable of having a light railway hereafter laid down, if necessary; the other, leaving the main road at Gowhatty, and running thence to Shillong, will place the provinces of Assam and Sylhet within easy reach of one another.

North Western Provinces.

The principal roads under construction in the North Western Provinces are those from Agra to Bombay, from Cawnpore to Jhansi, from Saugor to Banda, and the trunk line through Rohilcund. The estimates sanctioned during the year on these and other roads amount to about 155,000 *l.* The question is also under consideration by what means communication may best be opened between Agra and Gwalior, across the River Chumbul.

Punjab.

In the Punjab, besides the great road from Lahore to Peshawur, which is in a very forward state, and on which nearly a million of money has already been spent, additional bridges are being constructed on the Grand Trunk Road, at a cost of 56,000 *l.*, and an expenditure of some 30,000 *l.* has been sanctioned on the roads between Umballa, Kalka, and Simla.

On the Hindostan and Thibet road, upwards of 25,000 *l.* has been recently expended, and the way is completed for laden mules as far as Pangee, 10 miles beyond Chini in Bussahir, and 121 miles from Simla. The worst part of the country between India and Chinese Tartary has now been opened out, and the road beyond Pangee, though excessively bad and steep, is practicable for ponies and yaks for about half the year. Further outlay has been stopped, at least for the present, as the continuance of the work, to make the path permanently fit for mule traffic with burdens, would be very costly, and it is doubtful whether it could ever become a great highway for trade; it is considered that the extreme limit to which the State ought to go, is to render the road reasonably secure for travellers, and an estimate has been called for of the expense which would have to be incurred for this purpose.

Oude.

In Oude, bridges are being erected on the roads from Fyzabad to Allahabad and Lucknow, and an estimated outlay of 26,500 *l.* on the road from the latter place to Seetapore has been approved.

Central India.

A system of roads in Central India and Rajpootana is under consideration, to be carried out as funds are available; and operations are in progress between Mhow, Neemuch, and Nusseerabad, and on the main line from Agra to Bombay.

Central Provinces.

A sum of 145,000 *l.* was spent during the year on the three great lines of road through the Central Provinces; the part of the northern road lying between Jubbulpore and Nagpore, across the Sautpoora Hills, which has cost about 300,000 *l.*, is approaching completion; on the southern road, through the cotton tracts of the Wurdah Valley to the Godavery country, 108 miles have been finished; as also have 52 miles of that to the east, in the direction of Chutteesghur.

Hyderabad Assigned Districts  
Mysore.

British Burmah.

Upwards of 100,000 *l.* is about to be laid out in Hyderabad; while improvements in the means of communication in Mysore are being effected, at a cost of about 75,000 *l.* Nor have the wants of British Burmah been unattended to, estimates to the amount of 70,000 *l.* having been sanctioned for roads in that province.

Attention has lately been directed to the question of establishing a commercial route through Burmah to Western China, by means of a tramway from Rangoon through the Salween Valley to Yunan. This project could not be carried



carried out at any reasonable cost, owing to the height of the ridge separating the valleys of the Sittang and Salween, and at present such an undertaking could only result in a financial failure. It was, however, thought that, if a rocky barrier about 100 miles above Moulmein could be removed, the River Salween might be found navigable up to the Chinese frontier, and a survey of the river was accordingly ordered; but the result has been to show clearly that it is so frequently interrupted by rocks and rapids as to be unnavigable.

The attention of the Government of Madras has been especially drawn to the formation of roads in Wynaad, and systematic operations have been directed for providing sufficient means of communication on the plateau and down the Ghauts to meet the wants of that district, and to prevent any difficulty in conveying the coffee crop to the ports of shipment. Madras.

The road from Barsee to the Barsee-road station was finished, as far as was practicable before deciding whether or not it should have a tramway laid down. A sum of 12,500 *l.* was expended during the year on the approach to Carwar, through the Arbyle Ghaut, and recent reports speak very favourably of the condition of the greater part of this road; but little was done on the road through the Kyga Ghaut, owing to the failure of the contractor, and the difficulty of procuring labour. About 30,000 *l.* was spent on the road between Ahmedabad and Gogo, and several bridges were completed; but the work was interrupted by two outbreaks of cholera among the labourers, who dispersed, and could with difficulty be collected again. In the city of Bombay the new roads on the esplanade and the western face of the town were nearly finished, and the greater part handed over to the charge of the municipality. In Sind about 3,765 *l.* was spent in constructing bridges on the roads leading from Hyderabad to Roree, and to Oomercote. Bombay.

In 1856-57 the sum spent on public works, exclusive of all expenditure connected with railways, was 2,906,934 *l.* The outlay on the same account in 1864-65 amounted to 4,985,197 *l.*; and in the current year, 1866-67, it is estimated that the cost of public works will be upwards of six millions sterling. 5. GENERAL EXPENDITURE.

Returns which have been prepared of the rates of labour during the last 10 years show that, since 1852, they have increased 30 per cent. throughout the whole of India; while, in the cities of Bombay and Kurrachee, the per-centage of increase has been from 60 to 67, and in Calcutta and Allahabad, where wages used to be very low, the charges for some kinds of work have risen no less than 125 and 158 per cent. respectively. 6. RATES OF LABOUR.

The great increase of the European force in India, and its redistribution over the country, rendered it necessary to prepare a comprehensive scheme of barracks; and Colonel Crommelin was appointed to frame an estimate of the expense which it would be desirable to incur during the next four years. That officer calculated the expenditure required for the erection of new barracks, the improvement of those already existing, and other necessary works of the same nature, at upwards of six millions sterling, in the Bengal Presidency alone; and, allowing for the wants of the other parts of India, and the charge for superintending establishments, it is estimated that the total outlay required will be between nine and ten millions. Sanction has been given to the commencement of such of these works as are clearly indispensable, and their prosecution as rapidly as is consistent with economy of construction and with the available supply of labour. 7. MILITARY BUILDINGS.

In defining the extent of accommodation to be allowed, and the principles to be attended to, in building the barracks and hospitals for the troops, advantage has been taken of the suggestions made by the Sanitary Commissions which were appointed in 1863 for the three Presidencies, as well as of that sitting in London, and the plans have in all cases of importance been submitted to the Royal Sanitary Commission, before being carried into effect. A committee has also been nominated in India to consider the subject of artificial ventilation and cooling of public buildings.

The works on the fortifications which are being constructed for the defence of the harbour of Bombay, were continued during the favourable season, and 8. FORTIFICATIONS.



it is anticipated that the year 1867 will see the Oyster Rock battery armed and completed as far as the most essential points are concerned. On the Middle Ground Battery, the work was fairly started in October 1864, and progress was made until May, when the monsoon set in. The batteries on Cross Island and Colaba Point were completed and armed, and that on Butcher's Island also was finished. The total amount expended during the year was 122,380 l.

The demolition of the western ramparts was completed, as also was that on the eastern side, with the exception of a small portion on which some markets abut.

In consequence of the determination to place the principal arsenal of Western India at Kirkee, the artillery station close to Poona, it was resolved to construct a fort at that place, which occupies a commanding position peculiarly adapted for such a purpose.

9. CIVIL BUILDINGS.

Among civil buildings may be mentioned the Memorial Church at Cawnpore, erected at a cost of 15,000 l., of which 6,000 l. has been contributed from private sources, and the remainder will be furnished by the State. Sites in Calcutta were granted by the Government of India, for the Dalhousie Memorial Hall and Institute, and for a hall to be raised in memory of Dr. Duff for the purpose of holding meetings for the promotion of religious and benevolent objects. Provision was made, or estimates sanctioned, during the year under report, for the expenditure of 5,000 l. on the completion of the Delhi Institute; of 30,000 l. for the erection of colleges at Berhampore and Poona; and of 12,500 l. in the construction of a new iron wharf at Rangoon. Fair progress was made with the Custom House at that place, and the Post Office at Moulmein was completed. The building of the Deccan College at Poona was commenced, towards the erection of which Sir Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy contributed 12,500 l.; and a site was cleared for an Engineering College at Poona, one-half of the estimated cost of which will be defrayed by Mr. Cowasjee Jehangeer. At Port Blair the cost of affording shelter to the convicts amounted in the year to 105,000 l.; and a general scheme has been called for, showing the position and probable cost of the barracks, &c., which it is necessary to erect at that settlement.

In Bengal, sites have been selected for the erection of eight penitentiaries, to hold 1,000 native prisoners in each; the construction of gaols has been sanctioned at Seetapore, Darjeeling, and Bangalore, as well as in the Central Provinces; and a general scheme is under preparation for providing such accommodation in Mysore; whilst 30,000 l. is being laid out in the erection of police buildings in the Central Provinces and the Punjab.

Sites for two new civil stations in the Central Provinces have been selected, and considerable progress has been made with the necessary buildings, at Wurdah in the midst of a large cotton district, and at Khundwa, the head quarters of Nimar.

10. QUARRIES and MINES.

The Hurdwar quarries in the North Western Provinces were worked during the year, to ascertain what quantity of good stone they would afford at a moderate cost; but, as it has been found that there is not much procurable in any one spot, and that better stone can be obtained from Delhi at nearly the same cost, it has been determined not to continue the experiment any further.

A cursory examination of the coal fields of Assam has established the existence of coal mines both at Jaipore and Terap, the latter of which especially are said to promise an unlimited supply of a very superior quality. The Mohpanee coal mines in the Nursingpore district are being worked with success by the Nerbudda Coal and Iron Company; and coal fields have also been discovered in the Chindwara and Chanda districts of the Central Provinces.

11. RECLAMATION OF LAND.

Permission has been given for the registration of a company formed for the purpose of reclaiming the salt-water lake near Calcutta; but no decision has yet been arrived at respecting the terms on which the work is to be undertaken.

The "Port Canning Land Investment Reclamation and Dock Company, Limited," has been started with a capital of 1,200,000 l., of which it is understood that half has been paid up; its object is to construct the works necessary for the formation of the town and port of Canning on the Mutlah.

Very

Very important operations are being carried on in the island of Bombay, both by the Government and by private companies, in the reclamation of land from the sea. Among these may be especially mentioned the spaces which are being recovered in Moody Bay, Back Bay, and Colaba, in order to form a terminus for each of the two railways that start from the island, and to obtain additional space for the purposes of building and wharfage.

The improvement of the River Hooghly has received attention from the Government of India, by whom Mr. Leonard was deputed to visit the principal works at the mouths of rivers in Europe; and the propositions of that gentleman, involving an estimated cost of 246,200 *l.*, are now under consideration.

12. HARBOUR IMPROVEMENTS.

On the western side of India, the wharf wall at Carwar was completed to a length of 845 feet, and about 25,000 *l.* was spent on the wharf road. Since the close of the year, the works, comprising a lighthouse, a pier, a wharf wall, and a wharf road, have been brought to a conclusion; the total cost was about 125,000 *l.*, and everything appears to have been done which can be required from the Government for any traffic likely to spring up within the next 20 years.

Operations have for some years been in progress to remove the bar which obstructs the harbour of Kurrachee, by narrowing the opening through which the tide flows, so that the stream may have greater force, and by protecting the entrance by means of breakwaters; the bar is, however, reported to have considerably lengthened, and the depth of water to have decreased. Within the harbour much progress was made, and the Napier Mole Bridge completed; a jetty was being constructed to a length of 1,064 feet, of which only 336 remained unfinished; and the east pier, intended to be 1,500 feet long, has reached a length of 1,280 feet. Owing, however, to the doubts entertained as to the ultimate result of the works, the opinion of a very eminent firm of harbour engineers has been recently taken on the advisability of continuing the operations, and, on their reporting unfavourably on the principle adopted, directions have been given for suspending all work except such as may be necessary to maintain the stability of the portion already constructed.

The lighthouse on the Alguada Reef, off Cape Negrais, the south-west extremity of Pegu, was completed by Lieutenant Colonel Fraser, of the Royal (Bengal) Engineers, during the year under review. Early in 1857, that officer was deputed to make the requisite survey and preliminary investigations; and in December 1859 he was authorised to undertake its construction. The first stone was laid on the 14th of February 1861; and, on the 23d of April 1865, a first class revolving light was established on the granite tower, 144 feet above high-water mark, and visible in clear weather from a distance of 20 nautical miles.

13. LIGHTHOUSES.

Another lighthouse, at Double Island, on the coast of Tenasserim, was nearly finished in the year under review, and the light was for the first time shown on the 4th of December last.

#### IV. JUDICATURE, LEGISLATION, AND POLICE.

In the year 1861 an Act of Parliament was passed, abolishing the Supreme Courts of Judicature which held jurisdiction over the Presidency towns, as well as the Sudder Courts which presided over the revenue and criminal litigation of the provinces, and substituting for them one High Court at each Presidency, which, uniting the legal acquirements of the judges appointed from England with the intimate knowledge of Indian law and the feelings of the natives possessed by those trained in the Civil Service, combined the powers and authorities of both the former Courts. These High Courts consist of a Chief Justice and a limited number of judges, who must be barristers of not less than five years' standing, members of the Civil Service of ten years' standing who have been Zillah or Circuit Judges, or persons who have either held judicial office in India, or been pleaders at the Indian bar for a certain time. Provision was also made for the future establishment of a High Court, should Her Majesty see fit to erect one, in any portion of the Indian territories not already included within the local jurisdiction of one of the High Courts.

In 1862, High Courts were, accordingly, established at Calcutta, Madras, and

and Bombay; and among those selected as judges on the first formation of the Calcutta Court was a native of India, Baboo Sumbhoonath Pundit.

The working of the High Courts has been very satisfactory, and the arrears of business have been so far disposed of that it is contemplated to reduce the number of judges on the occurrence of vacancies on the bench.

Amended Letters Patent have recently been framed for the several High Courts, making such alterations as experience has shown to be desirable.

A Royal Commission, presided over by Sir John Romilly, was appointed in 1853, to consider the reform of the judicial establishments, judicial procedure, and laws of India. The Commissioners, after devoting much time and labour to the subject, produced two admirable codes of civil and criminal procedure, and a penal code, which is substantially the same as that prepared by the Commission over which Lord Macaulay presided at Calcutta. These codes, under the titles of Acts VIII. of 1859, XXV. of 1861, and XLV. of 1860, respectively, have been introduced into the greater part of India with marked success.

In 1861, a further Commission was appointed to prepare a body of substantive law for India, as well as to consider other matters connected with the improvement of the legislation. The first portion of their work was embodied in Act X. of 1865, and comprised the law of succession and inheritance generally applicable to all classes domiciled in British India other than Hindoos, Mahomedans, and Buddhists, each of which portions of the population has laws of its own on the subject.

An Act which was passed to consolidate the law relating to Courts of Small Causes in the Mofussil (No. XI. of 1865), gave power to the local Governments to extend the jurisdiction of such Courts to suits for an amount not exceeding 100 l., and provided also for the creation of the office of Judge Extraordinary, by the local Government investing some persons with the powers of a Judge of a Small Cause Court for a limited period. By these means any sudden increase in the business of the Civil Courts can be conveniently met, and provision is made for the disposal of petty litigation, without compelling complainants to have recourse to an appeal, and without depriving them, in any considerable degree, of the securities for justice afforded by the appeal system.

By Act XIII. of 1865 the system of grand jury was abolished in the Presidency towns, a record by the Clerk of the Crown, under a written instrument from the committing justice or magistrate, in which the offence is stated, taking the place of the charge of the grand jury. It was also provided that the High Courts should be empowered to exercise original criminal jurisdiction, under commissions from the respective Governments, in places other than the Presidency towns.

Doubts having arisen respecting the validity of certain marriages in India celebrated by unauthorized persons, an Act was passed in 1864 (No. XXV.), rendering valid all such marriages which were not otherwise invalid, and providing that, in future, all marriages must be solemnised by ministers of religion who have received episcopal ordination, or are clergymen of the Church of Scotland, or who have been specially licensed by the Government to perform marriages; provision was also made for the licensing of persons to solemnise marriages among Native Christians. In 1865, an Act (No. V.) was passed, re-enacting the main provisions of the previous Act, relieving members of the Church of Rome from the operation of certain clauses, and extending the applicability of the law to the Straits Settlements; it also provided that the regulations respecting the marriage of Native converts should be applied, if desired by the parties, to all marriages of Native Christians, whether converts or otherwise; and it made the licences granted to ministers, to enable them to solemnise marriages, revocable at the discretion of the executive Governments.

Two Acts were passed with special reference to the community of the Parsees, No. XV. of 1865, relative to their laws of marriage and divorce, and No. XXI., defining the law regarding succession to the property of an intestate.

In order to provide more effectually for the education of the selected candidates for the Indian Civil Service in law and the Native languages, it was decided in 1864, that their preliminary training should be completed before they leave England, and that they should be required to pass two years in special

special training in this country before presenting themselves for final examination and admission into the service.

In 1860, a Commission was appointed to consider the measures by which greater economy and efficiency might be introduced into the police force of India, and an Act was passed in the following year (No. V. of 1861), reorganizing the whole system. The civil constabulary has been entirely separated from the military force, and placed under the Civil Government; and the duties of guarding gaols, escorting treasure, and protecting property generally, are made over to the police. The latter receive a certain amount of training, and, in some few corps which had previously belonged to the irregular portion of the army, the organization has been little disturbed; but, as a general rule, the drilling of the police is not carried to such an extent as to destroy their independent power of action; their arms vary according to the nature of the duty on which they are employed. In a recent return, the number of the police is stated at 154,435 throughout the whole of India.

On the original side of the High Court of Calcutta the civil cases under trial in 1864 showed a large increase, ~~as compared with those in the preceding year.~~ The number of appeals was also rather larger, the proportion being about 18 per cent. of those in which appeals were admissible; but the value of property concerned was only about two-fifths of that brought before the Court in 1863. Bengal.

An increase occurred in the number of suits instituted in the subordinate Civil Courts. After taking into account the cost of these Courts, the stamp fees are found to have produced a net income of 90,135 *l.* to the Government.

In the Calcutta Court of Small Causes, the aggregate number of suits instituted during the year was slightly in excess of those preferred in 1863, but, owing to the extended jurisdiction of the Court, the amount of property under litigation increased by nearly one half. The average number of suits for each day was 137, and rather more than half of those set down for hearing were actually tried.

An Act (No. XXVI. of 1864) was passed by the Government of India, extending the jurisdiction of the Court to suits for sums exceeding 50 *l.*, and it was found necessary, in consequence, to increase the salary of the three Judges, and to appoint a fourth. The receipts during the year from fees, &c., were 21,747 *l.*, and the cost of establishment 13,654 *l.*

During the year under report there were in the Mofussil 32 Courts of Small Causes, and the net charge on the Government, after deducting the income derived from them, amounted to 14,492 *l.* The only self-supporting one was that in the suburbs of Calcutta.

The Governor General having, on the 24th of March 1864, given his assent to an Act (No. XVI.) for the Registration of Assurances, by which it was provided that no instrument for the gift, lease, or transfer of immoveable property should have legal effect unless duly registered, a Registrar General was appointed, with Deputy and District Registrars under him, and a code of rules was drawn up for carrying the Act into effect. In the districts in which it is in operation a considerable income has already been derived from registration fees.

In addition to the Stipendiary Magistrates, there were in the interior of the country 29 gentlemen exercising honorary magisterial powers.

The system of trial by jury, which was in force in certain districts, was found, in spite of occasional mistakes, to work well on the whole; and the orders which have been given to ensure care in the preparation of the jury lists, will, it is hoped, secure a more intelligent class of men than has hitherto been obtained to act as jurors.

The local authorities and the great body of judicial officers are almost unanimous in opinion that the Whipping Act (No. VI. of 1864), by which the offences of theft, extortion, receiving stolen property, and housebreaking, are rendered punishable by whipping, has worked beneficially hitherto.

The Act which was passed in 1859 (No. XIII.) to punish breaches of contract by artificers, workmen, and labourers, only applied to the Presidency towns and the Straits Settlements; but in 1863 and 1864 it was extended to the suburbs of Calcutta and to several divisions of the Bengal Presidency. The magistrates were directed, in administering the law, to look closely to the terms of the contract which they might be called upon to enforce, to satisfy themselves that

it had been made *bonâ fide*, and, in the case of verbal contracts, to require full proof of a clear understanding and freedom of action on both sides when the contract was made. The working of the Act has not been quite so satisfactory as was anticipated on its introduction, a very large proportion of the cases being either compromised or struck off on default of prosecutors.

An Act was passed by the Government of Bengal (No. VI. of 1865), providing for the registration and enforcement of contracts for labour at places to which, by virtue of such contracts, the labourer is to be conveyed at the expense of the employer. Under this Act a minimum rate of wages is secured to the labourer, and protectors and inspectors are appointed to assist them; those who neglect to work may be punished, and deserters be apprehended. It also provides for the cancellation of the contract under certain circumstances.

By the middle of 1864 the whole of the districts in the lower provinces were occupied by the new police, and in the following March a re-arrangement of the circles was effected with the view of reducing their strength and cost. On the 1st of January 1865 the force consisted of 26,591 men, which gives a proportion of one constable to every 1,633 persons.

A proposition was made by the Lieutenant Governor to the Supreme Government, to re-organise the land police of Calcutta and the suburbs, and the river police of the port, as well as to increase the number of European constables in the city, the present force being insufficient to hold in check the criminal and riotous portion of the European population, with whom the native police are unable to cope.

The condition of the village police has also received consideration. At present the zemindar is responsible for the appointment of watchmen, who are maintained either by payments from the village community, or by the assignment of lands from the zemindar's estate, which they hold altogether free, or at a small quit-rent. At the same time, the removal of the watchmen from service, as well as the regulation of their duties, rests with the magistrate or district superintendent of police, and the conflict of interests arising from this double rule destroys the efficiency of the watchmen. A Bill to remedy the evil has accordingly been prepared.

Great success attended the measures which were adopted for the suppression of the crime of administering drugs in order to effect robbery, and for breaking up the gangs of dacoits, or professional robbers, who had lately increased considerably in number in Jessore. Directions were also given to all magistrates to prohibit acts of hook-swinging or other self-torture, when carried on so as to cause a public nuisance, or when there was danger of injury to human life, health, or safety, and they were instructed to enlist the co-operation of influential native landholders in the prevention of such practices. The result was, that in the town of Calcutta no case of hook-swinging occurred during the Churruck festival, and in the suburbs there were only three instances.

The rate of mortality in the gaols, which in the year 1854 was 6.14 per cent., had risen in 1858 and 1860 to upwards of 13 per cent., owing to the evil effects of overcrowding, and to serious outbreaks of cholera and dysentery in the prisons; but the measures adopted to relieve the most crowded prisons, and to improve the diet of the convicts, have caused the proportion of deaths to decrease very considerably during the last four years, and in 1864 it was only 6.17. Special attention has been directed to the improvement of the sanitary arrangements of the great gaol and house of correction in Calcutta, which have for the first time been placed under the control of the Prison Department. The gross cost of the prisoners' maintenance during the year was 90,310 L., more than one-third of which, namely 34,175 L., was repaid by the labour of the prisoners, and the profits on the articles manufactured by them. The average cost was 3 l. 1 s. 9 d. per man.

A system of central jails is about to be introduced, each of which is to be adapted for the reception of 1,000 convicts, of whom 200 will be provided with separate cells, and the remainder distributed in wards containing 32 persons in each. The gaols will be under the sole charge of medical officers specially selected for the duty, and a garden will be attached of sufficient extent to furnish the fresh vegetables necessary for the prisoners, and to give every convict his turn of work in the open air. It is hoped that this measure will conduce to economy of management, to the secure custody and health of the prisoners,

prisoners, to efficiency in the punishment and prevention of crime, and to the reformation of criminals and conversion of unproductive consumers into profitable labourers.

A penitentiary is being constructed at Hazareebaugh, for the incarceration of European convicts who are sentenced by the High Court to imprisonment or penal servitude for periods exceeding two years, and also of prisoners sentenced by military courts to punishment by penal servitude.

In accordance with the power granted to Her Majesty in the High Courts Act of 1861, it was determined to establish a High Court for the North-Western Provinces, having jurisdiction over the districts hitherto subject to that of the Sudder Court at Agra, and Letters Patent have been recently sent to India for the purpose. North-Western Provinces.

The litigation in the Civil Courts increased during the year, owing, in some measure, to the commercial advancement of the country, and the contemplated introduction of the permanent settlement. In the disposal of suits in the Courts of the Sudder Ameen and Moonsiffs, a degree of dispatch was attained which cannot be greatly exceeded, without incurring the risk of having cases decided after imperfect investigation.

The regular appeals pending in the Sudder Court have been reduced from 360 to 49, and the special appeals from 2,069 to 474; and most of those awaiting decision are of less than three months' standing. This result, though partly due to the augmented staff of translators, is, in a great measure, owing to the zealous and unremitting exertions of the judges of the Court.

Small Cause Courts were in operation at Benares, Allahabad, and Agra; and a new one was constituted in Deera Doon, for the convenience of the residents at Mussoorie and Landour.

As regards criminal justice, the number of persons brought to trial was greater than in the preceding year—a circumstance attributable to the distress among the poorer classes, owing to the high price of food consequent on a bad harvest.

The employment of honorary magistrates has, on the whole, proved successful; and their services have been found most useful in the decision of petty cases, in which their personal knowledge of the peculiar customs and observances of the native community has enabled them more readily to arrive at a satisfactory decision.

The Whipping Act, under which 2,167 persons were sentenced during the year, has considerably relieved the overcrowded gaols, and tended to prevent the moral deterioration of nearly 2,000 persons convicted for the first time, one-third of whom were juvenile offenders.

The new constabulary has already shown itself to be somewhat superior to the force which existed under the old system in that which has hitherto been considered its weak point, namely, the detection of crime; but it is in their *morale* that the more marked improvement is discernible, complaints of corruption, ill-treatment, or extortion being rarely brought against them.

An Act which was passed by the Government of India (No. II. of 1865), to provide for the maintenance of the rural police in the North-Western Provinces, amended the existing law in two points in which it was faulty, namely, in pressing unequally on the proprietors of land, and in rendering appointments of village watchmen, when once made, unalterable during the time of the settlement.

From February to May, typhoid fever prevailed to a lamentable extent in the Agra and Futtehghur gaols; but, as it appeared to have been brought into the prison from outside, a system of quarantine was established for all fresh admissions, and the result was that, for the remaining nine months, there was no outbreak of epidemic fever in any of the prisons, and the per-centage of deaths was reduced during the year from 7.2 in 1863-64 to 6.42 in 1864-65.

Statistics which were called for in Oude, respecting the relative number of young boys and girls, appear to show that the crime of infanticide, though not altogether eradicated, is confined to a few Rajpoot villages in each district; and there can be no doubt that the exertions of the Government officers, aided by the co-operation of the great landowners, have very materially checked this inhuman practice. Oude.

Punjab.

In the Punjab, the increase which took place in the number of regular suits appears to be partly due to the investment of additional capital in the purchase of agricultural produce, and the growing value of proprietary rights, both of which are results of general prosperity, and partly to the improved facilities for the disposal of civil suits. Upwards of one-third of the litigation occurred between capitalists and the agricultural community.

The marked increase observed in the number of suits relating to marriage and betrothal, which has nearly doubled in the last five years, appears to indicate that the means of evading this species of contract are, or are supposed to be, greater now than formerly; and it is particularly to be regretted that in Kangra, where there are special native tribunals for disposing of these cases and checking their occurrence, they have more than doubled in the year under review.

The Small Cause Courts have now been established for nearly four years; in 1864 they were eight in number, and upwards of a fifth of the litigation of the whole province was disposed of by the judges of those courts, more than half of that which occurred in the districts where they were at work being brought before them. The district officers and commissioners, who are best qualified to form a judgment on the effect, bear decided testimony to their popularity and success, and to the relief afforded by them to the ordinary district courts; while the statistics show that the favour with which they are viewed is not the result of undue acquiescence in the claims of plaintiffs. They appear, however, to be better adapted for large cities and stations than for the agricultural population of the interior.

A re-adjustment of the scale of costs having been suggested, the Lieutenant Governor is of opinion that, while an increase on the larger suits might be beneficial, it is not desirable to reduce the expense in the smaller cases. The existing charge does not prevent free resort to courts of justice, for false and exaggerated claims are even now too numerous; and at present a suitor in a district court, in a case of less than 32 s. value, can institute his suit, and summon the defendant and an unlimited number of witnesses, from the remotest corner of the province, for a consolidated sum of 2 s. 9 d.

The Jageerdars, or native gentlemen, who were invested with magisterial powers within the limits of their estates, have, on the whole, performed their functions satisfactorily, though not quite so well as the honorary magistrates for the cities of Lahore, Umritsur, and Delhi, owing to their being less under supervision. 3,919 cases were disposed of by the unpaid agency of the gentry and burghers of the province; and in one respect, namely, the apportionment of fines to the means of the offenders, they are said, as a rule, to show greater discrimination than the European magistrates.

Resort has not yet been had to the jury system; but, in trials held before the Sessions Courts, assessors are invariably used, and in only 29 out of 292 cases has the opinion of the majority been at variance with that of the judge.

Greater accuracy in the knowledge of law and procedure has been exhibited by the judicial officers since the Indian Penal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure were introduced into the Province.

An important State trial was held by Sir Herbert Edwardes, the Commissioner of Umballa, in which 11 persons were charged with the offence of abetting the waging of war against the Queen. The treason was hatched 40 years ago at Patna, by Syud Ahmed, the founder of the religious sect of the Wahabees in India; and the discovery was due to the fidelity of a serjeant of mounted police, named Gauzan Khan, who, while going his rounds one day in May 1863, in the Kurnaul district, observed four Bengalees proceeding along the road. He fell into conversation with them, and, having ascertained that they were emissaries from the Wahabee fastness, near Sittana, on their way back to their native province to make arrangements for forwarding supplies of men and money to the frontier, he at once arrested them as traitors, in spite of the offer of a bribe which, they stated, would be paid by one Jaffir Khan, a scrivener in the neighbouring town of Thaney-sur. The magistrate before whom the men were brought refused to commit four peaceable wayfarers on the mere charge of the police serjeant, unsupported by evidence; but the latter, feeling that his word had been doubted, determined to sift the matter to the bottom; and, as he was unable to leave his duties, he instructed his son to join himself to the Wahabees, and not return until he could bring the names of the conspirators within the British territory, who were



were aiding the fanatics outside. Risking the double danger of being treated by the British outposts as a traitor, and by the Wahabees as a spy, the son crossed the border, joined in the attack which in July 1863 was made upon Sittana by the Wahabees, whom he completely deceived, and at length returned with the secret that Moonshee Jaffir, of Thaney-sur, was the great man who passed up the Bengalees and their arms. This information, corroborating the suspicions arising from the previous reference to him as being ready to pay the bribe for the release of the prisoners, led to the immediate arrest of Jaffir, whose papers revealed the whole plot. The telegraph was set in motion, and in a few hours Mahomed Shuffee, the Government meat contractor, Yahiya Ali, chief priest of the Wahabees at Patna, and the other conspirators, were placed in confinement. At the trial it was proved that the accused had, in various degrees, been the agents for the collection and transmission of men and money, through Patna, Thaney-sur, and Umballa, to the Queen's enemies, the Hindustani fanatics at Mulka and Sittana, both before and during the time of the recent military operations at Umbeyla. Three of the prisoners were sentenced to death, and eight to transportation for life, but the capital sentences were commuted. Mahomed Shuffee subsequently made a full confession, which enabled the Government of Bengal successfully to prosecute Moulavee Ahmed-pollah, an influential citizen of Patna, who was also condemned to death, but the capital sentence was not carried into execution.

The Arms Act has worked well; the period for which licenses are granted has been increased from one to three years; and instructions have been issued in some districts for an additional number being given to agriculturalists and native huntsmen for the protection of their crops from injury by wild pigs and deer.

The police returns show an increase in the reported cases of crime, but the number of non-bailable offences is less than the average of the last five years. In the Cis-Indus districts, where the new system of police is in force, the per-centage of increase was 22, and in those beyond the Indus, where the old system is still maintained, it was not less than 45. The apparently greater prevalence of crime is believed, so far as regards the less heinous offences, to be attributable, in a great measure, to an improved system of registration, and to the increased confidence of the people in seeking the aid of the police. At the same time, instances of murder and culpable homicide have risen from 264 in 1863, to 359 in 1864, without any assignable cause; but it has been suggested that the absence of political excitement tends to develop those domestic and village feuds which are the cause of so many assassinations.

Cases of dacoitee, highway robbery, and burglary, were also much more frequent in the year under review; almost all those which have occurred in the last two or three years between Kurnaul and the Ravee, were perpetrated by an organised body of Jats, long established in Ferozepoor and the adjoining Native States, who had in a great measure discontinued their inroads into the British territory, after the annexation of the Punjab, but who of late have been regaining confidence. Great difficulties lie in the way of an investigation into crimes committed on the frontier of the independent territories of Shekawatee, Loharu, Jeypoor, &c.

To whatever cause the increase of crime is attributable, it is not to the change in the police system or to any general deterioration of the working of the force, seeing that the proportion of cases brought to trial is greater, and that of acquittals less, than in the preceding year. Measures are being steadily matured to enable the police to compete more effectually with organised crime; numerous captures have been lately made among the more northern gangs; and it is hoped that the haunts of the plunderers who infest the Native States and adjoining British territory, will likewise be discovered.

In some of the districts where honorary police officers are employed, they have proved far from efficient; but, on the other hand, some have shown themselves of great value, and the institution is considered a most important one, as affording a means of ultimately enabling the bulk of the people to apprehend and take part in our system of administration.

Reformatory villages were established on Government land in Sealkote, where colonies of thieving tribes were planted, and supplied with seed and implements of husbandry. The scheme gave early promise of success, but



afterwards resulted in disappointment; a careful inspection has, however, been effected, and improvements, suggested by experience, have been carried into operation.

Female infanticide is still practised, though not to any great extent, by some of the higher Jat tribes and Rajpoot families. Few children are destroyed by violent means, but female infants are purposely allowed to die from neglect. Much has been done in the way of prevention, by making the suspected classes feel that they are watched, and enlisting native public opinion against the custom, and large meetings were held during the year in several districts, similar to those which were convened in 1853.

One cause for this unnatural repugnance to female offspring is the extravagant expenditure at the time of marriage, which, in the case of some of the higher tribes, falls to a great extent on the father of the bride. The folly of thus wasting their substance on marriage feasts has long been admitted by the native community, but few had the moral courage to resist a custom sanctioned by long usage and the influence of the priestly caste. Of late, however, signs of greater independence have appeared; and in May and June of 1864 a movement was made spontaneously by the citizens of Delhi, who held several large meetings, at one of which an essay was read by a native gentleman of high caste, exposing the folly of the practice, and pointing out that it was opposed to the earlier precepts of the Hindu religion. Eventually, 47 castes and tribes solemnly agreed, through their representatives, to certain reduced rates of expenditure, especially in respect of the fees of the family priests and perquisites bestowed on Brahmins and religious beggars; and a standing committee was appointed to see that these self-imposed rules are duly carried out. The proceedings of the meetings and the essay above mentioned were printed in the vernacular by the Government, and circulated through the province; and the movement has already been productive of good effect in many quarters.

The total number of the police in the Punjab is 15,258, and the cost 260,000 L., in addition to 3,796 enrolled constabulary, who are paid by the local revenues of the towns, at an expense of 30,060 L.

An Act (No. XIX. of 1865) was passed, defining the existing powers of the ordinary courts of civil and criminal jurisdiction in the Punjab, and giving to them a legal basis, in the same manner as had been previously done in some of the other non-regulation provinces.

A further Act, No. XXIII. of 1865 (which was re-enacted with a slight modification as Act IV. of 1866), amended the constitution of the Chief Court of Judicature in the Punjab and its dependencies, by providing the province with a tribunal competent to try European British subjects for criminal offences previously cognizable by the High Court of Bengal alone. It also provides a court of original jurisdiction for hearing and finally determining civil suits of great importance in lieu of the existing law under which all such suits must be heard in the first instance in the district courts, and go through the ordeal of a double appeal to the Commissioner of the Division and the Judicial Commissioner, before the decision of the highest court can be obtained; and, by declaring that the chief court shall consist of two or more judges, at least one of whom shall be a barrister of five years' standing, it will secure the presence on the bench of the highest appellate court of an officer acquainted with English law, as well as greater uniformity in the interpretation of the law.

The rate of mortality in the gaols, which in 1863 was 6.71 per cent., rose during 1864 to 8.67 per cent.; this, which is nearly double the average of the previous 10 years, is entirely the result of a very fatal epidemic fever which raged at different times in eight gaols, in one of which, that at Umballa, 31 per cent. of the prisoners were carried off, notwithstanding every effort to stay its progress. Excluding those gaols, the mortality in the remaining 18 was only 1.48 per cent.

With a view of avoiding the recurrence of such a calamity, particular attention will henceforth be devoted to the existence of infectious diseases in the interior of districts, and, where they are found to be prevalent, newly convicted prisoners will be kept in quarantine for a suitable period before being allowed to mix with others. A better scale of dietary has also been sanctioned.

Owing to this change of diet, the improvement of clothing and bedding, and the increased price of grain and materials for clothing, the expenditure on gaols was greater than in the preceding year by 9,081 L.

The profits on the gaol manufactures, and the value of labour of the prisoners employed

employed in the service of the Government, are estimated to have amounted to 14,670 *l.* A large order for carpets was executed in the Lahore gaol for a dealer in London; the manufacture of porcelain was carried on experimentally both at Lahore and Delhi, but with no great success, from want of experienced hands.

In the Central Provinces the native judges in the interior of the districts have been brought specially under instruction, and, though still far from what they ought to be, are much improved. Central Provinces.

Litigation continues slightly to increase. Of the suits for debt, those between bankers and agriculturalists bore a less proportion to the sum total than might have been expected; this is perhaps attributable to the fact that the prevailing tenure is that of small landlords, who usually lend both money and seed to their tenants, and, as the latter cannot so readily break with their landlords as with the money lenders, it is seldom necessary to sue a tenant for the sum advanced to him.

The two Small Cause Courts of Nagpore and Jubbulpore were at work during the year; they are held in high estimation by the people, and the presiding judges perform the duties well and expeditiously.

The new rules for the admission of pleaders were in force, but none of the candidates succeeded in passing the examination in 1864. Subsequently, however, they have been more successful, and there are now about 20 authorised pleaders in the courts.

In criminal offences there is an increase on the whole; but this is in great part owing to the willingness of the people to bring their small grievances before the courts, and a slight reduction appears in the number of non-bailable cases.

All kinds of murder and homicide show a sensible decrease; and of the cases which did occur several were committed by madmen. In the eastern or Chutteesghur country there were instances of murder committed on supposed witches. Cases of poisoning were rare.

There was a marked diminution in the instances of dacoitee, which is partly due to the extinction of political trouble in Sumbulpore. Besides this, however, the old gangs have been broken up, and the professional dacoits hunted down, 91 being captured during the year.

Despite the multiplication of police posts on the trunk roads, and patrolling day and night, the mail is sometimes attacked; and, in a country where there are such unusual facilities for the commission of the crime, the complete suppression of these robberies is almost beyond hope. Infanticide is practically unknown; and Thuggee has not reared its head since its extinction by the special department.

There is an increase under the head of burglary and ordinary theft, due in part to improved reporting; the sufferers, finding that they are not forced to prosecute in petty cases unless they choose to do so, have little hesitation in declaring their wrongs. The proportion of stolen property which is recovered has risen to 34 per cent., and the successful prosecutions of receivers of stolen goods are increasing yearly.

The honorary magistrates were 41 in number, of whom all but three were natives of India. They have decided 4,005 cases, and done substantial justice, though their attention to procedure is not very strict.

The police, including those paid from local funds, comprised 8,338 men, and cost 124,654 *l.* The proportion of apprehensions and convictions to the number of cases reported indicates much improvement; in detective ability, however, they are still deficient. The civil officers testify to their general fair repute in dealing with the people, among whom they are popular rather than otherwise; but the number punished for corruption or oppression shows that the supervision is strict, and that there is no lack of prosecutors when they do misbehave themselves.

Many of the suggestions made by the Gaol Committee in 1864 are already in full force in the prisons of the Central Provinces, such as the prevention of overcrowding, where possible, and of sleeping on the ground; and attention has been paid to ventilation, conservancy, clothing, diet, &c. The mortality has decreased in spite of the outbreak of an epidemic in eight of the gaols, and, instead of 10.14 per cent. in 1863, was only 7.67 in 1864. Four new central and five district gaols are being built.

## Hyderabad assigned districts.

In the Hyderabad assigned districts the delay in the disposal of civil business was very great, owing to the enormous extent of jurisdiction of all the courts, and the paucity of officers to preside in the higher ones; but this evil will be remedied by the recent increase in the number of districts and officers, and establishment of four purely civil courts.

The number of heinous criminal offences increased in an alarming degree during the year 1864, while in very few cases of dacoitee or robbery were convictions obtained, and of the total value of stolen property less than 14 per cent. was recovered.

The inability of the police to cope with the rapid spread of crime led to the appointment of Major Younghusband as Inspector General, and to the re-organization of the whole body, both the number of men and the rates of pay being increased. The vigorous measures adopted by that officer so completely broke up the combination which prevailed among the dacoits, and stripped them of their power, that, whereas during the cold season of 1863-64 upwards of 8,000*l.* worth of treasure was plundered, in the corresponding months of 1864-65 not one rupee was lost. Although, however, the police have much improved, they are still very slow in the detection of crime; and much remains to be done in improving the discipline and organization of the force.

The health of the prisoners was good, and the deaths only two per cent. of the average number in gaol.

## British Burmah.

Recorders' courts were instituted at Rangoon and Moulmein, under Act XXI. of 1863, and the registrar of each court was appointed the Judge of the Court of Small Causes in the town. In the other parts of the province there are 121 civil courts, of which 89 are presided over by Burmese or Karen officers.

In criminal justice the recorders have the powers of sessions judges, and also are authorized to try all European British subjects charged with offences other than those punishable by death.

The police numbered 6,399, and their cost was 124,854*l.* They are principally chosen from the Burmese and other races of the country, except in the seaport towns, where they are chiefly Indians; and their progress is, on the whole, satisfactory. The predominating crime is gang robbery; the dacoits enter the province from the territories of Siam or Burmah, and easily escape across the boundary before they can be overtaken. The Burmese Government appears anxious to prevent these attacks, but no effective assistance has yet been rendered by that of Siam.

The failure of the police to make any arrests in nearly half the cases of murder is to be regretted; but they have been fairly successful against dacoits in the frontier districts; their discipline has been well maintained, and their conduct towards the people is very satisfactory.

Four new gaols are in course of construction. The health of the prisoners has been good, except at Moulmein, where the mortality was excessive among the convicts transported from India.

## Straits Settlements.

In the several courts of the Straits Settlements, there has been no falling off in the civil business.

In criminal cases, the great difficulty arises from the Chinese secret societies, as nobody would dare to denounce a member if he were accused of a serious crime; and the feuds between them frequently lead to disturbances, one of which in 1864 caused the loss of 20 lives and the destruction of a whole village.

The conduct of the police was satisfactory at Singapore, but not equally so in Penang and Malacca, although in individual cases great resolution was shown. The frontier stations are of great service in protecting British subjects from the raids of their marauding neighbours.

The health of the prisoners in gaol was remarkably good. The value of their labour, taking the rates at present in force, bore a very high proportion to their cost, and at Singapore especially the gaol was almost self-supporting.

## Madras.

The working of the Whipping Act in the Madras Presidency has proved beneficial, so far as can yet be judged.

The Registration Act was only in force for a few months before the close of the year; a Registrar General was nominated, the Presidency was divided into 22 districts, the deputy collector being in most cases selected for the office of district registrar, and 326 deputy registrars were appointed under them.

The

The only State trial was that of certain Khonds, a wild people living on the northern frontier of the Presidency, 10 of whom were convicted of being implicated in a partial rising which occurred in 1863.

The total strength of the police was 23,624, besides 3,030 village and local watchmen, and the cost to Imperial funds was 348,439 *l.* Although the improvement in the character of the force cannot be very rapid, the service is becoming more popular, and candidates for employment in all ranks come forward more readily, while a general earnestness in acquiring knowledge is displayed. Marked progress is being made by the native magistrates in every district, though they still show a tendency to rely too much on the police.

The unfavourable season and high price of grain led to an increase in the number of the less heinous offences against property. Dacoities and gang robbery are subsiding, and there was no case attended with murder. In Cuddapah, where dacoities had been most frequent, three robber bands were broken up, and 60 persons transported.

The rate of mortality in the gaols was very high, 12½ per cent., which is attributable, in a great measure, to the crowded state of the prisons. One new gaol has been completed during the year, three others are in progress, and it has been determined to build three additional central gaols, in order to provide for an increase in the number of prisoners.

The number of suits filed during the year in the civil courts of the Bombay Presidency was 145,456, or more than half as many again as in 1863, when only 90,728 suits were presented. Decisions were passed in 121,474 cases. Bombay.

Of the 673 pleaders, all natives of India, who practised during 1864-65, in the regulation courts, 48 were acquainted with English, and 67 had certificates of a legal education. This shows a considerable increase when compared with 1863-64, in which year the numbers were 38 and 44 respectively, and bears testimony to the growing zeal for the acquirement of knowledge befitting the profession.

Although the number of cases decided by the court of small causes at Bombay decreased by 462, the amount of the fees was 6,255 *l.* more than in the preceding year; and the surplus of the receipts over the expenses of the court increased from 6,512 *l.* in 1863-64 to 7,536 *l.* in 1864-65. This excess is owing to the extension of the jurisdiction of the court to suits not exceeding in value 100 *l.*, and the returns of the cases filed, as compared with those previously disposed of by the Supreme and High Courts, give a satisfactory evidence that a public want was supplied by the passing of the Act of 1864, which conferred the extended powers on the courts for small causes in the Presidency towns.

Of the five small cause courts in the Mofussil, the three at Ahmednuggur, Poona, and Kurrachee, showed a surplus of receipts over expenditure, while in those at Ahmedabad and Belgaum the charges were greater than the fees received.

The statistics of crime throughout the Presidency show a considerable increase in the year 1864-65, the number of offences, trials, and convictions, being about one-third more than in 1863-64; but this was principally due to the number of small burglaries and minor thefts, originating in the distress caused by the dearth of provisions, and in Poona, where the burglaries were unusually numerous, the proportion of convictions was nearly 80 per cent. of the offences committed.

A plot to disturb the peace of Guzerat, and overthrow the Government of the present Guicowar, was hatched at Dwarka, by a supposed relative of Nana Sahib, who ventured to Baroda with his adherents, intending to concert a general rising throughout the province, in which use would have been made of the Wagheers and other disaffected persons. The conspiracy was, however, discovered by the Guicowar, and, with the magistrate's assistance, the chief mover in the plot, together with all but one of his adherents, was arrested, sent to Baroda, and tried before his Highness's tribunal, by whom they were sentenced to imprisonment for various terms.

An endeavour was made by a Brahmin to incite the men of the Southern Mahratta horse to mutiny, when that regiment was about to be disbanded, but the attempt proved abortive, and the Brahmin was sentenced to transportation for life.

The condition of the Bombay police being in a very unsatisfactory state, Sir

George Clerk, when Governor of that Presidency, in 1848, suggested a complete reform, by separating the police entirely from the control of the Court of Foujdaree Adawlut (or chief court of criminal justice), and placing it under the immediate superintendence of the Government, by abolishing the military element which pervaded the police corps, and by re-casting and reducing the establishment. The question was further considered by Lord Falkland's Government and the Government of India, and finally the change was carried out in 1852 and the following year. Some minor reforms and a reduction of the numbers were effected by Sir George Clerk in his second administration, in 1861; and it was this system of the Bombay police which the Government of India took for its model in the measures which have been above described, as embodied in Act V. of 1861.

In 1864 it was proposed to reduce the police establishment in Bombay still further, and to increase the allowances of those retained, whose pay had become inadequate, owing to the rise of prices. By this measure it was thought that the efficiency of the force would be improved, at the same time that a saving of expenditure was effected; and, in order to determine on the course to be followed, the Inspector General of Police visited the Bombay Presidency, but the new scheme had not been introduced at the close of the year.

To some of the police batons only were supplied, in place of swords, and the measure was found to work satisfactorily.

The unhealthiness of Canara is a serious drawback to its material improvement, and is a main cause of the difficulty found in maintaining the efficiency of the police in that district. Cotton thefts, however, which were formerly so rife in the town of Coompta, have ceased entirely, owing to their vigilance, and to the example which was made in the case of a vessel laden with stolen cotton, when, although the owner, after he had been convicted, escaped on appeal, the Customs' clerk, whose forgery in the manifest facilitated the robbery, was sentenced to 12 months' rigorous imprisonment.

Crime increased in Sind, and property was very insecure. A scheme is under consideration for improving the police establishment in this province, as well as in the rest of the Presidency.

One gaol, at the head quarters of the new district of Kulladghee, was added to the number existing in the previous year.

The average prison mortality, which in 1863-64 was as high as 7·8, fell to 4·3 per cent. in 1864-65, notwithstanding that the heat was unusually intense, and cholera generally prevalent.

## V. EDUCATION.

In the year 1854, it was determined by the Home Government to take more decided measures than had previously been adopted, for the purpose of promoting a system of general education which should diffuse throughout India a knowledge of the improved arts, science, philosophy, and literature of Europe, of such a character as might be practically useful to the people in their different spheres of life. This object it was felt might be most effectually accomplished, by encouraging the study of the English tongue, in all schools of a sufficiently high class, at the same time that instruction in the vernacular languages of India was duly cultivated.

A department of education was accordingly established under each government or lieutenant governorship, in lieu of the boards and councils by which all measures connected with instruction had previously been superintended; and a staff of inspectors was appointed, to examine the pupils in the Government colleges and schools. Universities, modelled on the system of the London University, were instituted at Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay, with the power of conferring degrees on duly qualified candidates, it being provided that the examinations should not include subjects connected with religious belief, and that the affiliated institutions should be under the management of persons of every variety of religious persuasion, as is the case in England. The affiliated colleges consisted, in the first instance, of those which had been established by the Government, by individuals, or by religious and missionary societies, whether the instruction imparted was Anglo-vernacular or exclusively oriental; and scholarships were attached to them, to be held by the best students of the lower schools.

The attention of the Government was not, however, confined to the promotion of education among the higher classes. In order to convey the same invaluable blessing to the great mass of the people, provision was made for the inspection of the zillah or district schools in which the English language forms the chief medium of instruction, as well as of the tahsilee and other inferior schools which, with more or less success, attempt to give the highest class of learning capable of being imparted in the native languages. The system, which had previously existed, of affording encouragement by the aid of scholarships, was also further extended. Nor were the indigenous or elementary schools overlooked, the most promising pupils being rewarded by scholarships in institutions of a superior order. Normal or training schools for masters were also established in the several Presidencies.

At the same time, it was felt that the utmost exertions of the Government would be inadequate to the necessities of India, unless they were supplemented by the continued efforts of benevolent individuals and societies which had already largely contributed to the spread of education throughout the country; and, in order to afford the utmost encouragement to those endeavours, without detracting from their spirit of self-reliance, it was determined to adopt the system of grants in aid, which had been successfully carried out in the Educational Department in England. Basing it on an entire abstinence from interference with the religious instruction conveyed in the schools assisted, it was decided to give aid to all schools in which a good secular education was imparted, provided that they were under adequate local management, and that their managers would consent to the schools being subject to Government inspection, and would agree to any conditions that might be laid down for the regulation of the grants. It was anticipated that, with the gradual advance of this system, it would become practicable to discontinue the direct agency of the Government, but the extent to which the change could be carried out in any particular province was left to the discretion of the local authorities, with reference to the special circumstances of the district.

Complaints, however, were subsequently received that, in consequence of the rules prescribed by some of the Local Governments, considerable difficulty was experienced by voluntary and independent bodies or persons in establishing schools on the grant-in-aid principle, and, accordingly, early in 1864, the attention of the Government of India was drawn to the question with a view to the removal of any impediments in the way of the extension of the system. They were at the same time desired to adopt such rules as might, while affording the requisite security for the due application of the grants, as little as possible interfere with the free action of those who might seek, under their operation, to promote the spread of education among the masses of the people. A report has also been called for on the merits of the several systems in force at the different Presidencies for carrying out the instructions of Her Majesty's Government on the subject.

In the measures adopted for imparting education in India, great care has always been taken to avoid the suspicion of schoolmasters making use of their position under the Government for the purposes of proselytism, and the conditions under which the masters of Government schools are allowed to impart religious instruction are, that it must be sought by the pupils of their own free will, and must be given out of school hours, so as not to interfere with other teaching, while the inspectors are not permitted to notice it in their periodical visits.

In 1859, Lord Stanley, then Secretary of State for India, reviewed the action of the Government in consequence of the instructions of 1854, and the effect produced on the native mind by the measures which had been adopted. As regards the Educational Department, he considered that all appointments should, as a general rule, be filled by persons unconnected with the civil or military service of the Government. The establishment of universities had not been calculated to excite apprehension among the natives; and, on the only point of difficulty, namely, that of reckoning marks obtained by candidates who voluntarily submitted themselves to examination in the works of such authors as Paley and Butler, it was decided that no computation should be allowed, thus removing all possible ground for misapprehension. The institution of training schools had not been carried out to the extent originally contemplated, and there was a great want of masters acquainted with the English language. The Anglo-vernacular colleges and schools were in a satisfactory state, and were not unpopular with the

natives. Except in the North Western Province, no general plan had been decided on for the extension of vernacular education, and instructions were given to make the greatest possible use of the existing schools and masters. The grant-in-aid system, as hitherto in force, although very useful when applied to English or Anglo-vernacular schools, did not appear suited to the purpose of supplying education to the masses; and it was suggested that the means of elementary instruction should be provided by the officers of the Government, funds being obtained by a cess or school-rate levied on the land, in the manner adopted with regard to the construction or maintenance of roads. The continuance of the system of religious neutrality was enjoined, and a report was specially called for on the feeling with which, in this point of view, the grant-in-aid system was regarded by the native community: the Bible was allowed to be kept in the school library, and instruction or explanation connected with it might be given by the teachers to pupils who voluntarily sought it, but the course of study was strictly confined to secular subjects.

The result of the course prescribed by the Government has been eminently successful as regards the universities, colleges, and higher schools; but much remains to be done in extending the measures which are in progress for the education of the lower classes of the people, a point which much needs the careful attention of the State, both in promoting the establishment of new schools, and in providing for the more careful training of the native teachers.

At the end of 1864-65 the number of colleges and schools under Government inspection in Bengal was 2,271, and the number of students 103,114, as compared with 1,675 schools and 83,679 students in 1863-64, and there were, moreover, 158 private schools, with 5,817 scholars, receiving no aid from the Government, but inspected by the Educational Department. The expenditure for the year was 189,443 *l.*, of which 73,965 *l.* was contributed from local sources of income. The cost to the State for each pupil was about 1 *l.* 2 *s.*

The rapidly growing demand for university education made it necessary to extend to the colleges at Hooghly, Kishnaghur, and Berhampore the system already pursued at Dacca, of instructing the pupils in subjects beyond those required for the first examination in arts, and an additional professor was appointed to each of those colleges, with the special object of preparing the students for the B.A. degree. An assistant professor of Sanscrit also was nominated to the three colleges above mentioned, and to that at Patna. Law classes were established at Hooghly and Kishnaghur, and the opportunity of obtaining a systematic legal education is now afforded at every one of the Government colleges in the interior of Bengal.

The Bengalee class of the Medical College at Calcutta was remodelled, in order to provide more efficiently for the supply of subordinate medical assistants in the Government civil hospitals and dispensaries, and for the training of a superior class of students for the independent practice of the medical profession. For the English department of the college a Professorship of Hygiene has been established.

The total number of students who during the year attended the colleges for special education was 646, of whom 297 selected law, 314 medicine, and 35 civil engineering for their study.

In order to obviate the difficulty experienced in providing qualified junior masters for the English schools, the Lieutenant Governor authorised the formation of an English department in the normal schools at Calcutta, Hooghly, Dacca, and Patna, to which the junior masters of the Government schools will be occasionally sent for short periods to receive instruction in the principles and practice of their profession.

The attempts made to improve the indigenous schools in the Province of Behar by a system of rewards were not attended with much success, and it was found necessary to establish training schools to provide qualified teachers for the lower class of the Government institutions, as well as for the indigenous schools of the province. Four were accordingly sanctioned, for Bhaugulpore, Purneah, Gya, and Chuprah, and three more, on the principle previously in operation at Burdwan and other places, were opened at Rajshahye, Dinagepore, and Rungpore.

To supply the large demand for qualified teachers for the numerous vernacular schools in Eastern Bengal, three additional normal schools were opened at Mymensing, Comillah, and Comercolly.

The number of schools in Bengal, receiving regular monthly assignments under



under the grant-in-aid rules, increased during the year from 649 to 1,019, and the amount sanctioned from 20,434*l.* to 27,480*l.* per annum.

The Bishop of Calcutta having carried into effect the proposed removal of St. Paul's School, established especially for the middle class of Europeans and Eurasians, from Calcutta to Darjeeling, the Government agreed to subscribe in aid of the undertaking a sum equal to that which may be obtained from the public during the next three years.

An annual grant of 500*l.* has been made, to assist the publication of works of literary or scientific importance, and for the general encouragement of literature. One of its objects is to enable the Education Department to give a direct impulse to the dissemination of useful books and periodicals prepared for native girls' schools, and for circulation in the zenanas of native gentlemen. It will also assist the publication of special treatises on practical questions, such as agriculture, horticulture, and the breeding of cattle.

Three scholarships were instituted during the year by the Nawab Nazim of Moorshedabad, for Mahomedan students, and one by the Maharajah of Vizianagram, open to all native scholars of the Calcutta University.

In the North Western Provinces, the condition of the three colleges of Agra, Bareilly, and Benares was generally flourishing, and the number of students on the rolls was 204, with an average attendance of 170. Scholarships were founded at Benares by the Maharajahs of Rewah and Vizianagram. The higher class schools are four in number, three being attached to the colleges, and the fourth placed at Ajmere. A gratifying proof of the popularity of those of the middle class, which are Anglo-vernacular, was afforded by the fact that, in more than one instance, new schools were established and partially endowed by the people themselves; these schools, which in 1863 numbered 30, rose during the following year to 43. Of the lower class schools there were 3,341, with upwards of 100,000 scholars.

The number of female schools more than doubled, and the attendance nearly trebled, as compared with the previous year; in addition to which increase, 30 such schools were established in 1864-65, by the Suth Sabhá, a society of influential Hindoos in Agra; and the total number of girls' schools at the end of the year was 477, with 9,138 pupils.

The private institutions under Government inspection, of which there are 5,458, show a falling-off in the number of those of the lower class, a result which, taken in conjunction with the increase of the higher class of schools, may perhaps be some evidence that the people are beginning to desire a better education for their children than can be obtained at the hedge schools.

Grants in aid, amounting to 8,093*l.*, were given to 72 institutions. The number of books printed or purchased during the year for the Department of Public Instruction, most of them in the vernacular, was 370,000, at an average cost of 2½*d.* a volume, and the number sold was 185,470.

The management of the Wards' Institution at Benares was very satisfactory; there are 15 wards in residence, and a gradual improvement in moral character has been shown, as well as fair progress in their studies.

A scheme of education for the Province of Oude was sanctioned in 1863, but Oude. no report of the progress which has been made has yet been received from India.

A Wards' Institution was established at Lucknow, which is also open to the sons of any of the landholders who may wish to avail themselves of its advantages. There are now 14 boys, and an increase to the number is expected; they live in the Kaiser Bagh, and attend the Canning College for six hours daily. They are taught manly English games, and every effort is made to induce them to take physical exercise, and they have already improved very much in appearance and demeanour, and made fair progress in their studies. It is hoped that they will not only afford an example of the advantages of education which will find imitators of their own class, but also be anxious to diffuse its benefits among those who are beneath them in social standing.

In the Punjab, a Government College at Delli; and an aided Mission College at Lahore, were established during the year; the number of the town schools rose from 60 to 70, while that of the village schools decreased, in consequence of some being merged into the higher class, and the abolition of others in which the attendance had fallen very low. The number of female schools, supported



entirely by Government or local funds, increased from 204 to 272; and 411 new female schools were established by private contributions, aided by the State. In all, the number of educational institutions rose from 2,428 to 2,628, and the average number of scholars from 65,386 to 76,213, of whom 15,266 were girls. The amount collected as school fees from non-agriculturists, and that contributed from private or local sources for educational objects in aided institutions, increased very largely, showing the extent to which the people are learning to appreciate education.

Both at Lahore and Delhi, societies for debating and essay writing were established among the students of the colleges; and at the latter they were encouraged to peruse English newspapers, with the view of accustoming them to a less stilted phraseology than is too frequently adopted by educated natives, and athletic sports were organised with success. A magazine was started, for the purpose of assisting native scholars in preparing for the University examination, and diffusing intelligence upon educational subjects; while encouragement was given to Oriental learning, by the appointment of an Arabic professor at each college.

The attendance in the district schools increased from 3,244 to 5,281, owing to the extension of branch schools, which are frequently only those indigenous to the country, the teachers in which have been induced to adopt the scheme of studies prescribed for Government schools; they are ordinarily placed under the supervision and patronage of native gentlemen, and thus the indigenous schools are made to act as feeders to the superior Government institutions; and the interest of influential natives is enlisted in the cause of education.

The remarkable increase in the number of girls' schools has already been mentioned, but many of them are rather of a tentative than a fixed character, and it may be doubted whether the instruction is very thorough. Whilst, however, endeavours are being made to rouse the people from the apathy with which they regard the question of female education, care is taken, as far as possible, to avoid undue urgency in a matter which may create dissatisfaction and alarm if forced forward injudiciously.

Of private institutions under Government inspection, there were two colleges, one of which, started at Delhi by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, has been absorbed into that belonging to the Government; 70 schools, 17 being of the higher class (corresponding to the Government district schools), in which the progress made is reported to be very satisfactory, and three female normal schools, which will, it is hoped, in time, become the means of supplying a class of qualified teachers; two of the latter were established through the liberality of the Rajah of Kuppoothulla, and are under the management of Native Committees.

The amount expended on grants in aid was 10,254 L., or 1,028 L. in excess of that so spent in the previous year.

At a meeting held at Lahore by Sir Robert Montgomery, rewards were distributed to 60 native gentlemen who had distinguished themselves in promoting female education, and on other occasions prizes were given in public to the scholars. Favourable reports are made of the active interest evinced by some of the local Committees of Instruction, established to enlist the influence of the leading Native inhabitants of towns in promoting education.

The desire of the people to acquire the English language continues to develop itself, and the increase in the number of students of English is as marked in private aided schools of the higher grade as in the Government schools, the reports showing the total number of those studying it to have risen from 5,834 in 1862-63 to 8,359 in 1863-64, and 11,269 in 1864-65. The movement has even extended to female schools, where 264 girls are so employed. Instructions have, however, been given to take care that vernacular studies are not interfered with, as, while the desire to learn English is indicative of a growing freedom from prejudice, and a tacit expression of confidence in British rule, it is to some extent of a feverish character, and stimulated by hopes of obtaining high appointments in the public service.

The total income of all classes of educational institutions in the Punjab was, in 1864-65, 78,898 L., of which more than half was contributed by the Imperial revenues, and nearly three-fourths of the remainder was drawn from the Educational Cess Fund, levied from the peasantry in the form of a per-centage on the land tax. The remaining sources of income, though steadily increasing, are comparatively small.

In the Lahore Medical School 15 students passed the examination for Native doctor, and are now in Government employment; and the number of candidates for admission shows that the study of medicine is becoming popular amongst the natives of the Punjab. The cost of the college during the year was 5,603 *l.*

In the Central Provinces the number of district schools remained the same, and that of the pupils very slightly increased; but the daily attendance considerably improved. There are four normal schools, through which 113 certificated schoolmasters passed during the year. Central Provinces.

The aided schools consist of two classes; first, those established by European agency, assisted by a grant from the State proportionate to the funds derived from other sources, of which class there are nine, containing 1,100 pupils, the most successful being the two belonging to the Church Missionary Society, at Jubbulpore, and that of the Free Church Mission, at Nagpore; and, secondly, indigenous schools, established and supported by natives of the country, aided by donations from the Government in proportion to the number and proficiency of their pupils, to 32 of which class capitation grants were made during the year.

The town schools have been reduced from 102 to 93, but the number of pupils has increased from 7,078 to 7,356; and the average cost of each boy, exclusive of extraordinary charges, was 9 *s.* 6 *d.* per annum. The standard of attainments is rising, and the upper classes in some cases are beginning to learn English. These schools are attended by the children of shopkeepers, petty traders, and the better class of artisans; and, in some towns, night schools for adults are held, and are fairly attended.

The village schools have risen from 407 to 486, and the number of boys from 12,089 to 13,588, with an average cost of 5 *s.* a year. The majority belong to the agricultural classes, many being the sons of landholders or tenants of various degrees.

Female education made considerable progress in 1864-65, the number of girls' schools having risen from 47 to 65, and that of the pupils from 804 to 1,294. In some of the large towns, native ladies and gentlemen have either founded girls' schools, or exerted themselves to promote the success of those already founded; the girls come from all castes and professions, but the majority are of the higher castes.

There are 460 indigenous schools, either attached to temples and mosques, or kept by masters who earn a living by the work. The number of pupils in 1864-65 was 6,227, as compared with 4,875 in 1863-64. All these schools are more or less inspected, and 82 submitted to the formal examination of the Government Educational officers. Seven schools, attended by 263 pupils, were maintained by some of the Chutteesghur chiefs, on their estates.

Comparing all the educational institutions in the Central Provinces in 1864-65 with those in the preceding year, it appears that the number of schools increased from 993 to 1,133, and that of the pupils from 27,953 to 32,926, of whom 1,235 are studying English, and this is exclusive of 20 schools in the recently transferred district of Nimar, with an aggregate attendance of 973 pupils. There is now one school for every 90 miles of area, and one pupil to every 250 souls of the whole population. The total expenditure during the year was 13,510 *l.* from Imperial sources, and 14,644 *l.* from local funds and subscriptions. Advantage was taken of the revision of the land tax to raise the educational cess paid by landowners from one to two per cent. on the Government demand, by which means the funds disposable for the improvement of village schools will be doubled.

In the Hyderabad assigned districts, two English and 26 Mahatta schools were in operation during the year, and two other English schools were sanctioned. The number of scholars was 1,360, and their progress satisfactory. Some of the Mahatta masters have been able to teach the rudiments of English. The whole expenditure on account of education amounted to 2,282 *l.* Hyderabad assigned districts.

There are in British Burmah three Anglo-vernacular district schools, which are Government institutions, at Moulmein, Akyab, and Kyouk Phyoo, with 399 scholars. The normal and middle-class schools, established by various missionary societies, are 22 in number, and contain 1,834 pupils; they are situated in the British Burmah.

towns of Moulmein, Rangoon, Henzada, Toungoo, and Bassein, and are all aided by the Government, and reported to be doing well. There are 10 girls' schools, of which the most prominent is the Karen Female Institute at Toungoo, for educating Karen mountaineers; the others are at Rangoon and Moulmein, and have also been successful; the number of scholars is 435. The primary or village schools, established by missionary societies, and aided by grants from the Government, are 170, with 2,482 pupils; the teaching is elementary, but it is thought that they must gradually induce the agricultural population to seek for a sound education. There are also two special schools, with 91 scholars; these are, a theological seminary at Rangoon for Karen young men, and an Anglo-vernacular industrial school at Bassein, in which occupations and handicrafts are taught. Measures have also been taken for beginning education among the agricultural population, by means of suitable elementary books in the Burmese language, to be taught in the Buddhist monasteries. The appointment of a Director of Public Instruction in British Burmah has been very recently sanctioned as an experimental measure for two years.

Straits settle-  
ments.

The leading school at Singapore is the Raffles' Institution, containing 301 boys and 62 girls; and there are nine others, aided by the Government, in which 667 pupils of both sexes are taught. Besides these, there are several useful establishments not connected with the State, and a very promising school has been established by the Tumongong of Johore in his own territories.

Prince of Wales Island has four schools, with 653 scholars; and at Malacca there are 12 schools, in which 821 pupils are educated.

Madras.

In Madras the number of schools increased from 875 to 983, and that of the scholars from 34,709 to 39,100. Of these schools 110 are under the immediate direction of the Government, 75 were supported by a rate, 501 by grants in aid, and 297 were under simple inspection. The girls' schools were 74 in number, and contained 3,963 pupils, of whom 766 were Hindoos and 17 Mahomedan. The net expenditure was 66,836 *l.*

The Presidency College was doing well, and most of the schools were favourably reported on, except those in the northern circars, with regard to which it is hoped that a gradual improvement will take place, as a normal school for training masters has been established at Vizagapatam, and those masters who were inefficient have been replaced by good men. From the five Government normal schools, 58 students were appointed to masterships during the year.

The extension of the system of improving the indigenous village schools caused an increase of the number of schools in connection with the Government, from 754 to 873. The reports on the aided schools were very favourable, and many were established, or brought under inspection, during the year.

The pupils in the Tinnevely Mission schools were 7,593, in place of 7,677; but the decrease only occurred in those under simple inspection, and the number in those receiving grants increased.

The revised code of rules for regulating grants in aid was brought into operation towards the end of the year, and appeared to be working satisfactorily.

Bombay.

The Imperial budget grant for education in the Bombay Presidency in 1864-65 amounted to 86,848 *l.*, and nearly 26,000 *l.* was assigned to the same object from local funds. The fees amounted to 10,662 *l.*, and the municipal assignments, popular subscriptions, and donations of individuals, gave an additional sum of about 57,000 *l.*

The number of schools rose from 802 to 952, and there were 65,802 scholars in 1864-65 instead of 52,882 in 1863-64; but the increased amount of the fee collections, from 8,308 *l.* to 10,662 *l.*, is a still more satisfactory proof of the value which the people attach to State education.

The University matriculation examination of November 1863 passed 22 candidates from the various schools, and on the next occasion the number rose to 77. The inspector of education is, however, doubtful whether the extraordinary improvement has really taken place which the mere numbers betoken.

Five natives of India have, by the generosity of Mr. Rustomjee Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy, been enabled to proceed to England, and provided with the means of residing there long enough to qualify themselves for practice as barristers in their own country.

The excited commercial state of Bombay had an unfavourable effect on the staff

staff of masters at the Central School, which was constantly deranged by resignations. In spite of this, however, the performances of the scholars at the University were unusually successful. The experiment of forming a commercial class in the school seems to have failed.

The head master of the high school at Dhoolia speaks of his success in establishing athletic exercises and English sports, and also a vocal music class, which at first had to struggle against native prejudices, but was afterwards seen to improve the English accent of the boys.

Vernacular instruction made little progress in the Northern Division; but very liberal assignments were granted from local funds, and better results may be expected in the ensuing year. In the districts under the political agents in Guzerat there was even a decline of 628 pupils, said to be caused by the charge of a schooling fee, a step which at first excites vehement dissatisfaction among the natives, whose tradition is that all education should be given gratis; but they become reconciled in time to the innovation, and are forced to admit that the fee is an equitable and not an onerous charge, and that the school where it is exacted is superior in discipline and general efficiency to the old free school.

About 47,000 Mahrattee and 100,000 Guzeratee books were printed, and the sale of 11,000 Canarese books shows that that dialect is assuming importance, while the number of Sanscrit books was over 3,000.

#### VI.—EMIGRATION.

In the year 1839 all persons were prohibited from entering into contracts with natives of India for labour to be performed in any British or foreign possession beyond the territories of the East India Company; but, in consequence of the demand for labour in some of the Colonies, Acts have from time to time been passed, permitting emigration under certain regulations, to both English and French settlements, a return passage to India being provided on the expiration of the contract.

The whole tendency of the Indian legislation on the subject has been to protect the emigrants from ill-usage or fraud. In 1852 a stringent Act was passed to guard against crimping; in 1856 power was taken for the Governor General in Council to suspend emigration to any colony where there was reason to believe that the labourers were not duly cared for; and, under Act XIII. of 1864 a new code of rules was framed regarding their maintenance and management, a protector was appointed at each of the three Presidency towns, and other provisions were made to ensure adherence to the orders for the accommodation and treatment of the emigrants. The result of this Act has been beneficial, disputes between the agents of the different colonies being entirely suppressed, and the coolies being more thoroughly secured than before in the enjoyment of that free choice as to their place of destination which it was always intended that they should possess.

Many of the emigrants return to India with sums of money, which, to them, constitute no inconsiderable fortune. In the year 1864-65 about 2,880 brought back, from Mauritius and Demerara, savings to the average amount of 20 *l.* and 31 *l.* 15 *s.* respectively.

The total number of labourers despatched from Bengal to the different Colonies, British and foreign, during the year was 13,485, or more than double that sent in 1863. One ship with upwards of 300 emigrants was lost in the cyclone, and one was wrecked off Mauritius, with the loss of about 20 persons.

The emigration from Madras fell off during the year, a circumstance which is due to the high rate of wages prevailing in the country, and the demand for labourers in Ceylon and in the plantations of Wynaad, Travancore, and Cochin. Out of 4,773 emigrants embarked, only one adult and one infant are reported to have died; and the Protector bore testimony to the attention shown by the agents to the well-being of those under their charge.

In consequence of the excessive number of deaths which occurred in connexion with the emigration from Bombay to Mauritius in the year 1864, the Secretary of State for the Colonies suspended operations, and an inquiry was instituted into the causes which led to so high a rate of mortality. The investigations showed that the depôt was in a very bad situation, and very limited in accommodation,

and that the diet was insufficient, owing to the dearness of provisions; but the main cause of the sickness was the general prevalence of fever among the lower part of the population, while the withdrawal of the more healthy recruits under the temptation of the high price of labour at home tended to increase the relative death-rate among the emigrants. Strict injunctions have been given for having proper accommodation supplied, and the rules for the protection of the recruits carried out, in the event of emigration operations being resumed at Bombay.

## VII.—AGRICULTURE.

### 1. AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITIONS.

IN eight of the 10 divisions of Bengal, agricultural exhibitions were held during the year; they were all very successful and popular, and were carried out almost entirely by the people themselves, without any cost to the Government, while their true object of stimulating agricultural and other domestic pursuits appears to have been fully appreciated. In three instances the shows were opened by the Lieutenant Governor, who took the opportunity of explaining the object of the exhibitions, and urging the necessity of supplementing them with agricultural associations, whereby the knowledge gained might be put to a practical purpose.

An agricultural show was held at Agra, for the exhibition of cattle and poultry, cereals, fibres, cotton, farm produce, implements, and machinery, which attracted much attention, and was visited by a number of the native chiefs and gentlemen of the neighbouring districts.

A similar exhibition was held at Lucknow, and its object was properly appreciated by the people, the talookdars and other native gentlemen giving their support both in money and contributions. Those sent from other provinces were valuable and interesting, and numerous costly articles were exhibited by firms in Calcutta. It was gratifying to find that several of the prizes for improved implements were awarded to local exhibitors, and that one of the greatest attractions was the shed for the machinery, all the most valuable specimens of which were purchased by native gentlemen of the province.

The Agri-horticultural Society of the Central Provinces increased its numbers to 133, of whom 26 were natives. It distributed seeds and plants of every description, and both the quantity and quality of the vegetables sold in the bazaars have very much improved in consequence.

A society of the same kind was established in Burmah in 1864, to encourage the introduction of new products, and improve the native method of culture by means of better implements, and to draw the attention of the people to the breeding of cattle, and to their preservation from disease. An exhibition was held in February 1865.

In the Madras Presidency agricultural exhibitions were held with success at Addanki, Nellore, and in the Bellary district; and the attention of the collectors throughout the presidency has been called to the desirability of encouraging such shows. A steam plough, and a large number of agricultural implements were obtained from England, to induce the ryots to make improvements in the system of cultivation, and several applications were received for ordinary English ploughs. A model farm was established in the vicinity of Madras, for the trial of English implements and processes.

### 2. TEA.

Considerable difficulty was experienced in obtaining information as to the progress of tea cultivation in Assam, owing to the reticence of the planters. According to the most accurate returns which could be procured, the extent of land under cultivation increased by 12,838 acres, and the out-turn of tea by 188,217 lbs. The number of proprietors was 366, of whom 149 were natives, but several of the latter were merely owners of grants, with nominal clearances on them. The estimated produce in 1865, if realised, will give, at the price obtained in England, receipts to the value of 300,000*l.* The area taken up for tea planting in Assam is 516,475 acres, of which about a twelfth has been brought under cultivation. There seems ground for apprehension that, unless great activity is shown in importing labourers, some of the lands already cleared will run again into jungle, as the available number of workmen in the province does not give one person for each acre that is cultivated. There is, however, no indication of a decrease in the popularity of tea planting; and, though not perhaps as profitable as it was to the first owners who prepared the estates, and sold them at an

an enormous advance on their outlay, it promises to afford a safe and reasonable profit to all those who have not paid an excessive price for their gardens.

In Sylhet there was a very slight increase in the area cultivated, but the out-turn of tea exceeded that of the previous year by nearly 25,000 lbs. The soil of Chota Nagpore is considered to be as well suited for tea as that of Assam, but the climate is rather against a favourable development of the plant, though the results already obtained are sufficient to warrant a fair hope of success. The cultivation of coffee was also commenced in that division. The quality of the tea raised by the Ramghur Company in the Hazareebaugh district is pronounced to be excellent.

The number of labourers embarked for the tea plantations in Assam, Cachar, and Sylhet, was 28,282. The Act which was passed by the Bengal Council to regulate their contracts has been mentioned in another part of this report. Great care and consideration are now shown to the coolies by contractors; and, from the few complaints which have been received, it is believed that they are well treated by the recruiters also.

The yield of tea at the Government plantations in the North Western Provinces was 54,527 lbs., much of which went to the Umritsur market, or was exported to Afghanistan and Cashmere.

The cultivation of tea has been commenced in Oude by some European gentlemen, who have purchased waste lands, and laid out large sums of money in their reclamation.

There is hardly any available waste land suitable for tea in the Murree hills, and the only mode by which its cultivation in that part of the Punjab can be secured is by inducing the peasantry to undertake it, for which purpose many thousands of plants were distributed from the Government plantations to the adjacent villages. The cultivation in the Kangra Valley being now placed on a sound basis, the Government has determined to withdraw from the undertaking, and the plantations at Holta will be sold by auction. Upwards of 70 tons of tea seeds, and 1,769,033 seedlings were distributed gratis to planters during the year.

In the Madras hills seven acres of ground have been planted with the Chinese and Assam varieties of tea, with the view of supplying seed to planters.

The cultivation of cotton in Bengal is insignificant, except in Assam, Chittagong, and Tipperah; and the recent high prices have had little effect in extending it. No general impulse appears to have been given to native weaving in the Lower Provinces; and the decreased demand for cotton goods was caused by the rise in price of all necessaries of life, and by the fact that English piece goods are not well suited to the use of the poorer classes, who find it more economical to wear native cloths, which can be produced at a much lower rate in India than the cheapest manufactures in England, although in the finer kinds the latter may at present defy competition; what the natives require is an article of which the cost of manufacture bears a very low ratio to that of the raw material.

3. COTTON.

The high prices led to the sowing of no less than 1,730,634 acres with cotton in the North Western Provinces; but, owing to a deficiency of rain, the out-turn of cleared cotton was only about 165,000 maunds. The prices of other agricultural staples were not materially affected by the extension of the cotton cultivation. The native manufacture was generally depressed, and the trade in European fabrics became brisker.

In Oude a large increase took place in the cultivation, though in some districts the crop suffered much from the drought. The experiments made with American cotton established the fact that it can be grown; but it is neither so certain nor so remunerative as many other crops.

The cotton was principally used for twine consumption, the producers themselves preparing the thread, which was made into coarse cloth by village weavers. With a fall in the price, the demand for English cloth may be expected to increase, for it is largely used by the middle and upper classes, and for some time all but the richest have restricted themselves to very scanty supplies, and they would gladly make purchases on moderate terms.

The amount of land under cotton cultivation in the Punjab increased from 467,513 acres, in 1860-61, to 891,082 in 1864-65, and the price rose to 10*d.* a pound; but, subsequently, a sudden fall to less than a third of the previous value occurred, owing to the prospects of the American war, and to the bad name acquired by

the Punjab cotton for adulteration. Trade was stopped, and large quantities of cotton and grain accumulated at the landing-place near Mooltan and elsewhere. Fifty bales of American cotton were produced in Ferozepore, but the cost is at present too high to be remunerative. Improved gins were obtained from Bombay, and some artificers were instructed in their use and mechanism. At Delhi 13 screw presses were in operation during the year; and at all the large marts on the Grand Trunk Road between Delhi and Lahore, one or more of such presses were established by private enterprise; but operations were brought to a close summarily by the cotton crisis.

The area sown with this crop in the Central Provinces increased during the year from 488,436 to 689,598 acres. Dr. Forbes, the Bombay Cotton Commissioner, visited the Wurdah Valley in company with the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces; and his advice as to the best manner of picking and packing the staple for export was widely circulated amongst the people. Renewed experiments are being conducted with a view to the introduction of American cotton, and eight fields have been sown with acclimatised New Orleans seed, supplied from the Dharwar farms, and improved machinery for ginning and pressing has been imported into the districts.

The experiments made to ascertain whether the American seed will flourish in Berar, were to a certain degree successful, and they will now be carried out on a larger scale. The price of cotton fell from 2 to 6½ lbs. for the rupee, and a considerable reduction of the cultivation may be expected in consequence.

In order to promote the cultivation and improve the quality of the cotton in that part of India, both indigenous and exotic, instructions have been recently given for the appointment of a Commissioner for Berar and Central India, whose duties are to consist, like those of Dr. Forbes in the Presidency of Bombay, in collecting and diffusing information as to the best modes of cultivating, cleaning, and packing the cotton, and in arranging for the supply of good seed and machinery to the ryots.

Owing to the high prices, the area of cotton cultivation in British Burmah increased largely, from 8,451 to 18,012 acres; but this cannot be maintained when the prices are lower than those which ruled in 1864, for the crop is ordinarily far less remunerative than rice. The quality was not improved, but a superior kind was grown in Amherst, which fetched in the Calcutta market 1 s. 4 d. a pound.

The fall in the price led to a diminution of the area cultivated in Madras, from 1,824,763 to 1,742,078 acres. The attempts to introduce exotic cotton were not very encouraging.

For many years experiments were tried in the Bombay Presidency, at considerable expense to the Government, with the view of improving the growth of Indian cotton, and introducing the cultivation of exotic species; foreign seed was procured, model farms established under the superintendence of American planters, and machines for cleaning and packing the wool provided. The result was to prove that, while the soil in the north is unfavourable to the growth of the American plant, it can be successfully cultivated in the southern districts of Bombay, the chief obstacle to its extension being the want of suitable cleaning machinery; improvements in this respect were, however, effected by Dr. Forbes, the superintendent of the Dharwar factory, and, from the various causes which of late years have stimulated the cultivation of American cotton, the area over which it is sown in that district has very largely increased. It has been estimated that about 600,000 acres may before long be covered with this crop in Bombay and the adjoining provinces, and there will still remain some 630,000 acres adapted to the indigenous species, for home consumption.

A practical gardener was recently sent to India, to assist in improving the growth of cotton, by careful selection of seed, and other measures.

In 1863 the Government of Bombay passed an Act (No. IX.) for the suppression of robbery and adulteration of cotton, and a water police was established to prevent pilfering on its passage from the shipping ports to Bombay, particularly in the small ports and tidal rivers of the petty native states on the coast: the new law proved successful, and was not found oppressive.

#### 4. INDIGO

In the year under review, the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal pointed out to the Landholders' and Commercial Association of Bengal, that the reduced price paid for indigo, of a rupee for six instead of four bundles, was unremunerative to



to the growers, and that it would be found in the long run commercially unprofitable to employ pressure, legal or otherwise, to make men grow crops which they did not wish to cultivate, and sell them at prices fixed in advance by the purchasers, without any reference to market rates. The correctness of this principle was admitted by the Association, who, however, contended that the price then paid was not unprofitable to the grower, as indigo really took the place of clover in the English four-course system of rotation of crops, and, if indigo was not sown, the land would have to lie fallow or would rapidly deteriorate; and they suggested that the officers of the Government should explain this view of the matter to the cultivators. This request was not complied with, as, if the ryots rejected the teaching of the planters, who had a practical acquaintance with agriculture, they would assuredly not receive the same advice from the Government officers, with no pretensions to such knowledge. A plan adopted by one planter, Mr. A. Hills, was to offer to every ryot on his estate, when entering into a contract for the cultivation of indigo, a deed specifying that, in return, he would be charged only about 13*d.* instead of 2*s.* for each beegah of land, the full rent being demanded if he failed in his contract. This deed gave the ryot a tangible return for his consent to grow indigo; but it would be better, for the purpose of obviating all misunderstanding, if the production of indigo were entirely separated from all question of rent, and treated, like other branches of trade, on its own merits.

Indigo is still grown in Oude, but not to any considerable extent. In the Dera Ghazee Khan district of the Punjab, it is being largely cultivated, with every prospect of profit to the grower and manufacturer.

The cultivation of the sugar-cane in Oude is very profitable, and is increasing rapidly. Wheat is the great spring crop of this province, and the out-turn in 1864-65 was, in spite of an unfavourable season, about 20 bushels per acre of fair soil. The cultivation of opium is highly remunerative, and is very popular with all classes; but owing to the severe drought, the yield fell from 11,261 maunds in 1863-4, to 8,102 in 1864-5. One gentleman has planted mulberries very extensively, preparatory to the cultivation of silk.

Flax was cultivated on a considerable scale in the North Western Provinces, and about 537 acres were sown by the Belfast Flax Company in the Punjab.

Foreign tobacco was introduced into British Burmah with success, and sesamum grows very well in most parts of the province; but the constant demand for rice checks the development of any other product.

In several districts of Singapore, cocoa-nut and fruit plantations are being formed, and 205 acres were taken up for this purpose during the year. In Province Wellesley an extensive tract was brought under cultivation, by means of the recently constructed canals; but, the drought seriously affected the sugar estates, and both the island of Penang and the province suffered materially. The rice crop failed at Malacca, and the people suffered much distress; but some relief was afforded by giving them employment in improving the roads and constructing new paths in the neighbourhood of their homes.

Endeavours were made to introduce maize and Carolina rice into Madras, but without much success.

The chief measures connected with the cultivation of trees have been already described under the heading of Forest Revenue. To encourage arboriculture, the local officers were directed to make known to landholders and others, that seeds of trees and shrubs would be distributed from the Calcutta Botanic Gardens, to persons desirous of planting them, and numerous applications have been made and complied with.

Nurseries were formed in the Madras Presidency, for the growth of trees valuable for timber, firewood, or fruit.

An attempt to introduce into India the quinine-yielding chinchona of South America was made by the Indian Government so long ago as 1852, and a few plants were conveyed alive to Darjeeling, but they died in the following winter.

The desirability of making another effort having been brought to the notice of the Secretary of State in Council in 1859, Mr. Clements Markham, of the India Office, who had a practical knowledge of the forests in Peru, and on the frontiers of Bolivia, offered his services for the purpose; and he was accordingly deputed to South America, in the autumn of that year, to obtain plants and seeds of the various useful species. He was assisted in the enterprise by Mr. Spruce,

5. OTHER CROPS.

6. ARBORICULTURE.

7. CHINCHONA.



a botanist of some eminence, who was at this time in Ecuador, by Mr. Pritchett, and by two practical gardeners named Cross and Weir.

The difficulties in the way of the undertaking were very great, owing to the unhealthiness of the climate, the scarcity of the trees resulting from the reckless manner in which the forests had been destroyed in the preceding ten years, and the extreme jealousy of the Native Governments and people in preserving their monopoly of the bark trade.

Mr. Markham, however, proceeded in person to the forests of Caravaya, and obtained a large number of plants of two of the most useful species, which he brought to England in the summer of 1860, and thence conveyed to India, where, by his advice and under the care of Mr. M'Ivor, the superintendent of the Government gardens at Ootacamund, they were planted on the slopes of the Neilgherries. The intense heat of the Red Sea had so seriously affected the first batch of chinchonas that they all died; but the chief part of the collections of plants and seeds obtained by the gentlemen who had, in accordance with Mr. Markham's instructions, entered the forests where the other valuable species were found, met with a happier fate. Some valuable plants were presented to the Government of India by the Dutch Government in Java; Mr. Markham subsequently obtained a further supply of the seeds from Bolivia, which have come up very satisfactorily; and the whole experiment has proved most successful.

At the end of the year 1864-65, there were growing on the Neilgherry Hills alone, more than half-a-million plants; the state of the plantations was very favourably reported on by Mr. Markham, who went to India at the end of 1865 to examine them; and, by the last accounts received from Madras, there were not less than 1,086,079 young chinchona trees in a flourishing condition. Other plantations have been formed, by the Government or by private enterprise, on the Wynaad plateau and the hills of Coorg and Travancore, on the Pulney range, at Darjeeling, in Assam, in the Kangra Valley, and on the hills of Mahabuleswar.

Independently of the great saving that will accrue from the possession of the chinchona to the Indian Government, which has been estimated at not less than 50,000*l.* a year for the supply of quinine to the troops alone, the result of the experiment is very satisfactory, in having opened a vast field for the cultivation of this valuable plant, the best species of which appeared likely ere long to become almost extinct in South America, and in having demonstrated that the medicinal qualities of the bark are capable of considerable improvement under proper culture; whilst it is impossible to calculate the value of the benefit bestowed upon the general population, by placing within their reach the fever-expelling preparations of the plant, which, from their high price, have hitherto been inaccessible to any but the wealthy classes.

#### VIII. SANITARY MEASURES:

Bengal.

In the year 1864, Calcutta was visited by small-pox in an epidemic form, which for some time raged with great violence. A separate hospital was established at Chitpore, for the reception of small-pox patients only, and in six months 690 persons were received into it, of whom 56 Europeans and 208 Natives died. Besides the hospital, a private house was given up by its owner for the reception of European ladies and gentlemen attacked with the disease, and 216 patients were there treated. An additional staff of vaccinators was employed in Calcutta, and an Act was passed empowering the local governments to prohibit inoculation in any town.

The epidemic fever which for several years has ravaged certain portions of the Burdwan, Nuddea, and Rajshahye divisions, has been pronounced by the committee appointed to investigate the matter, to arise mainly from miasma; and steps are being taken for draining the district and filling up the pools in the villages. In some places cordial co-operation has been received from the natives, who have at last been convinced of the sanitary value of these measures.

Cholera, following the devastation caused by the cyclone, was very fatal in Midnapore, Howrah, and the 24 Pergunnahs; medicines were at once sent down the river, and as many native doctors as could be obtained were distributed through the affected districts in every direction.

In

In the North Western Provinces, a new hospital for the reception of destitute Europeans and Eurasians was erected by Baboo Gooroo Doss Mitter. The support derived by the dispensaries from local funds and native liberality shows a satisfactory increase. North Western Provinces.

Small-pox raged with much virulence over a great part of the Upper Provinces; and Kumaon and Gurhwal, where the bulk of the population is already protected by vaccination, were the only two districts unaffected by the disease.

The Punjab was also visited by the same scourge, which in the cities of Lahore, Umritsur, and Delhi, carried off 4,733 persons, but the mortality was chiefly confined to children. Some idea of the prevalence of the disease may be gathered from the fact that out of 3,076 prisoners, only 78 had not had it. An organised system of vaccination was introduced during the year, but some opposition was experienced in Umritsur and Lahore. Punjab.

The peculiar disease known as the Delhi sore prevailed to a serious extent among the troops stationed at that city. It is remarkable that it is comparatively rare among both Natives and Europeans other than troops, a census taken in October having shown the proportion of those suffering under it to be little more than one in 1,000 of the inhabitants, and 202 per 1,000 of the soldiers, European and native. The mortality from all causes in the city of Delhi was nearly 5 per cent.

The increased attendance at the dispensaries throughout the Punjab shows the growing confidence in them which the people feel; and the employment of native practitioners for the distribution of European medicines and treatment of the sick, under the control of English medical officers, was attended with some success.

Five branch dispensaries were added during the year to the number previously existing in the Central Provinces; and the inhabitants of the large towns generally evinced a desire to subscribe liberally towards the establishment of those institutions. The number of patients treated showed an increase of 33 per cent. over that in 1863, and 85 per cent. over 1862. The income from private subscriptions rose 35 per cent. Central Provinces.

A systematic scheme of vaccination was introduced in 1864.

Epidemic cholera attacked every district in a more or less severe form. As, in the various outbreaks which occurred in the towns lying at the foot of the Sautpoora range, it was found to have been conveyed thither by pilgrims who had been visiting the shrine of Mahadeo on the Puchmurree hills, the holding of this fair at the spring season, when cholera usually appears, has, in the interest of the public safety, been prohibited.

Low fever was very prevalent in Chutteesghur, and it was believed to arise from the want of good water. Accordingly, wells were dug at halting-places along the roads; and grants of land have been offered, free from the payment of revenue for 30 years, to persons who sink wells for drinking purposes.

Moulmein was visited by both cholera and small-pox, the latter of which also prevailed at Myaoung. With these exceptions, the state of the public health was generally good in British Burmah. British Burma

A serious outbreak of cholera occurred at Malacca, owing to the excessive drought; but the native troops and convicts within the lines were entirely free from the malady. It was very fatal also in Province Wellesley, both in the British and adjoining states. Straits Settlements.

The first portion of the year was generally healthy in the Madras Presidency; but subsequently cholera, brought in a great measure by the pilgrims at the Humpy festival and at Juggernaut, spread throughout the ceded districts and the northern circars. A new hospital was opened at Negapatam, and a dispensary at South-east Wynaad, both of them being supported by the local residents. Madras.

Bombay has benefited largely by the generosity of several of the wealthy native gentlemen. Much progress was made during the year towards the completion of the eye hospital endowed by Mr. Cowasjee Jehanger, and the ward for lepers, to which Mr. Rustonjee Jejeebhoy gave a sum of 8,000*l.*, was commenced, and about two-thirds of it finished. The wants of the native community Bombay.

munity having for some time exceeded the accommodation provided by the Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy Hospital, a donation of 5,000 *l.* for increasing its accommodation was made by Sir Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy; and it was also proposed by the Hon. Rustomjee Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy that a Native General Hospital should be erected in a suitable position, for the expense of building which he himself offered 25,000 *l.* Considerable progress was made at Poona towards the completion of the David Sassoon Hospital, a handsome early English Gothic building, towards the erection of which 5,000 *l.* was contributed by the late Mr. David Sassoon, in addition to 10,000 *l.* for its endowment; and the Hutteesing and Premabhaie Hospital at Ahmedabad was enlarged. At many of the towns in the Mofussil, dispensaries were endowed by the municipality, or by the gifts of private individuals.

Cholera prevailed during the year in many of the collectorates; and in the jungle villages of Canara fever had not abated to any extent, though in the larger towns the health of the people was improved.

Before the commencement of the usual religious festival at Allundee, in November 1864, arrangements were made for improving the sanitary condition of the locality; and, during the seven days that it lasted, the utmost attention was paid to the health and comfort of the pilgrims, and to the best means of dispensing medicines in case of an outbreak of cholera, and preventing the disease from being brought into the city or cantonment of Poona. The result was that not a single case of cholera occurred among the pilgrims assembled.

#### IX. MUNICIPALITIES.

Bengal.

Much attention was paid by the municipality of Calcutta to the conservancy of the city; the scavenging establishment was increased, and the offal, which was formerly used for filling up holes in the town, or else thrown into the river, is now removed three miles from the town, and there burnt in a kiln; the practice of throwing bodies into the river was stopped, and the pauper dead are buried at the expense of the municipality.

A registration of births and deaths was established during the year; and, though at first the people were very reluctant to register, the mortality returns have gradually become more reliable, and they show an annual proportion of 36·7 per 1,000 of the population. The returns of the number of births appear to be far from accurate.

An Act was passed through the Local Council to enable the municipality to direct the closing of all slaughter-houses in Calcutta, and the establishment of a public abattoir in the suburbs.

Oude.

In more than one district of Oude the inhabitants of the towns are beginning to appreciate the advantages of conservancy, and have voluntarily taken upon themselves the charges necessary for this purpose, and for the maintenance of police to protect their property.

Punjab.

There were municipal committees in 49 of the principal towns of the Punjab, and, with one or two exceptions, they worked well. In 28 instances they are elected by the people, and are generally the recognised representatives of the principal trades or castes. In every case, except that of Simla, the form of taxation chosen by the people is that of town duties.

Bombay.

An Act (No. III. of 1865) was passed by the Bombay Government, providing for the management of the municipal affairs of Bombay, and for the conservancy and improvement of the city.

#### X. ECCLESIASTICAL ESTABLISHMENT.

In Bengal four churches were consecrated during the year 1864-65; and a grant was made for the employment of a minister specially to attend to the Christian population in the northern districts of Calcutta. In the Punjab also, four new churches were completed and four others in progress, besides a Roman Catholic chapel at Delhi. The new church at Nagpore was enlarged and that at Raepore opened, while four others are being constructed in other parts of the

Central

Central Provinces. A church was erected by private subscription at Berhampore, in the Ganjam district. In Bombay the church at Poorundhur was nearly finished, and progress was made with those which are being built at Poona, Kirwee, and Belgaum.

## XI. NATIVE STATES.

The long-continued incursions and depredations of the people of Bhotan on the adjoining British territory, as well as on that of Cooch Behar, extending over a period of 35 years, led to the despatch of a friendly mission to that state in the early part of 1864, with instructions to demand the surrender of their captives and restoration of the plundered property, and to require security for the future peace of the frontier. These overtures were, however, rejected; the envoy was insulted in open Durbar, and he was compelled to sign a document for the renunciation of the Bhotan Dooars, situated on the border of Assam, which were the property of Bhotan, but administered by British officers, a payment of 1,200 *l.* being made to that Government as the revenue of the tract. This led to the annual payment being withheld, and to the annexation of Anibaree Fallacotta, which had long been in the possession of the British Government. On the arrival of the cold season a military force was despatched to occupy the Dooars, including such positions in the hills as were necessary to defend the plain. The forts of Dalimkote, Buxa, Dewangiri, and other places, were captured by the British troops; but, the supply of water at the last mentioned post being cut off by the enemy, and the ammunition failing, it was evacuated, and in the retreat two guns were abandoned by the native soldiers in charge of them. An additional force, including some British troops, was at once despatched to Bhotan; Dewangiri was retaken and destroyed; and, after some further successful operations, the army returned to the plains. In the following October the troops were again advanced into the hills, and Dewangiri occupied, but shortly afterwards a treaty of peace was agreed to by the envoys who had been sent by the Deb Rajah for that purpose; an ample apology was made for the insults offered to Mr. Eden, and the treaty signed by him was surrendered as well as the two guns. The Bengal Dooars and the hill lands bordering on the Teesta were withdrawn from the state of Bhotan, as also were the revenues which it received on account of the Assam Dooars; but, as the chiefs of the country would thus have been deprived of their main income, a sum of 2,500 *l.*, rising gradually to 5,000 *l.*, will be paid to them annually, so long as they continue to behave well, it being considered that, the stronger the government in the neighbouring states, and the greater the prosperity of their subjects, the better will be the security for the permanent peace of our frontiers. The gross revenue of the territory annexed is now estimated at 15,000 *l.*

1. BHOTAN.

It having been ascertained that traffic in slaves was very general in Cooch Behar, an endeavour has been made to extirpate the practice during the present Rajah's minority, and orders have been issued prohibiting the seizure, sale, or detention of any persons, male or female. The British coinage has been introduced into this state, as the old coinage was in an utterly debased condition; and a new settlement of the country has been authorised for 20 years.

2. COOCH BEHAR

At the request of the Nawab Nazim of Moorshedabad, a British officer was deputed to accompany his three eldest sons to England, as it was considered that such a visit would afford them the best means of qualifying themselves for their future position in life. After a stay of about a twelvemonth in England they returned to India at the close of 1865.

3. NAWAB NAZIM OF MOORSHED ABAD.

With the exception of a few border raids, and a slight disturbance in the frontier tract of Yusufzai, the Punjab enjoyed uninterrupted tranquillity throughout the year. The greatest durbar ever seen in the province since the time of the Moguls was held at Lahore in October, when 13 feudatory chiefs with their retainers, and 584 of the principal gentry, assembled to do homage to the viceroy.

4. PUNJAB.

The Kohat Pass became insecure for travellers, owing to the dissensions of the Hassan Kheyl clan of Afreedees, to whom, as guardians of the pass, a payment of 570 *l.* per annum has, in accordance with the practice of former rulers, been made by the British Government since 1849; and, every effort to bring about a

reconciliation having failed, it was found necessary to declare the pass closed to our own subjects, and to withhold payment of the subsidy until the contending factions should adjust their feuds.

6. CASHMERE. The reduction of the customs duties effected by the Maharaja of Cashmere in the preceding year produced a considerable increase of trade with the adjacent districts of British territory.
6. JHEEND. In the native state of Jheend a rising took place among the Jât peasantry of Dádree, but the insurgents were promptly attacked by the young Rajah in person, and the revolt entirely put down.
7. BAHAWULPORE. The affairs of Bahawulpore were in a most unsatisfactory condition; the execution of his three uncles by the Nawab, and his harsh treatment of some of his other relatives, necessitated the interference of the British Government, whilst his conduct towards his subjects was reckless and oppressive, and calculated to endanger the peace of his territory. Two refugees who had taken shelter within the British frontier organised a serious attack on a village belonging to the Bahawulpore state, but were repulsed and again fled into our territory; their surrender to the Nawab was refused, but, as they had abused the asylum afforded them, and failed to furnish security, they were placed in confinement at Lahore. Very recently information has been received of the death of the Nawab, of the accession of his son, a child four years of age, and of the whole country having been thrown into a state of anarchy in consequence of his claim being disputed.
8. MAMDOTE. The death of the Nawab of Mamdote raised a question as to the succession to his estate. He received his title and sovereign powers from the British Government, in reward for his services during the second Sikh war; but he was deprived of them in 1856 in consequence of his grossly oppressive conduct, and the estate was managed by the district authorities of Ferozepore, in whose hands it has thriven. After due consideration, it was determined to maintain the fief, and to confer the title and revenues on the Nawab's brother, who had taken no part in the oppression exercised by the late Nawab and his sons; but the police and magisterial functions and the fiscal management of the estate were retained in the hands of the officers of the Punjab Government.
9. RAJPOOTANA. The political agency at Ulwur was abolished during the year, the Rajah being of full age to manage his own affairs. A case of mutilation having occurred in the territory of Jhabbooa, with the cognizance of the chief, he was, in order to mark the abhorrence felt by the British Government at his barbarous conduct, deprived of the public honours to which his position entitled him. In consideration, however, of his general good conduct, these honours were subsequently restored. The revenue of Meywar has considerably increased, and the conduct of the Maharana is very favourably spoken of; while scarcely less important in its bearing on the future welfare of the country is the aid which some of the influential men of the state are beginning to give in its administration.
10. DHAR. The principality of Dhar was confiscated by the Government of India on account of the rebellion of its mercenary troops in 1857, but was subsequently restored to the Rajah. As he was a minor, and there was no ministry to which the government could be entrusted with advantage, the administration was vested in a British officer until the Rajah might be capable of managing affairs for himself. In 1864, it was thought that the complete restoration of the sovereignty to the Rajah need no longer be delayed, and accordingly, in November, the British Agent was withdrawn, and the full authority made over to the Native prince.
11. THE NIZAM. The minister of the Nizam abolished the duty levied on the internal trade of his Highness's dominions, and revised the arrangements for collecting the duty on imports and exports from and to British territory. These measures were not carried through without opposition, but the minister promised compensation to those who suffered, and his word is trusted. He also effected a revision of the Courts of Justice in the city, and of the mode of district administration.

A slight disturbance occurred in Shorapore, during the absence in England of the officer appointed by the Nizam to administer the principality when it was

made over to his Highness in 1861, after its confiscation; the malcontents were at once put down by the irregular force of the district, and their leaders arrested.

Attacks by bandits coming from the Siamese Shan States upon British subjects in Amherst having become numerous, the Deputy Commissioner had a conference with the Yahaing Chief, and others near the border, the result of which was satisfactory.

12. SIAM AND  
BURMAH.

One-half of the boundary between British Burmah and Siam was marked out during the year, and the upper course of the river Salween was surveyed, and found to be unnavigable, except at an enormous expense. The conduct of the Burmese and Siamese authorities in facilitating the survey was very friendly.

Considerable reforms were initiated during the year in the Judicial Courts of Travancore, the services of an able Principal Sudder Ameen were obtained from the British Government for the post of first judge, and a higher tone imparted to the courts, which are rapidly rising in the respect and confidence of the people. The police worked as well as could be expected in its present organization, and cases of smuggling were much reduced in number after the tobacco duty was lowered. The long contemplated interpostal arrangements between Travancore and British India were carried into effect.

13. TRAVANCORE.

Numerous applications for coffee lands in the Travancore hills having been received, rules were issued for their sale at an upset price of 2s. an acre, and a party was organised for surveying them.

The Rajah's school at Trevandrum continued to hold its high position, and there were signs of some of the more deeply rooted caste prejudices yielding to the influence of education.

The Public Works Department has considerably increased in efficiency, and some important works were pressed on with vigour, particularly the Victoria Canal, which has proved more difficult than was expected. Roads are being constructed to the coffee plantations, and across the ghauts into Madura.

The finances of the country are in a flourishing condition, and there was a considerable surplus in 1864-65, notwithstanding the large reduction in the duty on tobacco, and the increase of the salaries of the judges, and other servants of the Government, to whom also retiring pensions were granted.

The Code of Civil Procedure of the Indian Government was introduced into the State of Cochin, and education received a stimulus by the reorganisation of the Rajah's school at the capital. Fresh lands continued to be taken up for coffee plantations. The Shoranoor bridge, to connect his Highness's territory with British India, and to carry a branch railway, made progress, and the canals and roads were improved between Cochin and the railway at Shoranoor, the continuance of which to the ports of Narakel and Cochin is under discussion. The finances of this state are flourishing, and it has followed the example of Travancore in many of its reforms.

14. COCHIN.

The chiefs of the province of Kattywar, following the example of the Jam of Nownuggur, abolished the levy of transit duties in their territories, a very important measure for the commerce of the country, as, owing to the minute subdivision of estates exercising separate jurisdiction, these duties were unusually harassing and numerous.

15. KATTYWAR.

Efforts were made by several states to organise courts of civil and criminal justice; in Bhownuggur a complete elementary procedure and code of punishment was published and put in force, and other states, as a first step towards reform, separated their judicial business from the revenue management.

The growing desire of the chiefs to improve the means of communication in the province was evinced by 15 of them subscribing a sum of 145,000*l.* towards the construction of a railway, instead of an ordinary road, from Hurdwar to Ahmedabad.

The Thakoor of Bhownuggur constructed landing-places, with roads leading to them, which added considerably to the facilities of that port for loading and discharging cargo. A handsome tank for drinking-water and a good bridge have also been built near the city.

In the Gulf of Cutch, the Jam is engaged in making a first-class piece of road, two miles in length, from Behree to the creek where native ships lie, and he con-

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templates the construction of a quay and embankment for landing and storing merchandise.

The Nawab of Joonaghur engaged the services of an English engineer for improving the port of Verawul, and during the year minute surveys of anchorage were executed, and arrangements made for the commencement of a sea wall and pier.

These works are, doubtless, mere specks on the surface of the great peninsula of Kattywar, but they are an earnest of the spirit of improvement which has been recently infused into the administration of the chiefs of the province.

The high prices, which contributed largely to the material prosperity of the landholders, pressed with unusual severity on the poorer classes, and enabled the lawless Wagheers to enlist a considerable body of discontented persons to assist them in their plundering expeditions. At the close of the year 1864, the strength of these bands of robbers was not less than 300 men, and their defiant attitude compelled the political agent to move out a detachment of cavalry and infantry, with two mountain howitzers, to hold them in check, and it was intended to pursue them into their haunts, and capture or destroy their leaders. As these continued depredations were consequent on the maladministration of the native officers, the Guicowar consented to an increase of his force in the Baroda territory, and it was determined to withdraw the Guicowar's troops from Kattywar, and replace them by a local force of 400 men, the cost of which, about 10,000*l.* a year, would be borne by the chiefs whose territories would profit from its services.

Notwithstanding this local disturbance, peace and order were maintained throughout the rest of the province, and the tribute, both of the British Government and of the Guicowar, was collected with the utmost regularity; whilst the returns of crime showed that the security of life and property had increased with the growing prosperity of the population.

#### 16. CUTCH.

In Cutch, the sufferings of the poorer classes, arising from the high price of produce of all kinds, were aggravated by the failure of the monsoon in 1864, and by the scarcity of grain, resulting in some measure from the large area of land under cultivation for cotton. As a means of relief, the Government authorised the remission, for six months, of the export duty on grain from the ports of the western coast and Sind to Cutch, which proved a great blessing to the country. Notwithstanding the distress, however, the province was remarkably free from serious crime, and there was no instance of burglary or gang-robbery; but the suicides, the frequency of which has long been a remarkable feature of the crime returns, showed but a small decrease, the greater proportion being, as usual, among females. This is attributed to ill-treatment, owing to the inferior status which women occupy in all eastern countries, and the evil can only be mitigated by extended education, in which Cutch is much behind other parts of Western India. The schools at Bhooj and Mandavee maintained their efficiency, and the latter, which is highly popular, was liberally endowed by a Khoja merchant in the past year. A commencement was made in the work of improving the harbour at Mandavee.

#### 17. REWA KANTA.

The tranquillity of the Rewa Kanta was interrupted by a serious disturbance, arising from a boundary dispute, on the frontier between Loonawarra and Soanth, in which 22 men were killed and wounded; but order was speedily restored on the arrival of the political agent.

The mismanagement of the affairs of Deoghur Barreah, after the death of the late chief, rendered it necessary to resort to the extreme measure of placing in the hands of the political agent the management of the state during the minority of the present chief.

#### 18. KOLHAPPOOR.

The Rajah of Kolhapoor, who was vested with the government of his principality in November 1863, continued to administer the affairs of the state in a most satisfactory manner. The population generally was orderly and contented, and the condition of the country was one of increasing prosperity. The warm personal interest taken by the Rajah in promoting education had the best effect on all classes; and the vernacular schools, which are under his direct management, were popular and flourishing.

The estates of all the chiefs of the Southern Mahratta country were visited during the year by the assistant political agent, who observed many proofs of the increasing attention given by them to the administration of their affairs. The revenue survey was successfully carried out in one district of Sanglee, where also an Anglo-vernacular school was established. The chief of Jamkhundee was employed in carrying out a project for supplying his principal town with water from a lake about a mile distant, and he spent a good deal of money in the purchase of a steam plough, and other European novelties, which produced a highly favourable impression throughout the country.

19. SOUTHERN  
MAHRATTA  
COUNTRY.

The tranquillity of the Sind frontier was undisturbed, except by two petty cattle-lifting raids, in both of which the marauders were cut up by detachments of the Sind horse.

20. SIND FRONTIER.

Shere Dil Khan, who was raised to the throne of Khelat on the deposition of Meer Khodadad Khan, was assassinated by a disloyal soldier in May 1864, and the former sovereign was restored by the voluntary act of the people. The friendly conduct of the chiefs during the period of excitement was a gratifying proof that they appreciated the goodwill of the British Government.

21. KHELAT.

## XII. ARMY.

The number of the European troops in India at the beginning of 1865, exclusive of commissioned officers, was 68,336, and the Native troops at the same date were 114,833.

1. STRENGTH AND DISTRIBUTION.

Some diminution in the army was effected in the year 1864-65, by the conversion of three field batteries of the Madras Artillery into garrison batteries, the reduction of a battery at Bombay, and the disbandment of the Southern Mahratta Horse at that presidency, and of the East India regiment in Bengal, and the reduction of four regiments of the Madras Native Infantry. The body-guard of the Governor of Bombay, which was previously formed by a detachment from one of the Native Cavalry regiments, has been constituted as a separate corps.

The distribution of the British force in Bengal was carefully revised, with reference to considerations of a sanitary character, as well as to those of political and strategical importance, the endeavour of the Government being, as far as possible, to avoid breaking up regiments, while placing them in the most healthy situations. The strength of the Bengal force was fixed at 12 batteries of horse, 23 of field, and 16 of garrison artillery, 7 cavalry, and 33 infantry regiments. It was not found practicable to withdraw more than three of the latter from the plains; but several of the stations occupied are shown by experience to be healthy, and measures are being adopted for providing increased accommodation for convalescent soldiers on the hills.

At the beginning of the year 1864, the whole of the Native infantry regiments in Bengal and Bombay were placed on a new organisation, under which there are only seven combatant European officers with each corps, the troops and companies being commanded by native commissioned officers, as was previously the case in the irregular force; and, on the 1st of November 1865, the Madras army was assimilated in organisation to those of the other presidencies. In carrying this important measure into effect, the Local Government was directed to give the new regimental appointments, in all possible cases, to officers belonging to the cadre of the reorganised regiment, and to make every endeavour to prevent supersession and to meet the personal wishes of all concerned.

2. REORGANIZATION OF THE NATIVE ARMY.

The charges of the whole army rose from 14,546,410 *l.* in 1863-64 to 15,774,486 *l.* in 1864-65. Part of this increase was caused by the very high price of provisions, and the large demand for labour throughout the country, which rendered it necessary to give compensation to the native officers and soldiers, especially in Madras; good-conduct pay, moreover, was granted after shorter periods of service than hitherto, and the cost of these measures was estimated at not less than 110,000 *l.* a year. Additional pay was also given to the new Silladar Cavalry, in consequence of the high price of their horses' food; and the ration of the native soldier was improved by granting him a daily allowance of 3 lbs. of firewood. In the Madras army, an extra charge was incurred, on account of carriage and subsistence to the families of European troops. The

3. COST.



rise of prices also rendered it necessary largely to increase the payment on account of the soldiers' children educated at the Bombay Government Military Asylum; while the enormous charge for dwellings in Bombay led to the sanction of an additional allowance for house-rent to the officers stationed at the presidency town. Various other measures will be mentioned below, which have contributed to swell the expense of the Military Establishments.

In 1864 it was determined that, as the altered circumstances of the country rendered it no longer necessary or desirable to maintain the distinction laid down in 1836, with reference to the additional allowance termed *batta*, between regiments within easy reach of supplies from Europe and those in the interior, the full *batta* rate should be extended to all the troops, whether stationed within 200 miles of the presidency town or further up the country. The increase to the expenditure arising from the adoption of this measure is estimated at upwards of 50,000 *l.* per annum.

The 19th Madras Native Infantry having suffered very severely from the effects of the cyclone which fell upon the coast of Masulipatam on the 1st of November 1864, relief was granted by the Government in the form of compensation for the loss of their huts and other property, and a sum of money was distributed among the native ranks of the corps and the heirs of those who perished in the storm.

The pension rules of the Native army were revised in 1864, and the whole force placed on one footing in this respect.

#### 4. HEALTH.

In the year 1859 a Royal Commission was appointed to inquire into the measures which it might be expedient to take for maintaining and improving the health of all ranks of Her Majesty's army serving in India; and, in accordance with the recommendation of that body in 1863, a sanitary commission was appointed at each of the three presidencies, to assist in all matters relating to public health, the selection of new stations, the planning of new barracks and hospitals, the improvement of native towns, and the prevention of epidemic diseases.

The rate of mortality in India was stated by the Royal Commissioners as having averaged 69 per 1,000, while that in the army at home was from 18 to 20 per 1,000. Even assuming, however, that these figures were correct for the preceding half century from which the average was drawn, they failed to give an accurate idea of the death-rate at present existing either in India or England; so great an improvement has been effected in the health of the army within the last 10 years, owing to the efforts which have been made to improve the condition of the soldier, that, while the mortality among the troops at home does not now exceed nine or ten per thousand, the average in India has been steadily reduced to 28 per 1,000 in 1862, 25 in 1863, and less than 21 in 1864.

One of the most important sanitary measures taken in the year under report was the promulgation of the rules laid down by the Commission appointed to inquire into the cholera epidemic of 1861, the chief of which is the instant removal of troops from the place in which the disease has appeared, and the cutting off of all communication with the infected locality. The practice of throwing dead bodies into the rivers running under cantonments was also prohibited. A small sanitary depôt for affording change of air to the garrison quartered in the palace at Delhi was obtained by the purchase of a house, formerly belonging to Hindoo Rao, on the neighbouring heights.

A scarcely less destructive agent in the army than cholera is venereal disease, at least a third of the whole army passing through hospital during the year on this account alone. An Act which was passed by the Governor General (No. XXII. of 1864) enables the Government to frame rules for exercising a strict control over military cantonments; and further remedial measures are under consideration.

#### 5. BARRACKS AND HOSPITALS.

The scheme for improving the barrack accommodation has been already mentioned under the head of Public Works. The plans of these buildings, as well as those of the hospitals, are, in all essential respects, similar to those recommended by the Royal Sanitary Commission, by that appointed to consider the improvement of barracks and hospitals, and by Miss Nightingale. Female nurses have been introduced into the two principal hospitals in Calcutta, and the female wards of all regimental hospitals. Much attention has also been paid to the improvement of the soldiers' beds, bedding, and camp equipage; to their diet, particularly with regard to the quality of the meat; to the water supply, the

the reduction of the amount of spirits issued from the canteens, the provision of malt liquor at a cheap rate being proportionately increased, and to general measures of conservancy.

A system of regimental workshops was instituted by Sir Hugh Rose in 1861, and at the end of 1864 it was in full working order in 68 regiments and batteries, giving regular employment to 791 men, whose work realized 15,787 *l.* during the year. Annual exhibitions of the produce of these workshops were instituted at Peshawur and Lahore, and prizes of money were distributed.

6. WORKSHOPS.

Soldiers' gardens have also been established with marked success. They are of two kinds, small plots attached to the barracks, and large gardens situated at a convenient distance, usually laid out with taste, and often bringing in a considerable profit. The Commissariat Department is bound, when practicable, to have recourse to the soldiers' gardens in providing vegetables for the troops, and prizes are given to those who have been the most industrious and successful.

7. GARDENS.

In accordance with the recommendations of a Committee of experienced officers appointed by the Commander-in-Chief, to consider the question of providing recreation rooms for European soldiers in India, it was determined to construct, for each British regiment, five courts, skittle alleys, a gymnasium, swimming-baths, accommodation for workshops, a reading room with a recreation room and refreshment shop attached to it, a cricket ground, a sergeants' mess with reading and recreation rooms, and a women's day-room for each wing.

8. SOLDIERS' AMUSEMENTS.

A system of promotion was laid down for European officers who have been nominated to unattached ensigncies in reward for meritorious conduct as non-commissioned officers. Under the new rule, five years' service as ensign will confer the unattached rank of lieutenant, and seven years passed in the latter grade will give a title to promotion to that of captain. The rank of field officer will only be granted in the case of distinguished service being performed in the grade of captain.

9. UNATTACHED OFFICERS.

A capitation allowance of 2 *l.* per man was authorised to be issued for each effective member of volunteer regiments. Commissions were granted to the officers of the Behar Mounted Rifles, a corps comprising 120 gentlemen, most of whom are indigo planters or members of the Civil Service.

10. VOLUNTEER CORPS.

The rate of pay laid down in the Royal Warrant of 1859 for veterinary surgeons of the British army was in 1865 made applicable to those of the Indian service.

11. VETERINARY SURGEONS.

In the year under review, the rates of pay and the pension rules of the medical officers were revised, and a rule was laid down whereby all assistant surgeons of 12 years' standing were to be promoted to the rank of surgeon, the result being the immediate promotion of a large number of officers of that class, and the equalisation of the rate of promotion for the future more nearly to that prevailing in the British army. The additional expense incurred by the Government in consequence of this measure was very heavy.

12. MEDICAL OFFICERS.

Subsequently, a Committee was appointed to consider the general question of the number and distribution, &c., of the medical service in future, and their report is under consideration.

A system of good-service pensions, based on that adopted in the British army, was sanctioned in 1864, for officers of the Indian service; and 50 pensions of 100 *l.* a year were allotted to distinguished officers, chosen both from the staff corps and the general roll of the army, including the new Brigades of Artillery and Line regiments.

13. GOOD-SERVICE PENSIONS.

Before stating the measures which have been adopted in the last few years, in dealing with the officers of the late East India Company's army, it may be well to recapitulate very shortly the circumstances which led to the great changes that have taken place in the constitution of the Indian forces.

14. MEASURES ADOPTED WITH REGARD TO THE OFFICERS.

Intelligence of the mutiny of the Native troops at Meerut reached England in the middle of 1857; and, immediately after providing for the despatch of reinforcements, the Court of Directors instructed the Government of India to assemble a Commission, composed of officers of the three Presidencies, to assist that Govern-

ment "in forming wise conclusions on the most important subject which must soon press for decision, namely, the proper organization of our army in India;" and, among other points, they desired that attention might be particularly given to the best mode of providing European officers for staff and detached employment, without injuring the efficiency of regiments.

The Act of Parliament which transferred the Government of India to the Crown, in 1858, directed that the military forces of the East India Company should be deemed to be the Indian Military Forces of Her Majesty, and should "be entitled to the like pay, pensions, allowances, and privileges, and the like advantages as regards promotion and otherwise, as if they had continued in the service of the said Company." It was at the same time provided, that the Secretary of State for India should have "all such or the like powers over all officers appointed or continued under this Act as might or should have been exercised or performed by the East India Company."

Whilst the Bill was in progress, a Royal Commission was appointed to inquire into the "Organization of the Army at present serving in the pay and under the control and management of the East India Company." It was composed of the Secretary of State for War, the President of the India Board (afterwards Secretary of State for India), the Commander in Chief, the Adjutant General, three other general officers of the British army, and four officers of the East India Company's Service. They made their report in March 1859, and recommended a very considerable increase of the European and diminution of the Native army; but they stated that, on the question whether the European army should continue to be recruited for local service, or should be entirely composed of British regiments, they were unable to come to any unanimous conclusion, the majority, however, being in favour of the latter course.

In August 1859 an Act of Parliament was obtained, authorising the increase of the local force from 20,000 to 30,000 men, the fact being that the legal number had been exceeded, and it was necessary to pass this Act in order to cover the illegality. Shortly afterwards, however, the claim of the local European soldiers to their discharge, on the termination of their service under the East India Company, decided Her Majesty's Government to adopt the course recommended by the majority of the Royal Commission, and to discontinue raising European troops for local service in India; and an Act was accordingly passed in 1860, repealing all former Acts which conferred on the Government any power to do so.

The guarantee clause was repeated in this Act, and reiterated in the Despatches of the Secretary of State and the General Order of the Government of India, under which the measures of amalgamation were carried into effect.

The question which has now for several years agitated the Indian army is, whether or not this guarantee has been maintained; and it is, therefore, desirable to endeavour, as far as possible, to ascertain what was the real meaning of Parliament in securing to the Indian army the privileges and advantages which it would have enjoyed under the East India Company.

In the Report of the Army Organization Commission, it is stated that these advantages may be briefly described as consisting "in a prescriptive right to rise strictly by seniority to the rank and emoluments of a colonel of a regiment, with the option of retiring before attaining that position, or after various periods of service on a scale of pay or pension considerably higher than that granted to officers of Her Majesty's army of the Line."

In the Appendix to that Report, the conditions are divided into five heads, as relating respectively to the promotion, pay and allowances, furlough, and retirement of the officers, and to their claims as subscribers to the funds of the several presidencies. As no regulations have been made affecting any officer on the last four points, unless he should voluntarily change his position, the only question to be considered is, whether the conditions with respect to promotion have, or have not, been infringed.

The description of these conditions is as follows:—"The officers of the Artillery and Engineer corps rise in their respective arms by seniority. In the cavalry and infantry they rise by seniority, in their respective regiments, to the rank of major; they then take their place in the gradation list of their respective branches, and are promoted by seniority therein to the regimental rank of lieutenant colonel; they continue in these separate regimental gradation lists for succession to regiments, and to the colonels' allowance. The whole of the lieutenant-colonels of artillery, engineers, cavalry, and infantry, are arranged

“ in one gradation list for promotion to the brevet rank of colonel and general officer; and promotion to these grades is regulated according to the provisions of the Royal Warrant of October 1854; this brevet rank does not affect their succession to the colonels' allowance. Subalterns after 15 years from the date of their first commissions are promoted to the rank of captain by brevet.”

It can hardly be supposed that the Court of Directors had not power to carry into effect any measure of reorganisation or reduction which the exigencies of the service might demand, or that they would have failed to exercise that power when necessary, although they would no doubt have done so with the utmost regard for the existing interests of their officers.

On more than one occasion their views were placed on record, in cases which in principle were somewhat parallel to that which was caused by the mutiny and disbandment of the Bengal army, although there is little comparison in the importance of the changes effected, and the magnitude of the difficulties attendant thereon.

In 1823 the Court of Directors wrote as follows to the Government of India:—“ We cannot too strongly express our condemnation of the statement contained in your letter, where it is broadly assumed that the Court of Directors cannot, without breach of faith, interfere with or diminish any of the scanty allowances or advantages, as they are called, granted to the officers of the Bengal army by the arrangement of 1796, which extraordinary position is attempted to be upheld by reference to great authorities and eminent individuals engaged in framing it, which caused it to bear, in the eyes of the Company's armies, the sacredness of almost a direct Royal and ministerial ‘pledge.’ . . . That the Company are bound by the arrangement of 1796, or by any other proceeding, to anything more than a reasonable attention to the fair claims and interests of their servants, as well civil as military, is a doctrine altogether imaginary and unfounded, at variance with the principle of the relation in which the employers stand to the employed; a doctrine, the principle of which, if once admitted, would subvert all the control exercised by the East India Company over their servants, and which it is, therefore, your bounden duty not only merely to abstain from advocating or encouraging, but, at all times, and upon all occasions, absolutely to discountenance and suppress. . . . We deem it sufficient to remark that the present state of India does not render it necessary to frame military arrangements upon the same principles and views as operated in the minds of antecedent Governments. . . . We have the undoubted right to revise and alter all allowances made to our servants of all classes and ranks; and, however inexpedient it may be lightly and frequently to disturb arrangements of that nature, our Governments are not justified in setting up on behalf of the service, of which they themselves are a part, a claim to consider as irrevocable any instructions which we may issue. Doctrines of this sort, seldom or never confined to the members of Government and their immediate confidential servants, have a tendency to stir up discontent, and to create resistance to all orders from Europe which may appear to trench upon the personal advantages of the Company's servants in India, and might if admitted, tie up the Court's hands in making improvements indispensably necessary for the general advantage of the service, as well in the present as in any future arrangements.”

Again, in 1830, on the introduction of the half batta order, the revocation of which, by the Secretary of State, has been already mentioned, the Court of Directors stated that “ it is an undoubted right inherent in all Governments to augment or reduce the allowances of public servants, as the circumstances of the State may require. . . . But,” they added, “ while we thus show the misapprehension into which many have fallen upon this point, and distinctly uphold the justice of our recent order, and our inherent right to alter the allowances of our officers as circumstances may seem to us to require, we at the same time acknowledge their claim to our favourable and indulgent consideration.” And, in another despatch of the same date, they complained that no endeavour had been made by the Government of India “ to show how untenable was the assumed ground of an unalterable compact between the Army and the Government.”

Where the right to effect all the necessary reductions, and to make any improvements which might appear requisite for the general advantage of the service, irrespective of previous arrangements, is so distinctly and positively laid

down, it seems scarcely necessary to show that special measures contravening the ordinary principles of promotion were in actual practice adopted by the Court of Directors in particular instances, such as on the reduction of two lieutenants and one cornet or ensign in each regiment in 1828, or the raising of new corps after the Cabul massacre in 1842.

That they contemplated very material changes in the organisation of their army is apparent from the instructions given by them to Lord Canning in 1857; and it appears evident that, in exercising the power to make the alterations which have been carried out, Her Majesty's Government were only acting as the East India Company might have acted, and that, in the words of the Royal Commissioners of 1863, "the language of the Act could not have been intended to prevent the Crown, if, in the interests of India and of the Empire at large, it should deem it necessary, from reducing the numbers of the Indian army, or altering its organisation." It would have been in the power of the Company to make such reductions and changes, and a similar power was transferred to the Crown. All we can understand Parliament to have guaranteed to the officers is, that, in making any such reductions, their interests should as little as possible be interfered with, and that, in any change of organisation, the Crown should, as no doubt the Company would have done, preserve all the rules as to pay, pensions, allowances, and privileges, and the like advantages as regards promotion and otherwise, which existed at the time the Act was passed, or, if in any case that should be impossible, then that some counterbalancing benefit should be given to compensate any advantage which it might be impossible to retain."

It remains, therefore, to be seen whether the "favourable and indulgent consideration," and the reasonable attention to their fair claims and interests, to which the East India Company justly acknowledged that their officers might lay claim, has not been displayed by the Secretary of State for India in Council in the measures adopted towards the army, and whether "counterbalancing benefits" have not been granted, if not to every individual officer, at least to every class of those who have in any way suffered from the reductions which have been effected, or the establishment of the staff corps which it was necessary to form on terms that would offer an inducement to British as well as local officers to attach themselves to Indian service.

During the progress of the Act of 1860 through Parliament, a committee of six officers, three British and three Indian, with Lord Hotham as chairman, was appointed to prepare suggestions as to the measures which it might be advisable to take for amalgamating the European forces of the Indian army with the general army of the Crown. Their report, dated on the 30th of August 1860, recommended that a staff corps should be formed, to which officers of the Line and local armies should be eligible, with special rates of pay, and promotion according to length of service; and that the promotion of officers who might not enter it should go forward in the cadres regularly and in the established order; but they considered that it might be a question whether the great number of vacancies which would be caused by the formation of that corps should be wholly or only partially filled up in the ordinary course, as regard must be paid to the inequality of promotion that would arise; and they suggested that a gradual reduction of the number of captains might properly be effected. They also recommended the grant of increased pensions or bonuses to induce the older officers to retire, if the Government were disposed to offer them to so many as 120, though they were not prepared to say that so large an outlay was actually necessary. In the event of that course being adopted, they thought it would be hard that the service should not have the benefit of all the vacancies thus created, so that promotion, already slow, might not be checked. As regards the colonels' allowances, they thought that no reduction should be made in consequence of a change of organisation, unless the number of the regiments and the strength of the army was reduced; but in that case they stated that the number of colonels and of their allowances must necessarily be reduced also. They proposed a scheme of amalgamation of the Artillery and Engineers with the Royal corps of those arms; and they made some suggestions with reference to a fusion of the lists of general officers in the British and Indian armies.

On the 16th of January 1861, a Royal warrant was issued, authorising the formation of a staff corps in each of the three presidencies; and, in several despatches dated on the 18th of that month, the Secretary of State communi-  
cated

ated to the Government of India the various measures connected with the amalgamation which it had been determined to carry into effect. On the 10th of April 1861 a general order was issued by the Governor General in Council embodying the whole scheme.

As regards the officers, these measures are as follows:—

In the regiments of artillery, which have been assimilated to the Royal regiment of that arm, the rank of colonel commandant has been established, the number of field officers increased, the rank of major abolished, and all existing majors at once promoted to that of lieutenant colonel (this change was made in 1858, during the administration of the East India Company), the rank of second captain introduced, promoting many of the senior lieutenants, and that of second lieutenant abolished, all of that rank being promoted, and all captains and subalterns brought nearer to the grade of lieutenant colonel. The additional pay in consequence of these promotions amounts to not less than 75,000 *l.* per annum.

The organisation of the Indian regiments of Engineers has also been assimilated to that of the Royal Engineers, and the number of officers of the higher ranks increased, the extra charge in this case being 55,000 *l.* a year.

The corps thus benefiting by the change comprised 947 officers. The only alteration unfavourable to the corps is, that, it being found that more officers were in receipt of colonels' allowances than the home establishment authorised, it was decided to absorb the supernumeraries gradually, by omitting to promote on every fourth vacancy. On the other hand, the number of the higher ranks, with the corresponding pay, was at once increased; and to some of the older officers who had but slightly participated in those advantages special annuities were subsequently offered, in consequence of which seven colonels of Artillery and six of Engineers retired, and promotions were made in their places.

Three regiments of cavalry and nine of infantry were added to the British army, and the officers of the first three regiments of European cavalry in Bengal, and of the 1st, 2d, and 3d European Infantry regiments in each presidency, that is, all the regiments of infantry which existed before the mutiny, were invited to volunteer for general service with the new corps. Nearly all accepted the offer, and the vacancies were filled up by volunteers from other regiments. The number of Indian officers thus provided for was 403.

All officers holding permanent Staff appointments, whether purely military, as in regiments of the native army, or civil, as in employment on political duty, public works, &c., and also those who had held such appointments within the preceding three years, were offered the option of joining the Staff Corps, with its rates of pay and promotion; but, in the event of their declining, they were allowed to retain the Staff appointments which they were then holding; 1,318 officers availed themselves of the offer, and entered the Staff Corps, in most cases gaining considerably in promotion and pay.

Special inducements were at various times offered to the older officers to retire. To every one who was entitled to his full-pay pension an additional annuity of 50 *l.* was offered, and subsequently all lieutenant colonels and majors, and a certain number of captains of 25 years' standing, were permitted to retire on the pensions of their rank, with extra pensions varying from 550 *l.* to 200 *l.*, calculated on the value of their expectancy of colonel's allowance. About 300 accepted these offers, and the annual charge incurred by the Government was 64,560 *l.* beyond their ordinary pensions, which amounted to 100,807 *l.*

In consequence of these retirements, promotions were made of 449 officers, viz., 49 lieutenant colonels, 87 majors, 123 captains, and 190 lieutenants; and the position of every officer was more less improved.

To those officers who voluntarily accepted the offers made to them as tending to their advantage, must be added, in considering the number who have in no way suffered from the measures of the Government, the 679 young officers nominated since December 1858, to whom notice was given that their appointments were made subject to any alterations which might be determined upon, as well as the older officers who were already in receipt of colonels' allowances, and who are therefore unaffected by the change.

It is, then, amongst the remaining officers that the only cases can exist in which there is any foundation for a complaint that the guarantee has been violated. All of these have derived considerable promotion by the retirements

which have taken place in consequence of the extra annuities granted to the older officers, and they have been assured of rising by seniority to the highest ranks, with the pay of those ranks, in the same manner as if the separate Indian army had still existed; and this, although the Native army has been reduced by 130,000 men, and the organisation of the force which remains has been entirely remodelled on a system which allots only seven officers to each regiment instead of 26.

The following questions, then, suggest themselves for consideration. What are the causes which operated to the injury of any of these officers? Were they attributable to the amalgamation of the two armies to which the guarantee applied, or to the reduction consequent on the mutiny, which must have been effected by the East India Company? And were the remedial measures which have been adopted sufficient to satisfy the just expectations of the army? It is not, however, the object of this report to do more than recapitulate what actually was done.

That hardship had been felt in many cases could scarcely be doubted, from the number of memorials which were received from officers complaining of an infringement of the guarantee given by Parliament, and, accordingly, a Royal Commission was appointed on the 2d of May 1863, to report whether any departure from those assurances had taken place.

The Commission was presided over by Lord Cranworth, the other members being the Earl of Ellenborough, Lord Hotham (Chairman of the Committee in 1860), Mr. Henley (who was the mover of the "Guarantee" Clause in the Act of Parliament), Sir Charles Yorke, Major General Clarke, and Sir Peter Melvill.

Their report, which was dated on the 9th of November 1863, after stating their opinion, already quoted, on the construction which they conceived that the Parliamentary guarantee must be held to bear, proceeded to discuss the several points complained of in the memorial.

The principal ground of complaint was the formation of the Staff Corps, it being held by the memorialists that, as it constitutes substantially a new regiment, the retention of the names of the officers removed to it on the cadres of their old regiments was an infringement of the well-acknowledged rule of the service under which the removal of an officer from a regiment invariably occasioned a vacancy, and so gave a step to those below him. On this point, the Commissioners gave their opinion as follows:—"We cannot think that it could have been the intention of Parliament to bind the Crown to adhere strictly to these ordinary rules, in the extraordinary circumstances arising from changes introduced after the passing of the Act, when a strict adherence to those rules would give to officers remaining in their regiments an unequal, and in most cases an extravagant, advantage in regimental promotion. By the present arrangements with respect to officers transferred to the Staff Corps, every officer remaining on the old cadre of his regiment will have promotion, on the happening of any casualty which, if no Staff Corps had been created, would have given occasion to promotion. We cannot think that Parliament meant to assure more than this. The officers would have a right to complain of any changes which would have the effect of retarding their promotion; they can have no right to complain that such changes do not advance it. We cannot therefore think that, so far as promotion is concerned, the retention upon the cadres of their old regiments of the names of officers transferred to the Staff Corps is practically a departure from the assurance given by Parliament that Indian officers should, on the transfer of the local army to the Crown, retain all their previous advantages."

A further objection to the establishment of the Staff Corps was, that the rules gave superior rank to officers appointed to that corps, and so caused extensive supersession of the officers remaining with their regiments. On this point the Commissioners thought that there were solid grounds for complaint, and that the Parliamentary assurance had not been adhered to.

The next point complained of was the retention on the cadres of their former corps of the names of those officers who joined the new Line regiments. This measure the Commissioners viewed in two ways:—1. As regards those who were taken from the old local European corps, which were converted into the Line regiments; and in this case they held that to carry out the usual rule of giving steps in all vacancies thus occasioned to the officers remaining on the cadre would have caused such extravagant promotion as to produce a result forbidden by



by reason, and not in the contemplation of Parliament. 2. As regards those who were brought in from other corps, not the representative regiments, in which case they held that promotion ought to be given on the transfer of the officer to the Line regiment.

The retardation of the promotion of regimental officers, in consequence of those transferred to the Staff Corps or the new Line regiments being not exposed to casualties to the same extent as if they had remained with the old regiment, was, in the opinion of the Commissioners, of an unappreciable character, and not affected by the guarantee of Parliament.

As regards the gradual reduction of colonels' allowances in the Artillery, the Commissioners held that the principle on which the change had been made was just; that immediate pecuniary benefits were secured to all whose interests were affected, likely, in the case of the junior officers, to exceed the loss occasioned by retardation; and that what had been done was not a breach of the guarantee.

The very extensive reductions of the Native regiments rendered it impossible to adopt a similar rule for the gradual reduction of colonels' allowances in the Cavalry and Infantry; and it was therefore decided that a lieutenant colonel, after holding that rank for 12 years, should become a full colonel, and draw the colonel's allowance. The Commissioners held that the question, whether 12 years was a fair average, must be tested by time, and a reduction of the qualifying period made if necessary.

The next point complained of was, that, in the vacancies occasioned by the retirement of the older officers on special annuities, while promotion had been given in the room of each captain or major who accepted the pension, the places of only half the number of retiring lieutenant colonels had been filled up. The operation of this arrangement had, the Commissioners stated, been very unequal, and they were unable to calculate the loss or advantage which had fallen to the lot of the different regiments; but they considered that the guarantee had been departed from, where loss could be ascertained to have taken place.

Another complaint raised in the memorials was, that, owing to the small number of officers interested in subscribing a bonus for the older officers to retire, the latter are unable to recover, in their turn, the money which they have previously contributed for a similar purpose. In this case, the Commissioners held that the guarantee only extended to privileges and advantages existing between the East India Company and the Army; that the Company was not a party to the system of giving a bonus on retirement, except as having given an assurance that they would not interfere to prevent it, unless under financial pressure, and with due notice; that all which could be asked of the Crown was to assume the same passive state; and that, the system being illegal, Parliament could not have meant to guarantee its continuance.

A few memorialists complained of an order whereby colonels residing in India, but not required to do so, are no longer entitled to Indian allowances: but the Commissioners stated that this regulation was one which the Company would have revoked, if it seemed expedient, and that it could not have been intended to compel the Crown to give extra pay to officers for remaining in India, when their services were not wanted.

For a similar reason, they held that there was no valid ground for the complaint of certain lieutenant colonels of Artillery, because the antedating of their commissions, which had taken place in 1853, to the supersession of some officers in the Cavalry and Infantry, had been cancelled in the following year. The correction was one which the Court of Directors might, and probably would, have made.

The rule by which colonels of the British and Indian Armies, who attained that rank after the 17th of February 1861, were to be placed on one general list for promotion to the rank of major general, but were not to be promoted until all the colonels of both armies of an earlier date had become general officers, was complained of, both by the officers of Artillery and Engineers, with respect to whom the Commissioners were unable to say what would be the effect on their prospects, although the change would ultimately be very slightly beneficial to the Ordnance Corps as a whole; and also by those of the Cavalry and Infantry, in whose case the Commissioners thought an injury would be inflicted of by no means an imaginary character, causing great delay in their promotion, with no countervailing advantage. In this respect, therefore, they were of opinion that the Parliamentary assurance had not been fulfilled.



The complaint that a due number of general officers had not been allotted to the Ordnance Corps, the Commissioners held to be unfounded; and in a few other minor points they pronounced an opinion that there was no ground for complaining of a violation of the Parliamentary guarantee.

On receiving this report, Her Majesty's Government adopted measures for redressing the grievances on the three points in which the Commissioners considered that the guarantee had been violated, namely, the supersession of officers remaining with their regiments by those who joined the Staff Corps, the retention on the cadres of Native Corps of the names of officers who joined the new Line regiments, and the arrangements for the future promotion of officers of the Indian Army to the rank of general officer.

To meet the first objection, they granted the brevet rank to all officers of the Indian Army, of captain after 12 years' service, major after 20, lieutenant colonel after 26, and colonel after 31 years, by which means the supersession of a regimental officer by one in the Staff Corps is avoided, except in certain special cases, where an officer had been previously superseded by one junior to him.

Secondly, they directed that the names of all officers who have joined the new Line regiments from the Native Cavalry and Infantry, and also from those of the old European regiments which had not been converted into Line corps, should be removed from their cadres, and promotion given in their place.

And thirdly, as the Royal Warrant regulating the future amalgamation of the field officers of the British and Indian Armies had not come into operation, they so far modified its provisions as to retain the whole of the officers of the Cavalry and Infantry of the Indian Army on the general list of that service as before, for promotion to the rank of general officer.

It being found that the rule by which promotion had been given in the room of only half of the lieutenant colonels who accepted the special annuities, had worked unevenly at the several Presidencies, the promotion of eight majors of the Madras and Bombay Armies was directed, in order to render the reduction therein uniform with that carried out in Bengal.

The Commissioners having been unable to determine the effect produced by the Royal Warrant upon the future prospects of the Ordnance Corps, Her Majesty's Government resolved to give to each branch a separate establishment of general officers, calculated in the same proportion as that of the old Royal Artillery and Engineers.

In order to bring the field officers of the Staff Corps on to the general list of the British Army, a Royal Warrant was issued, directing the removal to that list of all colonels of the Staff Corps whose commissions as lieutenant colonel might be dated subsequent to the 17th of February 1861, leaving those of earlier date to rise to the rank of general officer on the Indian list.

The Commissioners had reported that no infringement of the guarantee was involved in the retention, on the cadres of regiments, of the names of officers who joined the Staff Corps, and, irrespective of the very great expense which would have been caused by removing their names, and promoting in their places, a serious objection presented itself in the very unequal promotion that would have been given in different regiments. This, however, did not apply to the removal of the names of officers above the rank of major from the general regimental list, and Her Majesty's Government therefore directed that the names of all officers of the Staff Corps and new Line regiments should, on coming into the position of regimental lieutenant colonel on that list, be struck out, and promotion made in their places.

These resolutions were communicated to the Government of India, in a Despatch dated the 17th of June 1864.

These measures, however, failed to satisfy the officers of the Indian Army, and an Address to the Crown was carried in the House of Commons on the 2d of May 1865, praying Her Majesty "to redress all such grievances complained of by the officers of the late Indian Armies, as were admitted by the Commission on the memorials of Indian officers to have arisen by a departure from the assurance, given by Parliament."

Accordingly, on the 26th of June, another Royal Commission was issued to seven general officers of the British and Indian Armies; one of them, Sir John Aitchison, acting as president, and they were directed to inquire whether the measures which the Government of India had, in the Despatch of June 1864, been instructed to adopt, were "effectual and sufficient for the purpose of  
"removing

“removing such causes of complaint” as had been reported by the first Commission “to have arisen by a departure from the assurances given by Parliament, or for the purpose of giving a counterbalancing benefit in any cases where any rules as to pay, pension, allowances, and privileges, and the like advantages as regards promotion and otherwise, which existed when the Acts above referred to were passed, have not been retained, and in what respects, and to what extent, if at all, such measures fall short of what may be required for removing the causes of such complaints, or for giving such counterbalancing benefit in lieu thereof.”

On the 14th of September 1865, the Commissioners made a report, in which they arranged the points submitted for their consideration under five heads.

1. The retention on the cadres of Native regiments of the names of officers transferred to the new Line regiments.—These names having been removed, and promotion made in their places, the Commissioners reported the measure adopted to be effectual and sufficient.

2. The arrangements for promoting colonels of the Indian Army, of date subsequent to the 17th of February 1861, to the rank of general officer.—The measures adopted in this case were also pronounced to be effectual and sufficient, so far as they came within the scope of the inquiry.

3. The filling up of only half the vacancies occasioned by the retirement of the lieutenant colonels on special annuities, and the retention of the names of those retired lieutenant colonels on the regimental gradation lists, in order to regulate the promotion to colonel with colonel's allowance.—The Commissioners reported that, in effecting the necessary reduction of the army, whatever number of regiments were to be reduced, a corresponding number of colonelcies must have followed, and that the offer of annuities, and promotion in half the vacancies, was only one of the means devised for the purpose of alleviating the immediate pressure of this reduction. But they stated that experience had shown that the number of promotions made had fallen short of the number due to complete the revised establishment, by five lieutenant colonelcies in Madras and one in Bombay; and they were of opinion that, if promotions were allowed to that extent, in continuation of those already made, no loss would have been sustained of anything that could be claimed, either by regiments or officers. The rule of promoting to a colonelcy, after 12 years' service, as substantive lieutenant colonel, had, they added, completely removed any complaints which could have arisen from the retention of the names of retired officers on the lists for regulating promotion.

4. The rule fixing 12 years' service in the substantive rank of lieutenant colonel for promotion to colonel with colonel's allowance.—On this point the Commissioners differed from the Royal Commission of 1863, inasmuch as they considered that future experience would not afford a fair test whether 12 years was the proper period to fix; and, after making various calculations, they came to the conclusion that, as regards those who were lieutenant colonels prior to 1862, and who were to succeed to colonel's allowance either in the ordinary course of casualties, or after the completion of 12 years' service as lieutenant colonel, whichever might first occur, the time named was about two years in excess of a fair period.

In the case of those who became lieutenant colonels on or after the 1st of January 1862, with regard to whom the 12 years' rule had been made absolute, the Commissioners held that, as a general period, it might not be in excess. But they thought that it would bear hardly on many of the senior officers who were promoted on the 1st of January 1862, in place of those who retired on the special annuities, and that it would be for the advantage of the service to provide a means of relieving the Indian Army from old and worn-out officers. They therefore suggested an extension of the retiring regulations, under which graduated pensions are given, irrespective of rank; and they proposed increased pensions after the completion of 35 and 38 years' service.

5. The supersession of regimental officers by officers of the Staff Corps.—In dealing with this subject, the Commissioners recorded their opinion that the operation of the brevet had not only failed fully to remedy the special grievance complained of, but had created a new and continually increasing class of grievances. Complaints had been received that officers had now been superseded by some in the Staff Corps who had not superseded them before, and by

other regimental officers formerly their juniors, and that those holding brevet rank for field service had been superseded by others promoted under the general brevet for mere length of service. The Commissioners further observed, that the virtual establishment of a general gradation list for the whole Indian Army annulled every advantage previously obtained from regimental rise.

They therefore reported that, upon this point, the measure adopted by Her Majesty's Government had not been effectual and sufficient to remove the grievance originally complained of. They stated that the main ground of the grievance still existed, namely, the regimental connection between the local Line and the Staff Corps, by the retention of the names of Staff Corps officers on the cadres of their old regiments, as well as the non-removal of the names of those transferred to the new Line regiments, whilst the grievance itself had been aggravated by the disturbing effect of the general brevet. The removal of the names, they added, might not prevent supersession; but, belonging as the officers would then do to entirely distinct cadres, each body having its own distinct terms of service, such individual supersession would constitute no invasion of principle.

It will be observed that this part of the Commissioners' report treats of two distinct questions.

The first is, the operation of the general brevet, respecting which they were requested to state whether it was an effectual and sufficient measure to remove the supersession of regimental officers by those transferred to the Staff Corps. To the principle of this measure they make no objection, but they consider that its effect has been that of "aggravating instead of removing the original cause of complaint;" and they make a proposal, the adoption of which they admit might not prevent supersession, but which they, nevertheless, recommend, as it would constitute no invasion of principle.

The second is the retention of the names of the Staff Corps officers on the cadres of regiments to regulate promotion, which the Commissioners pronounce to be the main ground of the grievance, but which was not one of the points specifically submitted for their consideration, inasmuch as the Royal Commission of 1863 had stated that it was not a departure from the assurance given by Parliament.

### XIII.—MARINE AND TRANSPORT.

#### 1. OVERLAND TRANSPORT OF TROOPS.

The question of adopting the overland route for the transport of troops to and from India has for some time been under consideration, and it has recently been decided to carry the proposition into effect from September 1867. Five first-class vessels are now under construction, adapted to the special service for which they will be required.

#### 2. WEEKLY COMMUNICATION WITH BOMBAY.

Another subject, which has for some time engaged the attention of Her Majesty's Government, is the advantage to be derived from the establishment of a weekly mail between India and England. The whole question of communication with India is now under the consideration of a Select Committee of the House of Commons.

#### 3. PORT OF CALCUTTA.

Owing in a great measure to the cyclone, 90 vessels grounded in the port of Calcutta during the year, of which five were totally lost. The state of the river was very satisfactory, and the practicability of improving the navigation by artificial means was demonstrated in the Dredge Channel, where the use of a rake for a few times opened through dry sand almost a straight passage with no obstruction.

An excessive amount of work was thrown on the Harbour Master's Department by the cyclone, nearly every ship having broken adrift, and many having carried their moorings with them. Of 186 moorings on the day before the storm, only 22 were saved.

Acting on the report of the Committee appointed to consider the best measures to be adopted, the Government of India sent to England a requisition for 100 screw-pile moorings, the first portion of which was sent out overland.

#### 4. PORT CANNING.

The number of vessels which entered the Mutlah during the year was 14. The cyclone was much less felt at Port Canning than in the Hooghly.

The

The establishments of the dockyard were re-organised during the year, in accordance with the recommendations of the Commissioners of Inquiry into Indian Accounts.

5. KIDDERPORE DOCKYARD.

The British Indian Steam Navigation Company commenced running monthly steamers between Madras and Rangoon, calling at Masulipatam, Cocanada, and Vizagapatam.

6. COMMUNICATION BETWEEN MADRAS AND BURMAH.

XIV.—MISCELLANEOUS.

The extinction of the trading privileges of the East India Company having to a great extent severed the bond of union which previously existed between India and the Straits Settlements, while their connection with China grew more and more intimate, Her Majesty's Government have, in accordance with the strongly expressed wishes of the inhabitants, for some time had under their consideration the expediency of transferring the superintendence of the Government of the Straits Settlements to the Secretary of State for the Colonies; and a Bill for carrying this measure into effect has been introduced into the House of Commons in the present Session.

1. TRANSFER OF THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

On the 5th of October 1864, the neighbourhood of Calcutta was visited by a disastrous hurricane, which, originating near the Andaman Islands, and travelling in a north-westerly direction, struck the coast of Bengal at the Balasore Roads and Hidgellee. Thence it passed over Calcutta, Kishnaghur, and the Bograh district, and finally expended its strength in the Garrow Hills. The destruction caused by the gale was two-fold, that resulting from the violence of the wind, and that ensuing from a storm wave, which, rising to a height of 30 feet, flooded the country for a distance of eight miles on either side of the Hooghly.

2. CYCLONES, Bengal.

In Calcutta and the suburbs, 102 masonry houses and 40,698 tiled and straw huts were totally destroyed, besides upwards of 5,000 damaged; but the loss of life was happily very small, only two Europeans and 47 Natives being killed. The destruction of the finest trees in and around Calcutta inflicted a great injury on the town, and the quantity of decaying boughs and leaves so deteriorated the water in many of the tanks as materially to affect the public health.

The avenues in Fort William and the Botanical Gardens were destroyed, as were half the trees in the Governor General's park at Barrackpore, the avenue on the road to which place suffered to a still greater extent. Very considerable loss was inflicted both on the Government and the merchants by the destruction of upwards of 300,000 maunds of salt. The damage done to the public buildings was estimated at 55,000 £, exclusive of those which were so irretrievably injured as to be beyond repair.

Considerable loss was sustained by the towns of Hooghly, Kishnaghur, and others to the north of Calcutta; but the devastation was infinitely greater in the southern districts, which were swept by the storm wave. In Howrah, 2,000 persons and 12,000 cattle were killed, and more than 150,000 houses destroyed. In Midnapore the loss of human life was 20,000, besides 40,000 head of cattle; at Goomghur three-fourths of the population were swept away; and out of 1,400 houses at Tumlook, only 27 remained standing. On Saugor Island there were but 1,488 survivors, out of a population of nearly 6,000, while 7,000 cattle were destroyed. In other parts of the 24 Pergunnahs, between 7,000 and 8,000 persons, and four-fifths of the cattle, were drowned; whole villages were swept away, and the sufferings of those who escaped were very severe, as for many days they were without food.

The damage caused to the shipping in the river was excessive; out of 195 ships within the limits of the port of Calcutta, on the morning of the storm, 145 were driven on shore, and 10 sunk in the stream; altogether, 50 were totally lost. A large emigrant ship went down, near Diamond Harbour, with 319 persons; and the steamer "Persia" foundered off the Sandheads, with the loss of all on board except two of the crew.

Immediate steps were taken by the local officers to supply food and water to the starving population, to bury the dead, and to clear the salt water out of the old tanks; employment was found for the people in digging fresh wells and repairing the embankments. A meeting was summoned by a private gentleman,

in Calcutta to raise subscriptions for the relief of the inhabitants; and the movement thus set on foot, aided as it was most nobly by the spontaneous liberality of the Parsee community at Bombay, very quickly produced a fund of upwards of 30,000 *l.*, the distribution of which was superintended by an officer of the Government appointed for the purpose.

Musulipatam.

Within less than a month, namely, on the 1st of November, the coast of Musulipatam was visited by another very heavy gale, on which occasion the storm wave, driven onward by the cyclone, rose between 12 and 13 feet above the ordinary high-water mark, and, rushing inland for an average distance of nine, and in one case 17, miles from the shore, submerged for the time an area of 780 square miles. The sepoy's lines were utterly destroyed; 78 men of the regiment and police, and 523 persons belonging to their families, were drowned, as well as at least 30,000 of the general population.

Prompt measures were taken by the Government officers to bury the dead, to relieve the starving, and to obtain a supply of water by opening new wells, and cutting a channel from the Musulipatam Canal; and, under the direction of the President of the Sanitary Commission, who was sent from Madras to superintend the relief operations, a new system of drainage was undertaken for the town.

Large subscriptions were raised, both in Madras and Bombay, which were principally devoted to aiding the inhabitants to rebuild their houses. The great destruction of the cattle and crops rendered necessary remissions of the revenue assessment to the amount of 48,087 *l.*, besides 3,160 *l.* advanced to enable the ryots to begin cultivation afresh.

India Office, 4 July 1866.

*Henry Waterfield.*

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**EAST INDIA (PROGRESS).**

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**STATEMENT**  
**OF THE**  
**MORAL AND MATERIAL PROGRESS**  
**OF**  
**INDIA,**  
**1864-65.**

*(Presented pursuant to Act of Parliament.)*

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*Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,*  
*6 July 1866.*

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*[Price 11 d.]*

374.

*Under 12 oz.*

EAST INDIA.

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STATEMENT

EXHIBITING THE

MORAL AND MATERIAL PROGRESS AND CONDITION

OF

INDIA,

DURING THE YEAR 1866-67.

*(Presented pursuant to Act of Parliament.)*

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Ordered to be printed 18th June 1868.

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## STATEMENT

EXHIBITING THE

MORAL AND MATERIAL PROGRESS AND CONDITION OF INDIA

DURING THE YEAR 1866-67.

## INTRODUCTORY.

Since the presentation of last year's Report on the moral and material progress of India, there have been two changes in the Chief Ministerial Offices of Government in India; viz., the appointment of the Right Honourable W. R. Seymour FitzGerald to be Governor of Bombay, and the selection of the Honorable W. Grey as Lieutenant Governor of Bengal.

In order to facilitate the presentation of the Indian Budget to Parliament, and to assimilate the date for closing the year in all future accounts with that of England, it has been determined that the official year in India shall terminate on the 31st March instead of the 30th April as heretofore. It is necessary, therefore, to explain that in the comparisons drawn in reporting the progress of last year, the information for 1866-67 will be for eleven months only, while that for 1865-66 will be for the whole period of the previous twelve months.

Following the precedent established in previous reports, the subjects will be dealt with under their respective heads of Department, in nearly the same order as before; and tabular statements have been introduced, condensed from the Reports received from each presidency or province of India, with the view of showing at a glance the comparative progress or retrogression of each branch of Administration.

Amongst the important events of the past year, though out of the usual routine of administration, may be mentioned the Expedition to Abyssinia, undertaken jointly by the Imperial Governments of England and India. The object of this Expedition was to obtain the release of certain British subjects who had been made captives by King Theodorus, and whom he persistently detained in his dominions. All the arrangements were carried out by Her Majesty's Indian Authorities, and the cost (excepting the ordinary pay of the troops in the service of the Indian Government which may be employed in Abyssinia) will be defrayed by the British Treasury. It is unnecessary here to enlarge upon this subject, as all the correspondence relating to it has been presented to Parliament. While this was passing through the press, the very satisfactory intelligence has been received of the termination of the Abyssinian Expedition by the taking of Magdala, the death of King Theodore, and the total defeat of his army. The troops are now on their return to India.

In consequence of the Administration Reports for Oude, Mysore, and Coorg not having been yet received, the information for these provinces is not contained in this year's Report.

## STATEMENT SHOWING THE MORAL AND

## AREA AND POPULATION.

Presidencies or Provinces.	Area in Square Miles.	Population.	Population to Square Mile.
Bengal	214,313	39,813,278	185.77
N.W. Provinces	83,380	30,110,615	361.12
Punjab	100,441	14,820,845	147.55
Oude	22,456	8,838,151	393.57
Central Provinces	114,718	9,104,511	79.36
British Burmah	90,070	2,330,453	25.87
Madras	141,719	24,206,509	170.80
Bombay	87,639	11,093,512	126.58
Sind	60,900	1,945,594	31.94
Coorg	2,116	119,118	56.29
Hyderabad	17,334	1,586,047	91.55
Mysore	27,000	4,013,601	148.65
Under British Administration	962,086	147,982,234	153.81
Other Native States	598,044	48,426,348	80.97
Total	1,560,130	196,408,582	125.89

The administration of British Government in India extends over an area of 962,086 square miles, according to the most recent information, and the population consists of 147,982,234, giving a proportion of 153 to the square mile. The densest population is in Oude and in the North-West Provinces, as will be seen in the accompanying statement exhibiting the subdivisions of administration, with their respective areas and population. The area of other Native States was estimated at 598,044, with a population of 48,426,348.

During the past year a census of the population of the Central Provinces was taken for the first time. The population was counted in one night, quietly and easily, the inhabitants of cities and towns co-operating most cordially in giving every assistance to the officers employed.

The population of the chief Presidency towns was as follows, distinguishing the Europeans from the Natives, and showing the proportion of males, females, and children.

	Europeans and Indo-Europeans.	Hindoos.	Musselmans.	Other Natives.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Children.	Total.
Calcutta	22,260	239,190	113,059	3,415	377,924	198,077	115,311	64,536	377,924
Madras	16,368	325,678	63,886	21,839	427,771	134,302	165,307	128,162	427,771
Bombay	10,306	523,974	145,880	186,402	816,562	436,305	207,285	172,972	816,562

A general census of the population throughout India has been ordered to be taken in 1871.

## LEGISLATION.

During the official year 1866-67 thirty-six Acts were passed by the Council of the Governor General of India, as compared with 29 in the previous year, besides 33 Bills brought under consideration, seven of which have been introduced, three were published but not introduced, up to 23rd March 1867, and the remainder were in course of preparation.

Of the Acts passed, eight are general, affecting the whole of British India, and not applicable to any particular subject. Four are special; and four affect one or other of the High Courts. Two may be considered personal; of these, Act IX. of 1867 provides who should be Plaintiff or Defendant in suits by or against the French Bank of Paris in India; and Act XI. of 1867 empowers the Oriental Gas Company, who have already works existing in Calcutta and its environs, to extend their operations to other parts of British India, with the previous sanction of the Local Government. The remaining Acts were passed by the Council in its capacity of Local Legislature for the North-west Provinces, Oude, the Central Provinces, and the Punjab.

By Act XXV. of 1866, the Government of India have the power to take possession of sums of money lying unclaimed for upwards of twenty years in the hands of the High Courts of the three Presidency towns, deposited in the course of suits instituted in the late Supreme Courts of Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay. Such transfer being subject to any claims which may hereafter be established to the satisfaction of the Court from which such removal shall be made.

Many improvements have been introduced into the Law of property vested in mortgagees and trustees by Acts XXVII. and XXVIII. of 1866, and they include several

several amendments which have been at various times introduced into the English Law by the Statutes known as Lord St. Leonard's Acts, and others of more recent date.

The Government of India annually sets apart the sum of 2,000*l.* for the improvement of the navigation of the Ganges between Allahabad and Dinapore; but this sum not being sufficient for a work of so much importance to the commerce of the country, the Lieutenant Governor of the North-west Provinces is empowered by Act I. of 1867 to levy tolls on steamers and vessels at such places as he may select. The tonnage on which the tolls are to be levied in the case of steamers and flats is to be calculated according to a method already in practice on the Nuddea rivers.

Certain arrangements regarding the sub-proprietary settlements and rights of occupancy in Oude were mentioned in the Report for 1865-66 (page 5). Those arrangements were made in accordance with the views taken by the Government of India, by the Chief Commissioner, and with the consent of the Talookdars. But doubts having arisen regarding the legal validity of some of the measures so provided for, Act XXVI. of 1866 was passed to give them the force of law.

In last year's Report mention was made (page 21) of an enactment passed by the Bombay Government for the suppression of gambling. In the North-west Provinces, Punjab, Oude, Central Provinces, and British Burmah, as the law existed, no persons could be prosecuted for such offence, except it could be shown under the Penal Code that their acts caused "common injury, danger, and annoyance to the public;" hence the passing of Act III. of 1867, for the punishment of public gambling, and the keeping of common gaming-houses, in the Provinces named.

To provide for the appointment of Municipal Committees in towns in the Punjab; and for the police, conservancy, and local improvements of such towns, Act XV. of 1867 enacted that such committees are not to consist of less than four members besides their presidents; the latter may be appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor himself, or be elected, as he may direct. The power of removing any member and the filling up of vacancies is also vested in the Lieutenant-Governor. The Committees are empowered, under the sanction of the Lieutenant-Governor, to impose taxes, to make rules as to meetings and business, and as to the appointment, suspension, and removal of officers and servants, to make byelaws as to nuisances, and for the registration of births and deaths. The Committees are also to provide for the maintenance of the necessary police establishments. The Lieutenant-Governor is enabled to suspend or limit any of these powers, and to cancel any of the proceedings and rules of such Municipal Committees. This Act is to remain in force for five years, and may be extended to the Central Provinces and Oude.

Act XXI. of 1867 imposes a duty or license tax on the exercise of professions and trades, and is applicable to civil servants whose annual receipts are not less than 100*l.*, and to military officers whose pay and allowances are not less than 600*l.* a year. The assessment is divided into six classes, the minimum being 20*l.* and the maximum 2,500*l.*; and the rate of assessment is fixed at two per cent. on the minimum profits of each class. Joint stock companies are placed in a separate class. The proceeds of the tax will, for the first year, be credited to the revenues of India. After which they will be credited to *local revenues*; a moderate proportion of expenditure on objects of a local character, now charged to the revenues of India, being thenceforward transferred to local funds.

An Act was passed, No. XXII. of 1867, modelled on certain sections of the English Common Lodging-Houses Acts, providing for the regulation of Sarais or buildings used for the shelter and accommodation of travellers, and Puraos or halting-places in the open country. It regulates the registration, cleansing, and repairing of such buildings, for the appointment of proper persons as keepers, or the maintenance of watchmen to ensure protection to travellers from robbery. At present this Act is only applicable to the North-west Provinces, but can be extended to other parts of India.

In order to provide a speedy mode of trying and punishing offences attributed to religious fanaticism, and of rendering attempts at murder made under its influence punishable with death, instead of transportation as under the Penal Code, Act No. XXIII. of 1867 was passed, but to be in force only in the districts of the Punjab as the Lieutenant Governor shall determine. It is subject to its operation. Fanatics so convicted will be sentenced to transportation for life, forfeiting all their property to Government, and to be held with the aid of two or more assessors, without exemption.

is to be no appeal, and sentence is to be carried into execution at once. Jurisdiction is conferred by this Act to Commissioners of Divisions and to Magistrates with full powers, specially vested with such jurisdiction after commission of the offence. The Act to expire in ten years or earlier as the Governor General in Council may direct.

The passing of Act X. of 1865, entitled the "Indian Succession Act," having been found to affect seriously the office of Administrator-General, diminishing to a great extent the value of the rights and privileges heretofore reserved to him, it has been enacted by No. XXIV. of 1867, that the Administrators-General of India be practically replaced in the position occupied by them before and at the passing of the said Succession Act; this Act enables the High Courts of Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay to grant administrative powers to the Administrators-General of each Presidency, in respect of assets to be collected throughout the whole Presidency, thus saving the expense of applying to the local courts of the Provinces within which the assets are situated. The jurisdiction of the Administrator-General is extended by this Act to all persons besides British subjects, not being Hindoos, Mahommedans, or Buddhists. In order to avoid vexatious suits, a creditor who sues an Administrator-General in respect of a debt due from an estate under his charge, will be liable to pay the costs, and will not be entitled to have the decree enforced, unless the claim shall have been duly submitted for adjustment without success; and under no circumstances will a judgment entitle him to priority over other creditors. A private executor or administrator can transfer his duties to the Administrator-General by an instrument in writing duly stamped, and notified in the local gazette. The Governor-General of India in Council is empowered to raise the commission of the Administrator-General of Bengal from three to five per cent., as charged in the Presidencies of Madras and Bombay; and he can appoint a Deputy Administrator for the North-west Provinces, Punjab, Oude, and the Central Provinces. All future Administrators-General are to be barristers of the United Kingdom, and to give security to the Secretary of State instead of to the Government of India as hitherto.

The regulation of printing presses, periodicals, newspapers, for the preservation of copies of every book published or privately printed in British India, and for their registration, has been provided for by Act XXV. of 1867.

Certain doubts having been raised as to the legality of sentences passed by the Petty Sessions Courts founded on the model of the English Quarter Sessions, it was found necessary to pass Act No. XXVIII. of 1867, in order that all sentences heretofore passed by magistrates should be deemed valid.

#### JUDICATURE.

	1865.	1866.
Cases instituted during the year	1,211	1,056
Total cases under trial	1,601	1,467
Cases disposed of	1,192	1,023
Cases pending at close of the year	409	444

	1865.	1866.
Cases instituted	4,828	4,697
Cases decided	5,654	4,444
Cases pending on 31st December	1,834	2,087

THE annexed statement shows the working of the High Court of Calcutta, on its Original side, in its Administration of Civil Justice. The amount litigated in suits other than those for accounts, partition, and possession of lands was 774,064*l.* in 1866, against 780,649*l.* in 1865. The number of Judges presiding over this Court was 13.

On its Appellate side, the total number of appeals of all descriptions instituted, decided, and pending at close of the year is also shown in the accompanying statement. Considerable progress has been made in reducing the files, and the amount of arrears at the end of the year 1867 is expected to be much less.

Court Class	Suits instituted in		Suits pending at Close of Year	
	1865.	1866.	1865.	1866.
	81,862	80,922	6,445	6,147
	56,757	60,815	17,642	18,847
	138,619	141,737	24,087	24,994

The operations of the Civil Courts subordinate to the High Court as shown in the margin give an increase in the aggregate number of cases instituted; but there appears to have been a decrease in the number instituted in 1866 in the Small Cause Court class, compared with the previous year.

The following statement shows the aggregate working of all District Courts of the several grades for 1865 and 1866:—

In Courts of	Suits instituted, Originals and Appeals.		Suits decided on their Merits, Originals and Appeals.		Total Number of Cases disposed of, Originals and Appeals.	
	1865.	1866.	1865.	1866.	1865.	1866.
Judges - - - - -	19,938	20,917	11,343	9,554	12,302	10,362
Principal Sudder Amceens - -	3,965	3,615	13,519	13,078	14,402	13,858
Sudder Amceens - - - - -	4,824	4,728	4,361	4,754	4,850	5,338
Moonsiffs - - - - -	109,892	112,477	99,940	101,073	112,900	115,611
Total - - - - -	138,619	141,737	129,163	128,459	144,454	145,169

The aggregate value of suits decided was 4,179,842*l.* in 1866, and 4,071,957*l.* in 1865; and of those pending in 1866, 1,932,393*l.* against 2,211,056*l.* in the previous year.

	1865.	1866.
Net amount realised from all the Courts	182,756	180,715
Total cost of Courts	170,495	173,195
Balance	12,261	6,520

The total cost of the District Courts for the last two years was less in each year than the amount realised from stamp fees, the balance in favour of Government having been 12,261*l.* in 1865, and 6,520*l.* in 1866. It will thus be seen that these Courts pay themselves from the fees realized from this source of revenue.

The receipts of the year under review, on account of fees collected in the Small Courts of Calcutta, amounted to 20,523*l.*, while the cost of Establishment, rent, was 14,125*l.*, leaving a balance of 6,398*l.* against a surplus of during a corresponding period of the previous year. The cost to Government of the Small Cause Courts in the districts was 28,105*l.* in 1866, while the same, after deducting refunds of stamps, amounted to 22,150*l.*, showing a charge to Government of 5,955*l.*, which was less by 2,699*l.* than the net charge in 1865. The Small Cause Courts at Chittagong, Nattore, and Comerave been closed from want of business, and a new Court has been established at Darjeeling.

In January 1867 the first examination was held for the qualification, admission, enrolment of pleaders, &c. under Sec. 4. of Act XX. of 1865, in all the Districts of Bengal, from which a great improvement was expected in the working of subordinate courts in course of time.

	1865.	1866.
of Magistrates.		
of persons under trial	59,231	80,920
of persons under	130,307	150,431
disposed of	63,717	76,372
	4,156	7,560
	58,534	62,072
	908	1,017
g under trial at the year	2,992	3,410

A large increase occurred in criminal cases, as will be seen on reference to the accompanying table. This increase is due to the famine which existed, driving the starving population to commit robberies and thefts to an unprecedented extent.

Measures have been taken by Government for facilitating the realization of fines imposed by Criminal Courts in many districts, which will, it is hoped, prevent the large accumulation of arrears for the future.

In order to obviate the evils contingent on the practice of bringing down European prisoners from long distances to be tried at the Presidency town on criminal charges, arrangements have been made for their trial under a special commission at or near the place of their alleged offences; and to meet the difficulty arising from want of suitable accommodation at the jails of Patna, Bhaugulpore, Moorsheerabad, and Dacca, which places have been selected for the sittings of such commissions, steps have been taken for the immediate construction of additional accommodation for the occupation of European prisoners.

The system of trial by jury, which has been in operation in certain districts of the provinces, is still under consideration of the Government of India. The extension of it has not justified its extension to other parts at present.

## STATEMENT SHOWING THE MORAL AND

In order to enable the joint-magistrate, or senior officer exercising similar powers, to render more useful assistance to the magistrate than hitherto, a plan has been devised and already adopted in several of the divisions of the Lower Provinces, for placing those officers in charge of the principal subdivision of the district in a position to exercise therein the powers of a magistrate.

Two new subdivisions have been established in Cachar and Durrung Districts, with a view of bringing the tea gardens of those parts within convenient reach of a magistrate.

North-west  
Provinces.

The aggregate amount of litigation in the ordinary Civil Courts of the North-west Provinces, exclusive of the High Court (late Sudder Court) and the Small Cause Courts, for 1865 and 1866, will be seen from the following table:—

Years.	Suits instituted, Originals and Appeals.	Cases decided on Trial.	Cases finally dis- posed of.	Pending at close of Year.
1865	68,155	58,123	67,823	9,278
1866	78,673	64,151	79,351	8,196
Increase	10,518	6,028	11,528	—
Decrease	—	—	—	1,082

The causes to which the increase in the number of suits instituted may be attributed are the larger number of districts in which land revenue settlements are in progress, the changes in the cotton trade, and more generally the increase in the wealth and prosperity of the country. It is satisfactory to note that the cases disposed of were greater in number than in the year preceding, and that the cases pending at close of the year were less by 1,082.

Of the cases instituted during the year, 65,440 were original suits, and 13,000 appeals, as compared with 57,372, and 10,783 respectively in 1865.

	1865.	1866.
For real property	4,984	13,603
„ debts on land	37,752	41,737
„ other suits	14,297	9,514
Total	57,033	64,854
Add cases re-instituted or excluded	339	586
Total	57,372	65,440

The classification of the 65,440 original suits, as shown in the margin, exhibits a considerable increase when compared with the previous year.

Out of the large number of original suits decided by the Moonsiffs, 31,650 were suits for moveable property of less value than Rs. 100. Under the recommendation of the Court of these Provinces, Government has taken the view of affording relief to judiciously selected cases.

Government has empowered Moonsiffs to dispose of such cases as Judges of Small Cause Courts. As a proof of the necessity for such relief, out of these suits, in 25,000 no appeal was preferred, yet in the possibility of such a contingency a full record and a minute procedure was required.

The number of cases disposed of in all the Courts were decided as shown below:

	Ex parte.	On Confession.	By Arbitration.	Dismissed on Default.	Adjusted or withdrawn.	Decided on Merits.
1865	6,945	14,324	1,859	2,805	6,895	34,995
1866	7,851	16,043	2,151	3,214	10,094	39,998

	1865.	1866.
Cases instituted	125,269	133,557
Cases decided { on merits	83,796	87,761
{ finally disposed of	147,460	134,071
Cases pending at close of the year	16,624	16,412

The miscellaneous business of the Courts of these Provinces will be seen from the statement annexed, as compared with the work for 1865. It is satisfactory to observe the increase in the number of cases decided on their merits, and a decrease in the number of cases pending.

In regard to applications for the execution of decrees, the High Court have adopted a more liberal policy with the view of assisting the debtors in the legitimate prosecution of his claims, and at the same time of

the legitimate prosecution of his claims, and at the same time of

decree being kept suspended on the debtor for any indefinite period without real action on the part of the decree holder.

The number of persons imprisoned for debt was 586 in 1865, and the amount of debt due by them was 41,767*l.*; while in 1866 the number confined was 610, and the amount of debt 16,582*l.*

In Judges and subordinate Courts.	1865.	1866.
	£	£
Net aggregate value of stamps filed - - -	89,719	100,271
Cost of Judicial Establishment - - -	101,519	97,915
Net loss - - -	11,800	—
Net gain - - -	—	2,356

The financial result to Government of the District or ordinary Civil Courts in the North-west Provinces was very favourable in comparison with the year preceding; and if to this be added the net gain arising from the Ameen's fund, which in 1866 amounted to 5,906*l.*, it would make the total net gain to Government of 8,262*l.*

The High Court of Judicature for the North-west Provinces commenced its

	1865.		1866.	
	Regular.	Special.	Regular.	Special.
Total Appeals for hearing -	178	2,158	280	2,832
Dismissed on default -	2	117	—	181
Adjusted or withdrawn -	2	16	1	13
Confirmed - - -	66	843	108	1,419
Amended - - -	29	39	21	54
Reversed - - -	15	152	40	230
Modified - - -	4	305	6	464
Total disposed of - - -	118	1,472	176	2,361
Pending at close of each year - - -	60	686	104	471
Value of regular and special Appeals instituted, including those pending	£ 487,028		£ 1,182,211	
Value of those decided -	345,341		334,860	
Value of Appeals pending -	141,687		847,351	

sittings in June 1866, superseding the functions of the Sudder Court, with which the comparative operations on its Appellate side are shown annexed. While the Appeals to be heard during the year increased as compared with 1865, the number pending at close of the year was less by 171 than in the previous year. The value of Appeal Suits has also increased largely. The average duration of Suits in the High Court for 1866 was 3 months and 28 days. The net amount realized from sale of stamps, &c. was 10,626*l.*, and the cost of establishments 36,408*l.*, leaving a net cost to Government for the Judicial machinery of the High Court at 25,782*l.* In addition to the fore-

going disposition of work in this Court, 156 Miscellaneous Appeals were decided, and orders were passed in 549 miscellaneous petitions, exclusive of 174 applications for the admission of special appeals.

Having dealt with the Ordinary or Civil Courts of Judicature in this Province, as well as the High Court for the Regulation Districts, it now remains to notice the operations of the Civil Courts in the Non-regulation Districts, of which there are four; and the following statement will show the number of Suits instituted, disposed of, and pending for the year 1866:—

	1866.
Total Cases instituted	16,197
Total disposed of -	15,250
Pending at close of the year - - -	1,865

The number of Suits instituted exceeded that in 1865 by 5,019, and the number pending at close of year was greater by 330.

The greater portion of litigation in these Non-regulation Districts is disposed of by Uncovenanted Civil Judges, whose pay, hitherto, has been inadequate to their position and to the work undertaken by them. A scheme for the improvement of their salaries has, therefore, been approved of by the Government of

India, and sanctioned by the Secretary of State. At the same time an Act has been submitted for the consideration of the Legislative Council, by which the jurisdiction of Moonsiffs will be enlarged, the Lower Appellate Courts strengthened, and the right of appeal limited, which will greatly improve the administration of Civil Justice.

	Small Cause Courts, 4 Courts.		Cantonment Small Cause Courts, 11 Courts.
	1865.	1866.	1866.
Total number of cases under trial	6,417	6,885	4,343
Ex parte	1,113	1,168	843
Confession	2,049	2,308	1,107
Arbitration	75	60	159
Decided on merit	1,876	2,149	1,083
Dismissed on default	228	242	342
Adjusted or withdrawn	943	967	689
Total cases disposed of	6,284	6,792	4,223
Cases pending at close of year	133	93	120

The operations of the Small Cause Courts, of which there are four in number, will be seen in the accompanying comparative table. Eleven Cantonment Small Cause Courts have also been established under the provisions of section 6, Act XXII. of 1864, the business of which has been disposed of with promptitude. Nearly half of the suits instituted were for recovery of shop debts. The total net receipt from stamps and other sources was 7227. The cost of these Courts amounted to 3287,

leaving thus a net gain of 3947. The average duration of cases in the four Small Cause Courts was nine days in each of the years 1865 and 1866. With the exception of the Court at Allahabad, these Courts are self-supporting, though in the aggregate the net loss to Government was 677. in 1866, as compared with a loss of 1387. in 1865. These Courts have been now established nearly six years, and their working has been pronounced most successful. Suitors went freely to them, and the decisions appear to give satisfaction. It is in contemplation to increase their territorial jurisdiction.

Central  
Provinces.

The machinery for the Administration of Civil Justice in the Central Provinces remained unaltered; neither have any material changes of practice or procedure been introduced into the Courts during the year under review. Unremitting attention continued to be paid by the higher judicial authorities to the inspection and supervision of the Lower Courts, and both European and Native Judges have improved in their powers of eliminating speedily and accurately the real issues between contending parties.

Years.	Number of Original Suits.	Value of Property or Rights involved.
1861	19,288	119,333
1862	26,931	Not stated
1863	28,655	227,121
1864	32,655	200,296
1865	39,188	812,449
1866	45,250	487,997

Accompanying is shown the number and value of suits instituted during the past six years. The large and progressive increase may be taken as some index of the advancing prosperity and wealth of the people, and of the growing popularity of the Courts.

The increase in litigation is reported to be in nearly the same proportion throughout almost every class of suits. By far the largest number, however, was under the class entitled "Debts on unregistered bonds," being 20,612 in 1865, and 21,517

in 1866. In about one-fifth of the whole civil litigation, as in last year, the suits were between money-lenders and agriculturists. The number of cases in which bankers or traders sued each other fell from 4,028 to 3,327 in 1866. This decrease is assigned to the comparative quietude of the cotton market, the great fluctuations of which during 1865 drove traders of a certain class to the Courts. Out of 45,594 suits for disposal during 1866, only 1,268 cases were pending at its close. The average duration of each suit was 14 days, and in no district of these Provinces was the average duration above 25 days.

The mode in which cases were disposed of may be classified thus:—Of total cases 15 per cent. were struck off on default; 8 per cent. were settled out of Court by compromise; 34 per cent. were by confession; 11 per cent. were decided ex parte; nearly 1 per cent. referred to arbitration; and 23 per cent. were decided on merits. It may be worth remarking that these per-centages were almost identical with the decisions of last year.

Attention has been given to suits referred to arbitration; and the reason assigned for so few cases being submitted to this mode of settlement is that the people know that they can obtain it if they wish, but they prefer the authoritative decision of the officers of the Court.

The Appellate business during the years 1864 and 1865 showed a decrease, but it rose in the year 1866, having been 1,207 against 994 in the preceding year. The number of Appeals, however, was still inconsiderable when compared with the number of cases which were contested.

Among



Among the miscellaneous business that came before the Courts, 21,050 applications for executions of decrees were recorded, as against 21,795 in the preceding year. Greater attention is being bestowed on the disposal of the miscellaneous work by the Courts, an improvement being much needed in this branch of civil business.

The Small Cause Courts continue to work with great popularity and usefulness. The number of suits in these Courts was 11,143, as compared with 4,782 in the previous year. Of this large increase, 7,000 suits were laid in the Small Cause Courts of Nagpore and Jubbulpore.

A considerable number of candidates have passed the prescribed examination, and have received certificates as authorized pleaders during the year.

	1864.	1865.	1866.
Cognizable cases - - -	18,900	22,297	28,797
Non-cognizable cases - - -	11,754	11,279	11,359
Total - - - -	30,654	33,576	35,156

The tendency towards increase in the number of criminal offences was still apparent. A comparison for the last three years shows an increase of 1,580 on the preceding year, and of 4,502 over that of 1864. The increase was still confined to the class of minor and less

heinous crimes. The general increase in reported crime is, in a large measure, due to greater activity on the part of the Executive in bringing offenders to justice. With regard to the worst kind of crimes the increase was but small, being 238 in 1866 against 229 in the year preceding; while in 1863 it was 340.

In minor crimes, and under the head of "Theft" and "Housebreaking," the returns show an increase in cases reported of 548 over those in 1865, and of 2,080 over those in 1864. The value of property stolen was 44,353%, while in 1865 it was 46,613%, and the proportion recovered was 33 per cent. as compared with 31 per cent. in the year before.

	1865.	1866.
Number of persons under trial - - - -	38,095	41,905
Remaining under trial at close of the year - - -	117	209

The despatch of business in Magisterial Courts has been conducted with promptitude, as may be seen from the comparatively few persons under trial at the close of the year.

There are now 62 honorary magistrates in these Provinces, who decided as many as 4,464 cases during the year, as compared with 4,114 in 1865. Most of the Natives, who are persons of rank and position in the country, are very popular as magistrates, and are reported to have acted in a most praiseworthy manner in the exercise of their judicial powers, affording valuable aid in Criminal administration.

Three important changes occurred during the past year in the Judicial system of the Punjab. A Chief Court, with two Judges (one a barrister), was established to supersede the Court of the Judicial Commissioner, and was opened on the 19th of February 1866. The Code of Civil Procedure of the Regulation Provinces (Act VIII. of 1859) was extended to the Punjab under certain restrictions, and the admission of Pleaders and Mookhtars to practise in the courts.

Punjab

	1865.	1866.
Suits pending - - - -	4,057	6,491
Suits instituted - - - -	140,815	165,970
Total for hearing - - -	144,872	172,461
Suits disposed of - - - -	137,881	166,558
Pending at close of the year	6,491	5,908

The number of Civil Suits instituted was large as compared with other Provinces, and shows also a considerable increase over the number instituted in the previous year. This increase, which was but nominal, was chiefly observable in that class of cases known under suits regarding land paying revenue to Government, and arises from the working of Act XIX. of 1865, by which suits

for land or revenue, rent or produce of land, were transferred from the Revenue to the civil side of the District Courts, the returns for which have hitherto been dealt with differently; but, deducting this class of suits, there still appeared to have been an increase of 8,537 in the number of Civil Suits instituted, over the previous year. Litigation has been steadily increasing for many years past in the Punjab. The additional wealth of the Province, combined with the greater facilities for resorting to the Civil Courts, may account in a great measure for this growth.

## STATEMENT SHOWING THE MORAL AND

Of the suits disposed of, 63,798 were decided on their merits, against 51,537 in 1865, and the total value of suits in all the Civil Courts was 876,039*l.*, giving an average value of 5*l.* 4*s.* for each suit in 1866, against an average value of 5*l.* 10*s.* in 1865. The total cost of suits amounted to 83,219*l.*, or 9.5 per cent. on total value litigated. The average cost of each suit was 8*s.* 9*d.*

Included in the Civil Courts just mentioned are eight District Small Cause Courts, and a similar number of Cantonment Small Cause Courts, respecting which, generally, favorable testimony continued to be borne, by the district and divisional officers, as to their efficiency and popularity among the community.

	District Small Cause Court.	
	1865.	1866.
Cases for hearing - -	23,231	25,087
Cases disposed of - -	22,895	24,811

Of the cases disposed of, 36.3 per cent. were decided on their merits in the District Small Cause Courts, and 23.8 per cent. in the Cantonment Courts; 27.2 per cent. were decided on confession in the former and 41.2 per cent. in the latter Courts.

	1865.	1866.
Total income - - -	£ 9,976	£ 10,511
Total expenditure - - -	11,248	11,034
Net loss - - -	1,272	523

	1865.	1866.
Number of appeals for hearing - - -	13,892	19,345
Total disposed of - - -	12,028	17,073

number of appeals for hearing would naturally arise from the increase of civil business previously mentioned.

There were also 92,382 miscellaneous cases for disposal, including those pending from previous year. Of these 72,151 were applications for execution of decrees, and 672 applications for leave to sue *in forma pauperis*. While 88,939 decrees were granted during the year, the number of applications made to the Court for execution was 66,344. The total amount realized in execution of decrees was 157,050*l.*, or 36 per cent. of the aggregate value of decrees put in execution.

Rules were also issued for the qualification, admission, and enrolment of proper persons as Pleaders in the Chief Court and the Subordinate Courts in the Punjab. Eleven persons have been admitted as Pleaders, and seven as Mookhtars. Besides these there were several gentlemen practising in the Chief Court and Subordinate Courts who have been admitted as Advocates or Pleaders of the High Courts, and as such were qualified to practise in the Punjab Courts, without requiring to be enrolled in the Chief Court.

The law regulating the Administration of Civil Justice in the Punjab has now become more closely assimilated to that in force in the North-west Provinces. There yet remain some points of distinction between the Judicial systems of the two Provinces.

	1865.	1866.
Cases brought to trial:		
Bailable - - -	30,935	33,710
Not bailable - - -	13,488	13,047
Total - - -	44,423	46,757
Persons brought to trial -	91,159	103,678

The operations of the District Small Cause Courts showed a considerable increase, both in the number of cases for trial, and in those disposed of, the average duration of each case varying from 4 to 11 days. In the Cantonment Small Cause Courts 6,509 cases were disposed of, as compared with 5,859 in the preceding year.

The financial working of these Small Cause Courts in the districts may be seen in the accompanying table, and it is satisfactory to find that the net loss was considerably less than in the previous year.

The appellate business of the Civil Courts of all grades in the Punjab is exhibited annexed, and includes the Chief Court in 1866 as compared with the Court of the Judicial Commissioner in 1865. The average duration of each appeal was 42 days against 34 in 1865. The additional

The original Criminal business of this Province showed an increase in the number of cases and in the number of persons brought to trial. This increase has been steadily advancing for some years past, particularly in the number of prosecutions in bailable cases, and was attributable, in the first place, to the fact that many offences of a very petty character, which used formerly to pass unnoticed

unnoticed, were now brought into court and shown in the returns. In the next place, the tendency of recent legislation has been to create new offences: of this the Stamp Act may be mentioned as an instance. Another cause was the increased facility which has been afforded in recent years for instituting such prosecutions; in regard to which, the Judges of the Chief Court observe that, "so far as this increase evinces a readier disposition on the part of the people to refer their quarrels to the authorized tribunals instead of seeking redress by unauthorized means, it is a matter of congratulation rather than regret. But there is reason to fear that the facility and cheapness with which the Criminal Courts can be resorted to has tended to foment petty litigation, and has had a demoralizing influence among the people. To unscrupulous individuals a prosecution in the Criminal Court offered the readiest means of gratifying private animosity, or compelling an adversary to yield to an unjust or doubtful demand. Under these circumstances the Court observe with satisfaction that in the recent Act amending the Stamp Law provision has been made for the imposition of a Stamp duty in this class of cases."

	1865.	1866.
Suits filed	8,547	10,099
Value of property litigated	£ 145,926	£ 190,646

A considerable increase is noticeable in Civil litigation in the Hyderabad assigned districts when compared with 1865. The excess in the number of suits filed amounted to 1552, and in the value of property litigated to 45,320*l.* The average value of each suit rose from 17*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* to 19*l.* 11*s.* 5*d.* The average duration of suits was 47 days, as compared with 85 days in 1865, thus exhibiting a marked improvement in the time occupied in the trial of Civil cases in these Courts. The number of cases disposed of was 9,740, of which 6,970, or 71.56 per cent., were decided on their merits; 2,444, or 35.05 per cent., were compromised; 201 were dismissed on default; and 125 were withdrawn by the Plaintiff.

Hyderabad assigned districts.

	1865.	1866.
Appeals for hearing	1,066	1,009
Decided on merits	795	810
Otherwise disposed of	137	115
Total	933	925
Pending at close of the year	139	84

The business of the District Appellate Courts in this Province exhibited a decrease in the number of appeals for hearing when compared with the previous year; but the number of cases decided on their merits had increased, thus leaving a less number pending at the close of the year. The average duration of appeal suits in District Courts fell from 87 to 65 days in 1866, and

in the Chief Commissioner's Court from 206 to 62 days. As many as 814 persons were imprisoned for debt during the year under review.

	1865.	1866.
Criminal offences	7,756	9,558
Convictions	4,279	5,474

A corresponding increase appeared in the aggregate of reported Criminal Offences, and in the number of convictions; this was not so much due to any real increase in crime, as to a greater willingness, apparent on the part of the people, to report offences, and to the improved efficiency of the police. The results of trials show that out of 5,437 reported number of cases, the per-centage in which no apprehensions were made was 19.30; the per-centage of convictions was 51.58; and the per-centage of acquittals 28.82. Of the 5,474 convictions by the magistrates 3,607 were fined, 92 were flogged, and the rest were imprisoned. Thus it will be seen that fine has been resorted to liberally, but the Whipping Act had not been so generally enforced. The attention of the district officers had been called to this fact.

In British Burmah the Courts constituted for the Administration of Civil Justice consisted of two Recorders Courts and two Small Cause Courts, one of each is located at the chief seaport towns of Rangoon and Moulmein respectively. In addition to these, there are 116 Courts of six classes, for the districts in the interior.

British Burmah.

## STATEMENT SHOWING THE MORAL AND

Recorders Courts.	Original Suits.		Miscellaneous Cases.	
	1865.	1866.	1865.	1866.
Number pending	31	71	19	15
Instituted during the year -	411	393	438	512
Total	452	464	457	527
Suits disposed of	381	391	442	504
Pending at close of the year	71	73	15	23

suits were unconnected with immoveable property, and 8 were suits for new trials and reviews of judgment under Sec. 28. of Act XXI. of 1863.

Small Cause Courts.	Original Suits.		Miscellaneous Suits.	
	1865.	1866.	1865.	1866.
Number pending	125	129	13	13
Suits instituted during the year	4,637	4,581	1,778	1,921
Total	4,762	4,710	1,791	1,934
Suits disposed of	4,633	4,551	1,778	1,890
Number pending at close of the year	129	159	13	44

From the accompanying table it is apparent that there has been an increase in the number of suits instituted, disposed of, and pending in the Recorders Courts of these Provinces. Until October 1866 there was but one Recorder, but on that date a separate Recorder was provisionally appointed for Moulmein. Of the original suits instituted in these Courts 31 were suits for immoveable property, 354

In the Small Cause Courts the number of Original Suits instituted and disposed of in the year under review have decreased, as compared with 1865; and the number of suits pending have increased. This result chiefly applies to the Court at Moulmein. The separate Judgeships of these Courts has been abolished, and the business is conducted by Registrars. The average duration of suits in these Courts was eight days.

The value of suits in both Courts amounted in 1865 to 174,368*l.*, and in 1866 to 161,237*l.* The value of stamps filed was 6,284*l.* in 1865, and 6,445*l.* in 1866. The total cost per annum of the establishment of these Courts was 6,618*l.*

The operations of the District Courts in the interior of these Provinces showed a decided increase in the aggregate of all cases before these Courts, this increase being mainly in Original Suits.

	1865.			1866.		
	Appeals.	Original.	Miscellaneous.	Appeals.	Original.	Miscellaneous.
Number of cases pending -	138	399	99	132	324	47
Number instituted during the year	1,421	17,421	6,992	1,489	19,590	7,169
Total	1,559	17,820	7,091	1,621	19,914	7,216
Cases disposed of	1,427	17,496	7,044	1,535	19,627	7,156
Number pending at close of the year	132	324	47	86	287	60
Amount of property litigated in Original Suits	163,148			140,335		
Value of Stamps	8,228			9,999		
Costs of every description in Original Suits disposed of	13,447			17,163		

The value of property in Original Suits brought before the Courts was less by 22,813*l.*, while the value of stamps filed was greater by 1,771*l.* This apparent anomaly was explained by the fact of there having been a decrease of a large amount, both in the value of suits and of stamps filed, in the Tenasserim Division, while in the Pegu Division their value was correspondingly great. The decrease above mentioned was assigned to the stagnation in the trade of teak timber, the

chief staple of commerce in this part of the country. Of the Original Suits disposed of 61 per cent. were decided on merit, against 83 per cent. in the year preceding; and in the disposal of the 1,535 Appeals, 86 suits were appealed to the Commissioners of Divisions from Courts immediately under them, 77 from Courts of Assistant to Deputy Commissioners, and 1,372 from Courts of the three grades of Extra Assistant to Deputy Commissioners.

In

In the Chief Commissioner's Court the total number of appeals and miscellaneous cases pending and instituted during the year was 51; the number of cases disposed of was 40, leaving 11 cases pending at the close of the year. The average duration of suits disposed of in this Court was two months and five days.

Eleven District Moonsiffs Courts were abolished in the course of the past year. In order to facilitate the disposal of arrears of Civil business in some of the Subordinate or District Courts, it was found necessary to relieve certain Principal Sudder Ameen, and such Judges of District Small Cause Courts as had been invested with powers of a Principal Ameen of Criminal cases. The jurisdiction of the Civil and Sessions Court at Berhampore has been extended. Madras.

	1865.	1866.
Total Suits for hearing	231,718	232,740
Decided on merits	103,618	109,128
Dismissed on default	14,406	13,728
Adjusted or withdrawn	47,348	43,747
Otherwise disposed of	4,025	3,293
Total disposed of	169,397	169,896
Pending at close of the year	62,321	62,844

The aggregate of Original Jurisdiction in all the Courts of the Madras Presidency, including Small Cause Courts, but exclusive of the High Court, will be seen in the accompanying statement. The total value of property at stake, pending at the close of the year, amounted to 1,748,407*l.* against 1,502,243*l.* at the close of 1865. Of the cases decided on merit, 87,576 were in favor of Plaintiffs, and 21,552 in favor of Defendants. 13370 were decided by European Judges and 156,526 by Native Judges.

The description or nature of Original Suits instituted for the two years 1865 and 1866 is shown below.

	Connected with land revenue.	Otherwise connected with land.	Houses or other fixed property.	Debts and wages.	Caste, religion, &c.	Indigo, sugar silk, &c.	Total.
1865	5,646	13,395	5,192	141,156	458	2,282	168,129
1866	5,775	13,583	5,530	141,070	416	2,126	168,500

	Appeals Regular and Special.		Original Suits.	
	1865.	1866.	1865.	1866.
For hearing	16,226	17,456	456	533
Disposed of	9,342	10,140	356	449
Pending at close of the year	6,884	7,316	100	84

The aggregate of Appellate Jurisdiction in the various Courts for the same periods will be seen from the annexed statement. The total value of Appeal suits pending at close of each year was 150,828*l.* in 1865, and 201,973*l.* in 1866.

The operations of the High Court on its Original side showed an increase in the suits instituted and disposed of, and a decrease in the number pending at the close of 1866, as compared with that of the year previous. Of the suits disposed of, 292 were decided on merit, against 246 in 1865, and 118 withdrawn; as compared with 82 in the previous year; the remaining suits were dismissed on default.

The operations of the High Court on its Appellate side showed an increase in the number of Appeals for hearing, both regular and special; and in the number of Appeal suits disposed of. The average duration of suits disposed of was three months and one day, while in 1865 it was four months; and the total value of suits pending

APPEALS.	1865.		1866.	
	Regular.	Special.	Regular.	Special.
Total appeals for hearing	135	817	142	839
Appeals disposed of	87	544	111	660
Pending at close of the year	48	273	31	179

On its Appellate side there was an increase in the number of Appeals for hearing, both regular and special; and in the number of Appeal suits disposed of. The average duration of suits disposed of was three months and one day, while in 1865 it was four months; and the total value of suits pending

at the close of 1866 was 183,766*l.* against 140,112*l.* in the preceding year.

There were also 326 Civil Petitions brought before the High Court, of which 271 were disposed of, against 262 in the previous year.

Of the Criminal Petitions, 215 were presented, 196 of which were disposed of, against 185 in the previous year. Eighty-four trials, in which sentence of death was recorded by the Sessions Court, were referred to the High Court for confirmation. Of these, 71 sentences were confirmed, 10 modified, and three released.

The total number of criminal offences reported and complained of in 1866-67 was 147,291; and 318,522 persons were believed to have been concerned in or were charged with offences; 97,757 cases, or 66·4 per cent., were brought to trial; and 188,854 persons were arrested or summoned to answer accusations. In 77,449, or 79·2 per cent., of the cases tried, 131,252 persons were convicted; and 25,196 cases, 17 per cent. of all charges preferred, went by default, were withdrawn, or were otherwise disposed of. The value of property lost amounted to 132,702*l.*; of which 31,424*l.*, or nearly 25 per cent., was recovered, against 20 per cent. in 1865-66.

The increase in the total number of offences and charges preferred, of 7·7 per cent. as compared with the previous year, was chiefly due to a large increase of offences against property without violence, and to increased action on the part of heads of villages under special laws in regard to petty offences.

Of the number of persons arrested 69 per cent. were punished, against 66 per cent. in 1865-66.

The distress consequent on the prevalence of high prices during the latter part of 1866 produced an increase of crime. In the month of September grain riots occurred in the presidency town of Madras, causing considerable uneasiness to the inhabitants; these disturbances were, however, promptly suppressed.

It is satisfactory to note that whereas the convictions among European offenders amounted to 319 in 1865-66, there were only 197 in 1866-67. A committee had been formed at Madras, with a view of devising some means of checking the increase of European vagrancy, to which allusion was made in last year's report.

Bombay.

	1865-66.	1866-67.
Total appeals for hearing	1,129	1,107
Appeals disposed of	795	793
Appeals pending at close of the year	334	314

The operations of the High Court on its appellate side are exhibited in the comparative statement annexed. The number of appeals, regular and special, on the files for hearing were less than in the previous year; while the actual work disposed of was nearly the same, and those pending at the close of the year were less than

at the end of 1865-66. In addition to these, there were 923 applications for admission of special Appeals, of which 894 were dealt with during the past year. Of the miscellaneous applications 1,447 were granted and 199 were rejected.

In its original jurisdiction the number of cases instituted was 1,617, as compared with 1,734 in 1865-66; besides which there were 42 and 37 appeals from Courts of the Divisions respectively instituted. The causes disposed of amounted to 1,579 in 1865-66, and 1,552 in the year under review. There were also 1,210 motions and 2,031 Orders in Chambers, against 869 and 1,208 respectively in the previous year. The applications for probate and administration amounted to 667, against 587 in the year 1865-66.

	1865-66.	1866-67.
Number of Suits for hearing	182,441	163,854
Suits disposed of	141,912	138,852
Suits pending at close of the year	40,529	25,002

The working of the Civil Courts in the Regulation districts of the Bombay Presidency shows favourably when contrasted with the operations of the previous year. Of the suits decided 11,991 were connected with land against 11,129 in the year preceding; the remaining suits were concerning debts, wages,

&c. The average duration of time taken in these courts for cases decided was five months and four days.

During the past year an important change had taken place in the judicial administration of Sind. By the passing of Act XII. of 1866 (Bombay) the constitutions of the Courts in that Province have been legalized, and the proceedings of certain officers have been made valid. The judicial functions of the Commissioner have been abolished, and he is now enabled under this Act to appoint Judges of the subordinate Courts, and to prescribe the mode of executing decrees against certain privileged Sirdars.

In all the Civil Courts in Sind, the number of suits on the files, including arrears, was 10,198, and the number decided 9,525; while in the preceding year the corresponding numbers were 11,028 and 10,024 respectively. The value of suits in 1866 was 86,055*l.*, as compared with 55,977*l.* in 1865.

The

The number of appeals filed and in arrears amounted to 347, and the number decided 247, leaving a balance of 100 for the following year; while the appeals pending at close of 1865 were 94.

The following table will exhibit the operation of the Small Cause Court at Bombay during the past two years :

Years.	Number of Suits instituted.	Amounts litigated.	Fees to Credit of Government.	Number of Judgments given.	Amounts received in Cases compromised and decided.	Proportion of the foregoing paid to Suitors.
1865-66	22,362	£ 256,403	£ 25,648	14,483	£ 49,356	£ 48,321
1866-67	22,433	272,881	26,595	14,179	50,770	50,173

from which it will be seen that there has been a considerable increase in the business and receipts of this Court during the 11 months of 1866-67, as compared with 12 months of the previous year. The entire expense was given at 15,372*l.*, which, when deducted from the net receipts shown at 26,595*l.*, left a surplus to credit of the Court of 11,223*l.*

	1865-66.	1866-67.
Number of suits instituted, including arrears -	12,903	13,986
Suits disposed of -	11,516	13,306
Total receipts -	£ 7,896	£ 9,264
Charges for maintaining these Courts -	4,841	5,569
Net receipts -	3,055	3,695

Besides this Court there are four other Small Cause Courts in this Presidency. The receipts in three of which exceeded the cost, namely, Poona, Ahmednugger, and Ahmedabad; but in Belgaum the deficit amounted to 534*l.*, against 249*l.* in the preceding year. The working of these Courts was very satisfactory; for while the business had increased, and a great number of cases disposed of, the balance at the close of the year under review was less than in the previous year.

The average cost of each suit was 16*s.* 3*d.*, and the average duration of each suit was only 24 days.

The creation of the Small Cause Court at Poona has supplied a great want; the number of suits filed in this Court alone was more than was filed in four Moonsiffs' Courts, and therefore supplanted the duty of the latter entirely.

With regard to the Criminal administration of the High Court on its appellate side in Bombay, there were 1,090 cases disposed of, being an increase of 43 over those in 1865-66, and on its original side there were three motions and 131 cases disposed of during the 11 months under review.

There has been also an increase in the number of criminal offences committed

	1865-66.	1866-67.
Number of offences -	29,069	37,331
Number of persons tried -	53,307	69,470
Number convicted -	30,096	37,988
Do. acquitted or discharged -	23,211	31,482

throughout the Courts of the Regulation Districts of this Presidency, including the Sessions Courts. Out of 1,290 preliminary inquiries instituted by the Magistrates in these Districts, 807 cases were committed, and 483 were discharged for want of evidence. The largest number of trials was under the head of "hurt," "criminal force," and "assaults;" the increase under these heads having amounted to 1,512. In the convictions of the more serious offences, the increase appeared under the heads of "culpable homicide," "attempts to murder," and "dacoity."

In Sind the criminal offences amounted to 12,938, in which 19,206 persons were more or less concerned, while in 1865, 18,820 persons were brought to trial; the number convicted was, however, 9,164, being 386 less than in the previous year, but those acquitted were considerably more, the numbers being 8,956 in 1865, and 10,042 in 1866. The nature of the increase in crime in Sind was similar to that already mentioned in foregoing paragraph.

*Police.*

Bengal.

	Total Strength.	Total Cost.
Regular police - - -	25,572	£ 420,514
Municipal police and Chowkeydars - - -	7,370	53,512
Police employed in military duties - - -	665	10,578
Special police for the East Indian Railway - - -	747	12,120
Village police - - -	188,710	278,555
Total - - -	223,064	775,279

The Police Force of Bengal was composed as shewn in the margin. The regular district police is paid entirely out of the Imperial revenues; the municipal police is paid partly by Government and partly from the municipal funds; and the village police, which is appointed by landowners or village communities, is paid in money, in kind, or by assignment of land on conditions of service. During the past year a Bill was introduced legalizing the amalgamation of Municipal Police and Chowkeydars or watch-

men, with the Regular Police in order to reconcile certain discrepancies in the two Acts under which the former class are enrolled. Hence, therefore, the total strength of the Police Force would stand as 32,942 men, at a cost to Government of 474,026*l.*, making the average cost of each policeman about 14*l.* 7*s.* 9*d.* This was considered to be the minimum strength necessary; and indeed some difficulty was experienced, during the pressure caused by the famine, in supplying men for carrying on the extra duties entailed on the Police in the distressed tracts, consequently additional men had to be employed at a cost of 4,939*l.*

After a prolonged correspondence the East Indian Railway Company have been induced, in consequence of the numerous thefts, robberies, and other offences committed on their line, to accept the offer of the Government to place at their disposal an efficient force of police to check such crimes. The Company were to pay three-fourths of the entire cost.

In addition to the extra duties thrown on the Police during the year from

	Cognizable Cases.		Non-cognizable Cases.	
	1865.	1866.	1865.	1866.
Number of cases reported -	63,289	73,118	91,505	78,817
Persons arrested - - -	60,124	91,135	32,573	20,003
" convicted and committed - - -	31,240	53,602	48,062	43,172
" acquitted - - -	18,832	32,025	26,439	32,613
" otherwise disposed of, pending trial, &c. -	10,052	5,608	14,072	4,218

causes already assigned, their general conduct and the other work performed by them has been satisfactory. The accompanying comparative table shows that the total number of cases cognizable and not cognizable by the Police was 151,935, against 154,794 in 1865. This diminution is due to the non-cognizable cases having decreased by 12,688. The total number of convictions was 96,674,

against 79,302 in the preceding year. The greatest number of offences consisted of offences against property, arising from want and famine. Most of the dacoity cases also were grain robberies, committed by starving people in search of food; and the statistics of crime rose and fell according to the price of grain. Where it was ascertained that the commission of many of such offences was attributable to actual pressure from want, Government authorized a mitigation or remission of punishment in every case in which it was proved practicable; but where the crimes had been committed by habitual thieves and robbers, the sentences passed by the Session Courts were not interfered with.

	1865.	1866.
Value of property stolen -	£ 91,858	£ 121,899
" recovered - - -	24,192	35,135

The per-centage of recovery of stolen property was 29·31 against 26·33 in 1865.

The Detective department of the Police has been, during the year under review, thoroughly reorganized, at a saving of 516*l.* per annum.

By this new arrangement, which came into effect in April 1867, a certain number of men will be placed under the immediate orders of the Deputy Inspector-General of each circle, for the purpose of being solely employed in investigation of serious crimes, under the direction of the District Superintendents.

In consequence of certain dacoities having been committed, in the Nowadah subdivision of the Behar District, upon travellers and others in the neighbourhood of the Grand Trunk Road, and in the belief that the landholders had been acting in



in collusion with the robbers, Government issued a warning to them and to the villages that a tax would be levied upon them for the maintenance of extra police, for the purpose of suppressing such outbreaks of crime, should the practice be continued. This warning had the effect of putting a stop to the dacoities, which it was feared at the time would be renewed. In the meantime, orders were issued for the strict enforcement of the existing law, declaring the responsibility of landowners for reporting the congregation of bad characters on their estates; and the police officers, as well as the magistrate and his assistants, have been enjoined to visit frequently the vicinities where robberies usually occur. The police outposts will be strengthened, if proved to be necessary, so that patrols may be sent out along the principal passes of the hills.

Allusion was made in last year's Report that the cost of the Calcutta Police would be transferred to the municipality, Act No. VI. of 1867 has accordingly been passed to enable the Justices to raise the necessary taxes in support of the Municipal Police.

The terms of the transfer are, that in consideration of the municipality undertaking to bear all expenses incurred for maintenance of the existing Calcutta Pauper Hospital, the Government would on their part contribute to the cost of Police employed as guards for the Jail and other Public Offices, and one-fourth of the remaining charges, as may be sanctioned by the Government of India in their annual budget estimate.

A less expensive uniform for the Police has been sanctioned, the Native style of dress being preferred to the European.

Years.	Strength of Police Force.
1865	25,989
1866	25,242

The strength of the Police in the North-west provinces was less by 747 than in the year preceding. North-west Provinces.

Among the changes introduced with the view of promoting efficiency, was the separation of their civil and military duties, without, however, turning the force into two distinct bodies of Police. A certain portion of the men in each district were to be armed with fire-arms and thoroughly drilled, the larger portion being employed in civil duties only, simply possessing the baton or staff.

The pay of the chowkeydars, or watchmen, has also been increased where practicable, in order to secure a greater efficiency among this class of Police. The substitution of town chowkeydars for municipal constabulary has also been carried out in many of the rural towns; a change which has proved satisfactory both to the people and to the local authorities.

A Government Railway Police has also been organized with the consent of the Railway authorities. This force is under the control of an Assistant Inspector General of Police, but at the absolute disposal of the agent of the Railway Company; it is reported that the scheme has worked successfully, and that the arrangements have proved beneficial both to the Railway company and to the public. The total cost of this force was 9,383*l.* per annum, of which 7,037*l.* was to be paid by the company.

Chief Offences.	1865.	1866.
Murder	325	291
Dacoitee and robbery	651	432
Lurking house trespass	17,727	14,701
Theft, including cattle	32,028	31,016

A comparison of the principal offences against life and property showed a considerable decrease in crime for 1866. The value of property stolen was 107,088*l.*, against 120,309*l.* in 1865; while the proportion recovered was 35,073*l.*, as against 33,504*l.* in the year preceding.

	1865.	1866.
Number of offences	65,585	65,413
Offences investigated	25,057	34,724
Persons brought to trial	37,038	37,861
Acquitted	12,860	10,602
Convicted	22,968	24,672
Died	297	222
Under trial	965	658

Decided improvement in the important matters of investigation and detection appeared to have taken place. While the number of offences was less, the proportion investigated has been considerably greater than last year. Of the number of persons brought to trial 65 per cent. were convicted against 62 per cent. in 1865. The number of deaths has been also less, and those remaining under

trial at the close of the year was likewise less than in 1865.

## STATEMENT SHOWING THE MORAL AND

The general progress of this branch of the Administration was considered satisfactory.

It may be well to remark here that magistrates of districts are beginning to take more interest in police work, and more readily accept their position as chief police officer of the district. As they find district superintendents more ready to recognize their authority, and more willing to work in conjunction with themselves, so the unfortunate antagonism which at one time existed is now disappearing, and the utmost harmony prevails on every side. The effect of this happy state of things cannot but be most beneficial to the Police Administration of this Province.

Central Provinces.

	1865.		1866.	
	Strength.	Cost.	Strength.	Cost.
Regular police - - -	7,527	£ 120,666	7,516	£ 123,832
Municipal police - - -	1,518	13,693	1,458	13,698
Total - - -	9,045	134,359	8,974	137,525

The total strength of the Police in these Provinces has been reduced from what it was in 1865; without, however, leading to a similar result in the cost, owing to the continued dearness of provisions. The Regular Police are paid from the general revenues, and the Municipal Force out of

local funds. The cost of each policeman was during the past year about 15*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.* per head. Their general action has been satisfactory, for out of 23,888 offences reported, 12,522, or 52 per cent. of the whole, were investigated by the Police. Of the total number of persons sent up by them for trial 86 per cent. were convicted, 6 per cent. were acquitted, and 8 per cent. were released. The conduct of the Force showed also that an improvement has been made in their general efficiency.

Landholders all over the Central Provinces are becoming more alive to their police responsibilities. The material aid rendered by them in reporting crime is duly acknowledged by nearly all the Magistrates and Police Officers.

Punjab.

	1865.	1866.
	Imperial Police - - -	15,491
Municipal do. - - -	3,905	4,809
Total - - -	19,396	20,377
	£	£
Cost to Government -	260,000	260,000
From municipal funds -	34,137	39,556
Total cost - - -	294,137	299,556

The strength and cost of the Police Force in the Punjab for the last two years is given in the accompanying table. The cost to Government is a fixed annual sum. The proportion to population is given at 1 to 736 souls, and the average cost of each policeman was 14*l.* 14*s.* 0*d.* in 1866, against 15*l.* 3*s.* 3*d.* in the previous year.

The system of registration and surveillance of bad characters and thieving tribes, under the supervision of European officers, has proved

to be of great use, both in the prevention and detection of crime. The efforts of the Police during the past year towards the detection of crime contrast very favourably with the year preceding, and speak well for their efficiency. 67·9 per cent. of cases were brought to trial, against 62·3 per cent. in 1865. The per-centage of acquittals and discharges to arrests was 25·4, against 27·8 in 1865; and 36 per cent. of property stolen was recovered, against 32 per cent. in the previous year. The conduct of the Police Force has also been satisfactory.

Hyderabad assigned districts.

	1865.		1866.	
	Cognizable.	Non-cognizable.	Cognizable.	Non-cognizable.
Offences reported -	3,344	1,151	4,160	2,104
Do. brought to trial -	2,486	1,904	2,875	2,081
Persons arrested -	4,212	3,659	5,905	3,677
Do. convicted -	2,616	1,691	3,721	1,678
	£		£	
Value of property stolen -	16,441		20,115	
Do. recovered -	3,552		5,934	

The efforts made in the assigned districts of Hyderabad towards the detection of crime contrast favourably, as regards the number of cases brought to trial by the Police, in comparison with the number reported to them, being 79·2 per cent. The proportion of convictions to arrests, however, does not appear to be quite so good, only 56·3 per cent. This, so far as it affects the Police, is

explained by the per-centage of acquittals in cases cognizable by them, being 44 per cent. larger in those instances in which they have been taken up by the magistrates on complaint, without police inquiry, than in those in which the police

police have conducted a preliminary investigation. The establishment of village watchmen had been effected during the past year on a fixed footing, and on an advanced pay, by which great improvement in the detection of crime may be expected. The conduct and efficiency of the Police has been generally good; they are still, however, deficient in detection, and lack perseverance in grave crimes.

	1865.		1866.	
	Strength.	Cost.	Strength.	Cost.
Regular Police - - -	5,530	£ 112,088	5,693	£ 116,618
Village Police - - -	945	11,340	945	11,340
Municipal Police - - -	523	9,196	569	10,863
Total - - -	6,998	132,624	7,207	138,821

The sanctioned establishment of the Police Force in British Burmah, and its cost, showed a slight increase, when compared with 1865. The cost of each policeman was, in 1865, 18*l.* 19*s.*, and in 1866, 19*l.* 15*s.* 2*d.* The increase in the numbers of the regular constabulary was due to an augmentation in the number required for Port Blair, a penal settlement in the Andaman

British Burmah.

Islands, besides additional men employed on the frontiers of Pegu during the rebellion in Upper Burmah.

Of the whole force 75 per cent. are from the people of the country, and are employed mainly in preventing or detecting crime among their own race; the remainder are natives of India, and are employed at Port Blair, in the seaport and garrison towns, and as guards over jails and treasuries. Among an exciteable race like the Burmese an alien Police would never work satisfactorily; and although it is difficult to train a Burman to regularity, or to submit to discipline, he has nevertheless some qualities valuable in a criminal officer.

The average charge of a Native Officer of Police was 201 square miles, and 5,195 of the population: that of an European Officer extended over 1,452 square miles, and 37,459 of the population. The area for each constable employed for the ordinary criminal work of the Province, after deducting those at Port Blair, and those engaged along the frontier, and as guards to jails, treasuries, &c., was 24 square miles; and excluding the municipal population provided for by the municipal police, the working District Police was as 1 to 546 of the district population.

	1865.	1866.
Bailable Offences - - -	14,121	14,494
Non-bailable Offences - - -	6,631	7,174
Total - - -	20,752	21,668

From the accompanying table it will be seen that non-bailable offences have increased 8 per cent. while the general increase on all offences was 4½ per cent. The population is reported to have increased during the same period 2·17 per cent.

Of the number concerned in non-bailable offences during the year under review 5,117 persons were brought to trial; of which 3,300 persons, or 64 per cent. were convicted or committed; the remainder were acquitted or otherwise disposed of. The average of convictions during the year preceding was 61 per cent. Of the bailable offences committed 31,669 persons were brought to trial; of whom 20,237 persons, or 64 per cent., were convicted. The value of property stolen or plundered amounted to 46,569*l.*, of which 26 per cent. was recovered, while in the previous year it was only 22 per cent. These deductions show an improvement in the exertions of the Police of a satisfactory character.

Heinous Offences.	1865.	1866.
Dacoitee - - -	125	159
Murder - - -	52	59
Robbery - - -	144	173
Housebreaking - - -	323	427
Receiving stolen property -	362	474

Considerable increase had taken place in crime under the head of heinous offences; which was found to have been principally in the Prome district, partly assignable to the breaking out of the rebellion in Upper Burmah, and in a measure due to the very high price of food which ruled during the year.

It is satisfactory to note that the serious disorganization of all Government rule, which had for some time existed in Upper Burmah, did not spread into the territories under British administration, although the latter became the refuge of thousands who fled for protection during the anarchy that prevailed.

The conduct of the Police was reported to have been satisfactory during the past year.

Madras.

The total strength of the Police Force in Madras Presidency was, for the eleven months ending 31st March 1867, 24,403, being 1·6 per cent. less than the permanent establishment. Their cost was, for the same period, 334,944*l.* The proportion to the population was 1 to 1,065, in towns 1 to 566, and in rural districts 1 to 1,215, respectively. The average cost per man may be stated at 14*l.* 10*s.*, or 3*d.* per head of the population. In addition to the above, there were 783 Mounted and Marine Police for the town of Madras, the cost of which (exclusive of the latter) was 19,013*l.* The receipts realized by the Marine Police fell short of the disbursements, owing to the general stagnation of trade. In previous years these receipts exceeded the disbursements.

Fifty-six per cent. of the whole Force can read and write legibly, and hundreds of men who could neither read nor write on joining the Force now write their own reports.

The Towns Improvement Act (No. X. of 1865) was introduced, during the year under review, into the principal towns throughout the Presidency, and the several municipalities have been paying 75 per cent. of the cost of their Town Police. The exertions of the Police in detecting crime and in arresting persons have been satisfactory. A large increase is noticeable in the loss of life and property by fire as compared with the previous year, and is assignable to the unusually dry season of 1866-67.

Bombay.

	1865-66.	1866-67.
Persons brought to trial -	25,763	18,459
Convicted and punished -	18,584	11,990
Acquitted -	6,877	6,288
Value of property stolen -	£ 26,180	£ 19,754
Do. recovered	9,374	9,400

The number of persons brought before the Police Courts in the town and island of Bombay would naturally be less, considering that the period under review was less by one month than the previous year; but it is reported by the senior Magistrate that, after making every allowance for this abbreviation of the official year, the decrease was still very striking, and was accounted for in a great measure by the diminished demand for labour having kept many of the labouring classes

within their own districts in the country.

Heavy fines had been inflicted, and flogging, instead of imprisonment, had been resorted to during the year.

The proportion of convictions in these Courts was 65 per cent., against 72 per cent. during the preceding year. The value of property stolen was less by 6,376*l.*, and the value of property recovered was slightly in excess.

The chief feature in the administration of this Department has been the complete re-organization of the District Force. The salaries of all grades have been raised, and a fund has been formed providing pensions for superannuation. This new arrangement came into operation on the 1st July 1867, and, though yet in its infancy, the character of the Police has greatly improved; and it is hoped that similar changes may yet be effected among the Village Police.

A gang of professional thieves, who have been wandering about in the Province of Gujerat for many years, have nearly been rooted out. It appears, from the evidence of one of them who had enlisted into the Police Force of Ahmedabad, that this gang originally came from Tehree, and other villages in Bundelcund; that it was there assembled, and regularly organized, with a general staff and its subordinate grades. Boys only were in the ranks, who principally committed the thefts. They were never recruited except from their own villages, and allow no women in their bands. The men plan the thefts and dispose of the proceeds; the boys were lent by their parents to those in authority in the gangs on an annual payment. Any information given to outsiders was at the risk of life. This gang has visited Gujerat for 25 years; their thefts were mostly committed in the daytime, seldom after dark, and were generally of a light character, such as snatching and picking pockets, without any attempt at dacoity, poison, housebreaking, or murder. Several of this caste have since been taken into the Police Force, and by their means have greatly helped to exterminate the gang from Ahmedabad and its vicinity.

Similar arrangements have been made with the Railway Companies to those mentioned in the preceding pages for the organization of a railway police, with the view of stopping the numerous thefts and robberies that have been committed on their lines, and with satisfactory results.

In

In the Southern Division of the Bombay Presidency the increase in crime, though not so very great, was assigned to the prevalence of distress among the poorer class, owing to a succession of unfavourable seasons, bad harvests, and a continuance of high prices for the necessaries of life; in consequence of which, and in order to secure a greater efficiency in the working of the police during so critical a period, a gratuity, equal to half a month's pay, was granted to the police in those districts wherein high prices prevailed.

*Jails.*

	1865.	1866.	
Total number of prisoners in custody - - -	90,333	114,870	
Number admitted into jails during the year - -	72,617	95,951	
Disposal of prisoners.	Executed - -	70	57
	Died in prison - -	1,129	2,347
	Escaped - -	291	457
	Released - -	65,336	72,928
Remaining in confinement	33,508	89,087	
Total - - -	90,333	114,870	

	1865.	1866.
Daily average of prisoners -	18,842	22,151
Number sick during the year -	29,516	33,531
Number discharged from hospital - - -	27,082	27,680
Number died - - -	1,129	2,347
Number remaining in hospital at end of the year -	970	859

The number of prisoners in custody, admitted, and disposed of in 1866, showed an increase under every head except that of capital punishment. The increase in the number admitted was exceptionally high, and was mainly due to the scarcity and to the high price of food, impelling many to commit crimes in order to obtain shelter and sustenance in jails. Owing to the majority of those admitted into Jails during the year being in a diseased and debilitated state from want, and also from the overcrowded state into which the jails were consequently placed, there was an unusual high ratio of deaths to daily average strength of prisoners, which in 1866 was 10.59 per cent. against 5.95 per cent. in 1865, and 7.60 per cent. the average of the previous five years.

To obviate to some extent the evils of overcrowding in jails, the surplus prisoners were employed in out-door work, many being placed at the disposal of magistrates for employment in the cleaning of stations, and re-

moving jungles in their vicinity. Temporary shelter was also erected at some of the large jails, where enclosed available space could be found for sheds.

Measures have been taken towards introducing a better system of education into jails. Hitherto the practice adopted was to employ the educated convicts, at odd hours, as instructors to others; but on the removal of these teachers, either by transfer or release, a complete stop was put to the course of education in that particular jail. Hence, to meet this difficulty, and in order to reduce to a manageable number the convicts receiving instruction, it has been ordered that the privilege of learning to read and write shall be confined to well-conducted prisoners, and that at each jail an educated convict, if possible, or a paid instructor, shall be employed in teaching the elements of vernacular education in a room set apart for the purpose, the expenses being borne by the Convict Labour Fund.

Results of Jail Manufactures.	Eleven-twelfths of 1865-66.	1866-67.
Gross receipts - - -	£ 48,983	£ 57,107
Deduct charges - - -	29,624	36,817
Net profits - - -	19,359	20,290
Net profits of preceding year - - -	19,651	19,359
	Decrease. 292	Increase. 931

Of the average daily number of prisoners employed in ordinary Jail Manufactures, there were 10,488, as compared with 9,418 in 1865-66. The result of their labours for the eleven months ending 31st March 1867, compared with eleven twelfths of the year preceding, showed an increase in profits, though the average earning of each prisoner was less than in 1865-66, being 1*l.* 18*s.* against 2*l.* 1*s.*

	Eleven-twelfths of 1865-66.	1866-7.
Total expenditure for maintenance of prisoners -	£ 101,905	£ 199,289
Deduct income from all sources - - -	32,283	35,551
Net cost of maintenance -	68,722	103,738

Assuming, as shown above, the daily average of prisoners to be 18,842 in 1865-66, and 22,151 in 1866-67; and the net expenditure incurred by Government in Bengal to be 68,722*l.* and 103,738*l.* respectively, the average cost for the maintenance of each prisoner was 4*l.* 13*s.* 8*d.* against 3*l.* 12*s.* 11*d.* in the year preceding.

North-west  
Provinces.

	1865.	1866.
Jail population - - -	73,118	77,107
Daily average number of prisoners - - -	16,417	16,840
Aggregate expenditure - - -	76,436 <i>l.</i>	77,561 <i>l.</i>
Average cost of each prisoner - - -	4 <i>l.</i> 15 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>	4 <i>l.</i> 14 <i>s.</i> 10 <i>d.</i>

The net population of the jails and the daily average number of prisoners in the North-west Provinces was greater than in 1865; and while the aggregate expenditure had increased also, the average cost of each prisoner was slightly less than in the previous year. The increase in expenditure arose from the additional number of prisoners, the high price of food, extra allowances for fixed establishments, and to additions and repairs of jails. In consequence of a change in the arrangement of the duties of Police Guards at jails, there was a reduction of 3,000*l.* under the head of "Permanent Guard."

The average earnings of each prisoner engaged in manufactures was in 1865 3*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*, and 4*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.* in 1866.

There was an increase of 151 in the number of females imprisoned during the year, who were convicted chiefly for theft or receiving stolen property. They were mainly employed in spinning and weaving while in jail, and the system of good-conduct marks has been introduced at all the Central Prisons with good effect.

It is satisfactory to observe, from the care and attention bestowed, that the health of prisoners has been generally good. The death-rate has been about 2½ per cent. Nearly one-fourth of the casualties arose among those admitted into Jails in a bad state of health.

Of the prisoners under confinement 3,270 had learned to read, and 1,452 had learned both to read and write.

Central  
Provinces.

There are four Central Jails in the Central Provinces,—at Nagpore, Jubbulpore, Raepore, and Hoshungabad. That at Nagpore was the most advanced, and has been already in occupation; the other three were progressing towards completion. Besides these, there are also nine District Jails, all in good state of repair.

From a daily average of 3,438 prisoners available for work, 1,287 were engaged in building and repairing jails during the year; whereas in 1865, out of a larger number of available prisoners, only 784 were so employed.

The average net cost of each prisoner to the State was 2*l.* 10*s.* in 1865, and 3*l.* 16*s.* in 1866.

The health of prisoners showed an improvement in comparison with the previous year; the per-centage of sick to daily average having fallen from 7·67 to 6·84, and the death rate from 12·15 to 7·44 per cent.

The net profits of the Thuggee School of Industry at Jubbulpore, which was this year placed under the charge of the Inspector-General of Jails, amounted to 2,500*l.*

Punjab.

The number of jails in the Punjab was 27, the same as in previous year; but the extent of accommodation had been increased by the erection of additional wards. Three new jails are in course of construction, and three more have been sanctioned, including one for European prisoners in the Jullundhur district.

	1865.	1866.
Total number of prisoners	31,424	31,578
Daily average number of prisoners - - -	10,308	10,292
Total expenditure on jails -	£ 53,467	£ 51,859
Earnings of prisoners -	17,445	17,833

The total number of prisoners, with the daily average strength, together with the total expenditure on account of jails, and the earnings of prisoners, whether from profits of manufactures or value of their labour, are given in the annexed table; whence it will be seen that the cost of each prisoner was 5*l.* 0*s.* 9*d.* against 5*l.* 3*s.* 7*d.* in 1865; the earnings of each prisoner were 1*l.* 14*s.* 7*d.* and 1*l.* 13*s.* 3*d.* respectively, making thus the net cost of each prisoner 3*l.* 6*s.* 2*d.*, as compared with 3*l.* 10*s.* 4*d.* in the previous year. These are results which may be considered satisfactory. The sanitary state of the prisoners was excellent; the average daily proportion of sick was 2·51 only; and the rate of mortality, calculated on the daily average number in confinement, was less, being 1·78 per cent. contrasted with 3·56 in the preceding year.

The

The conduct and discipline of prisoners was generally very good; no emeutes of any kind occurred. The following measures had been introduced with a view of regulating discipline on a reformatory system:

The different kinds of labour have been classified into "hard," "medium," and "light," with rules for promotion from one stage to another for good conduct and diligence:

A system of extra-mural labour, without the degrading accompaniments of the old road-working gangs, has been experimentally sanctioned for continued good conduct:

Ticket of leave rules have been partially introduced:

And rules have been prescribed for the appointment of prisoner-guards, work overseers, and ward masters, in recognition of continued good conduct and conspicuous merit.

At the end of the year, out of 9,719 prisoners, 450 could read and write; 2,134 could read only; 7,135 could neither read nor write; and 5,003 were under instruction.

The two jails in course of construction in the Hyderabad assigned districts at Akolah and at Oomrawuttee were gradually approaching completion.

Hyderabad assigned districts.

The average number of prisoners was 856, while in 1865 it was 870. Their average cost was 9*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.* against 8*l.* 13*s.* 9*d.* in the previous year, an increase which was partly due to the high prices of food. The conduct of the prisoners was good. They had been employed solely on the construction of jails, which, when finished, will enable their labour to be directed into a more remunerative channel. Only 13 deaths occurred, making the rate of mortality only 1.53 per cent.

	1865-6.	1866-7.
Average daily number of prisoners	3,876	3,602
Number of deaths	473	393
Gross expenditure	£ 22,056	£ 23,847
Earnings by prisoners	2,369	4,068
Net cost of prisoners	19,687	19,779

In British Burmah there has been a decrease in the average daily number of prisoners to the extent of 274, and a falling-off in the number of deaths of 80; reducing the per-centage, therefore, from 12.29 to 10.8 in the past year. An unusual mortality from contagious fever prevailed in the Rangoon Central Jail, hitherto the healthiest jail in the Burmese Province. The decrease in the number of prisoners was principally among those in custody at Moulmein. The measures taken, however, to eradicate this epidemic were most successful, for at the end of

British Burmah.

the year under review the whole body of prisoners (nearly 1,000 strong) recovered their good health. At Kyouk Phyou also the rate of mortality became at one time heavy, but steps were taken with due promptitude for improving the health of the prisoners.

The cost of the maintenance of the Jails has increased by the sum of 1,791*l.*, arising from an additional outlay for Establishments, and for extra rations to prisoners in the Jail at Rangoon. The average cost of each prisoner was 5*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* in 1865, and 6*l.* 12*s.* 4*d.* in 1866. But if from the gross expenditure the earnings of the prisoners be deducted, the net cost of each prisoner will be reduced to 5*l.* 9*s.* 9*d.* for the past year.

	1865-66.	1866-67.
Daily average number of prisoners in confinement.	8,150	9,808
Total expenses incurred	£ 48,694	£ 72,996

The accompanying table shows an increase in the number of prisoners confined in the jails of the Madras Presidency, and also in the expense incurred; arising from the scarcity which prevailed in Ganjam, Kurnool, Bellary, and Cuddapah districts, compelling many to commit offences with

Madras.

the object of securing refuge in jails. Of the expense (72,996*l.*) incurred, 49,641*l.* was for their food, including extras for the sick. The cost of each prisoner was about 7*l.* 10*s.*, against 5*l.* 12*s.* in the preceding year. In 1865-66 the rate of mortality in jails was nearly 13 per cent., but in 1866-67 it fell to 11½ per cent. Although the difference between the death rates of the two years has been small there has been an improvement in the general health of prisoners; the per-centage of deaths to strength was 76. The discipline maintained in the prisons of this Presidency was good, and the conduct of the prisoners was satisfactory.

Manufactures are now taught in many of the jails throughout the Presidency, the sale proceeds of which, after deducting cost of raw material, amounted to 1,977L.

At Vizagapatam, Vellore, and Madura, new jails were in progress during the year. Four blocks of radial cells had been finished and occupied in the Rajah-mundry Central Jail; besides several improvements had been made to existing jails elsewhere. Many of the convicts having been placed at disposal of the officers of the Public Works Departments, towards their construction, as well as aiding in making roads, quarrying stone, brick-making, &c.

Bombay.

	1865-66.	1866-67.
Number of prisoners received, and at the close of previous year	30,921	23,972
Daily average number	8,347	6,388

The number of prisoners, criminal and civil, confined in the jails throughout the Bombay Presidency and in Sind was less by 6,949 than in the preceding year, and the daily average number decreased by 1,959.

The financial results of the employment of prisoners in jails showed a net profit of 5,934L. against 4,594L. in 1865-66, being an increase of 1,340L. And the average earning of each prisoner employed amounted to 4L. 3s., as compared with 3L. 3s. 6d. in the previous year.

	1865-66.	1866-67.
	£	£
Gross cost of maintenance -	69,673	56,400
Less value of labour	15,298	16,200
Net cost of maintenance	54,375	40,200

The accompanying table shows satisfactorily a decrease in expenditure towards the maintenance of prisoners. The net cost of each prisoner having been 6L. 8s. against 8L. 7s. 6d. in the previous year.

In the mortality among prisoners there has also been a considerable decrease. In 1865-66 the deaths amounted to 651, as compared with 339 during the year under report; of these, 91 deaths occurred in Sind. The ratio per cent. decreased from 10.04 to 5.40 in 1866-67.

Out of 15,612 criminal prisoners received into the jails only 236 were able to read, 830 to read and write, and 119 fairly educated; the remainder were totally ignorant. The practice of conveying instruction in jails by means of convict teachers is being introduced.

#### Military.

The effective strength of the Army in India as it stood on the 1st April 1867 was 190,957; of this number 64,109 were Europeans, and 126,848 were Natives. The military force of Bengal amounted to 105,505 men; of Madras to 47,654; and of Bombay to 37,798 men.

Europeans.	1865.	1866.
Average strength	84,405	59,941
Admissions into hospital	102,619	83,128
Deaths	1,585	1,074
Invalided	2,804	2,128
Natives.		
Average strength	94,386	99,036
Admissions into hospital	116,666	104,666
Deaths	1,866	1,146
Invalided	2,108	1,778

The accompanying statement exhibits the sickness and mortality among European and Native troops in British India during the year ended 31st December 1866, as compared with the similar period of 1865. The contrast appears very favourable, inasmuch as fewer Europeans were received into the hospitals, and there was a decrease in the number of deaths during the past year. Among the Native troops also, while the average strength was greater, yet the number of those admitted into hospitals, and of those who died, was considerably less than in the previous year. A comparison of the number invalided among Europeans and Natives ought not strictly to be taken into consideration, as the number among Madras troops has not been returned for the past year.

Allusion having been made in last year's Report (page 46) to the subject of the claims of officers to compensation for money contributed by them towards purchasing the retirement of their seniors, consequent to the changes effected in the organisation of the Army in India, it will be sufficient to state here, that the committee appointed to consider the relative merits of each officer's claim are still sitting in India, and have already in some instances granted compensation to such officers as have been found to be entitled to receive the bonus sanctioned under the instructions issued by Her Majesty's Government.

The



The Volunteer movement, also mentioned in last year's Report, has been somewhat checked in Assam, owing to the recent failures in tea. In consequence of the dissolution of the Cachar mounted Volunteer Corps, Government issued instructions for the return into store of all arms and accoutrements supplied.

The special committee appointed to consider the subject of sanitation in military cantonments in Bengal have now brought their labours to a close, by compiling an uniform code of rules, which has been confirmed by the Government of India; these rules came into operation in May 1867.

Revised cantonment rules, under the Cantonment Act, have been introduced into the military stations of Kamptee, Jubbulpore, and Saugor. Lock hospitals have been open during the past year at these places, and the strict observance of their rules have already produced a good effect upon the health of the troops in the Central Provinces; cantonment committees had also been formed, with sufficient funds at their disposal to carry out all measures of sanitary improvement.

Exceptional measures of relief had been granted to Commissariat contractors at certain stations in the Madras Presidency during the past year, in consequence of their being unable to fulfil their engagements, arising from a failure in the crops, and the unprecedented high prices of the necessaries of life.

During the period of the famine in Orissa, measures were taken for importing supplies of grain for the use of the troops employed in that locality during the emergency, as well as for the registered camp followers and pensioners; in addition to which a temporary famine allowance had been granted to Commissariat and Hospital servants, and to Store Lascars.

The unusual sickness that prevailed at Jubbulpore among Her Majesty's 23rd Regiment of Fusiliers during the year 1866-67 attracted the attention of Her Majesty's Government, at whose request a full inquiry had been instituted, from which it appeared that the causes were primarily a predisposition on the part of the men of that regiment to take the fever, inasmuch as the Artillery quartered with that regiment did not suffer to any proportionate extent; moreover, the 23rd Regiment had marched from Agra, the climate of which is much drier and hotter than at Jubbulpore, which is surrounded by marshy ground, and had to be placed in barracks of a temporary character, having been erected subsequent to the Mutiny, though in occupation ever since. A question also was raised as to the use of quinine as a prophylactic.

The attention of the Public Works Department had been drawn to the necessity of more effectually draining the marshy nature of the vicinity of Jubbulpore, and a special committee was appointed to consider the advisability of constructing entirely new barrack accommodation, and of the best possible site for the same. In the meantime every effort was made to make the existing barracks as healthy and comfortable as possible.

There being much divided opinion as to the use of the quinine as a prophylactic, experiments were ordered to be tried at Peshawur, but the result was not satisfactory. The Government of India have accordingly approved the proposal of the Inspector General of Her Majesty's British Hospitals, that the exhibition of the drug as a prophylactic, when recommended by regimental surgeons, be left to the discretion of Deputy Inspectors General of Hospitals, who will be best able to form an opinion as to the propriety of each application, thus affording at the same time an additional security to the men of the issue of this medicine when really needed, and avoid unnecessary expense to the State.

With a view to improve the condition of non-commissioned officers and soldiers of the British Army liable to serve in all parts of the world, a Royal warrant was issued in June 1867, by which an increase of twopence a day was granted to the several rates of daily pay assigned by the warrant of February 1866; and an additional penny a day was at the same time granted to all men who shall have completed a first period of service, as a special inducement to soldiers to re-engage for a further period of service, and towards encouraging recruiting generally in the Army.

The rates of pay received by British soldiers serving in India, are higher than those granted to soldiers belonging to regiments in this country; but, in consideration of the great increase which has occurred of late years in the prices of many articles of consumption in India, Her Majesty's Government, being desirous that soldiers serving in India should participate in the benefits conferred on their comrades serving elsewhere, have issued instructions for an extension of similar privileges to regiments serving in that part of the world. The increased rates took effect from the 1st April 1867.

In anticipation of an early return to England, at the expiration of their period of service, of some of the new line regiments which had volunteered for general service at the time of the amalgamation of the Indian Army, and in the probable event of some of the officers of these non-purchasing regiments being desirous of continuing their services in India by exchanging into other of the new line regiments, Her Majesty's Government, in accordance with the sentiments of His Royal Highness the Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief, have resolved on rescinding the order under which forfeiture of all claims to Indian pensions was involved in exchanges between officers of these regiments; and notification has accordingly been issued to all officers concerned.

It has been determined, on the strong recommendation of the Government of India, that in future the appointment of Judge Advocate General in Bengal shall be held by a barrister, who will be selected by the Secretary of State for this important office, with a salary sufficient to secure the services of a gentleman of high professional character and attainments.

Her Majesty's Government, with the concurrence of His Royal Highness the Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief, have, at the instigation of the Government of India, agreed to restore the old number of colonels allowances to the officers of the Indian Ordnance cadres, on the understanding that no increase will be made to the establishment of colonels commandant, and that the officers succeeding to such colonels allowance will be subject to the rule already laid down by Sir Charles Wood when Secretary of State in 1861. This concession has been made in consideration of the long series of distinguished services performed by the Royal (late Indian) Artillery.

For some time past Her Majesty's Government have had under consideration the subject of an Overland Transport Service, as a better mode of conveying troops between England and India, and, with the view, therefore, of making such an arrangement complete, they have now built five large steamers for the Transport Service, three of which will ply between Suez and Bombay, and two for the European side of the Isthmus between this country and Alexandria. All the vessels have been commissioned, officered, and manned on the footing of the Royal Navy, and under the control of the Admiralty. In order to give full employment to these vessels, those on the European side of Egypt will be at the disposal of the Admiralty during two fifths of the year, and for three fifths of the year the steamers employed on the other side will be at the disposal of the Government of India. It has been decided, moreover, that none but officers and others entitled to passages at the public expense are to be admitted as passengers on board Her Majesty's Indian Troop Ships (as they are entitled), while employed in the conveyance of troops between this country and India. This service commenced its operations in September 1867, and has worked very satisfactorily.

A new cantonment has been sanctioned at Colaba for the whole of the garrison of Bombay, including the Native Regiments. The Sanitary Commissioners have reported favourably of the proposed scheme, and the construction of the necessary barracks will be proceeded with so soon as the plans and estimates have been approved of by the Government of India.

Gas has been introduced into the present barracks at Colaba, but at Poona and Kirkee it was not found to be so feasible, owing to the temporary nature of the accommodation and scattered distribution of the barracks.

Employment has been found for the wives of soldiers in making up clothing, whereby they are enabled to earn from 9d. to 1s. a day. An English school has also been established in each Native Regiment, for the instruction of the children of Sepoys.

Military  
Funds.

The following decisions affecting the interests of subscribers to the several Indian Military Funds, which were transferred to the Government in September 1866, have been passed during the past year.

On the absorption of the estimated surplus balance of the Madras Military Fund, the subjoined concessions were granted to subscribers and annuitants, viz. :—

The reduction of the extra donation for daughters, from Rupees 282 to Rupees 200.

The reduction to bachelor's rates of the donations of widowers with offspring.

The abolition of all demands on account of minimum.

The reversion of daughters, born subsequently to 7th June 1867, to their pensions, on becoming widows.

And the addition of 8 per cent. to the pensions of widows.

The

The benefit conceded to officers transferred from the Indian to the British Military Forces, of continuing to subscribe at English or Indian rates, according to receipt of pay, has been extended to officers resigning the Indian Service in order to take up paymasterships in the British Army.

It has been ruled by the Secretary of State, that the donation in the rank of colonel was not to be demanded from officers of the Staff Corps, in which substantive rank of colonel does not exist, until they are in receipt of colonels allowances. Colonels of artillery and engineers holding the substantive rank aforesaid are not to be affected by this decision.

The transfer of the Bengal Medical Retiring Fund, under Act 29 Vict. c. 18., was effected in India and in England on the 1st March 1868; and arrangements have been made for the transfer of the Bombay Medical Retiring Fund on the 1st May 1868.

#### POLITICAL.

The levy of Nuzzerana (or fees on succession) is a subject which has engaged the attention of the Government for a number of years past. Hitherto no definite system existed, nor had any general rules or regulations been framed by the Government of India for the guidance of their officers. With a view, however, to ensure uniformity of practice for the future, a code of rules has been framed applicable to all conditions of succession, without introducing any fresh stipulations likely to interfere with existing engagements. Nuzzerana.

Official intelligence has reached this country announcing the death, on the 27th March last, of his Highness Krishna Raj Wodiar Bahadoor, Maharajah of Mysore, and Knight Grand Commander of the most Exalted Order of the Star of India. By this event the British Government loses an ally whose friendship has lasted for more than half a century. The Government of India lost no time in issuing a proclamation acknowledging his Highness Chamrajend Wodiar Bahadoor, the adopted son of the late Maharajah, as his successor, and as ruler of the Mysore territories. During his minority this Province will be administered, in the name of the Prince, by the British Government, on the same principles and under the same regulations as heretofore, until his Highness shall have attained his majority, when, if he be found qualified for the discharge of the duties of his exalted position, the government of these territories will be entrusted to him, subject to such conditions as may be determined at that time. All persons who were dependent on the late Maharajah will receive full consideration according to their several positions, and were assured of the protection of the Mysore Government. Mysore.

In token of respect for the memory of the late Prince, all public offices throughout the Province were ordered by the Commissioner to be closed, except for urgent business, for the space of three days.

In October 1866 a party of Muniories, under Gokul Sing, a son of the Ex-Rajah of Muniore, made a raid into that country from Cachar, but they were pursued and dispersed by a police force. To prevent such outrages, the Muniories who had been implicated in this and similar attacks were forbidden to remain in Cachar or the vicinity of Muniore; the out-posts at Jirighat and Godown Ghat on the Muniore frontier were permanently occupied by the British police; and a proposal was made to the Rajah of Muniore that a strong police guard, to be paid by him, should be posted on the Kalla Naga Hill, which commands the easiest access from Cachar into Muniore. Measures have also been taken for strictly enforcing the provisions of the Arms Act in the neighbourhood, by prohibiting the manufacture or sale of arms and ammunition by persons who have not received a license to transport them, and exercising great caution in the grant of such licenses. N. E. Frontier.

The illness of the officer entrusted with the conduct of the arrangements for suppressing the raids of the Nagas, as described in last year's report (page 38), has hitherto prevented the carrying out of the new line of policy. Another inroad was committed in June 1866, in which 26 people were killed; and, owing to timely notice not having been given to the police, the marauders made their escape. The Deputy Commissioner has been empowered to proceed summarily against any village proved to have been concerned in a gross outrage, on the understanding that this power is to be exercised only in cases where it would defeat the object of remedial action to refer it for the prior sanction of higher authority

authority. Orders have also been given for opening out the roads urgently required for facilitating communication between Samoogooting, Dhemapore, and the sub-divisional station of Golahghat.

In furtherance of the scheme described in the preceding report (page 88) of placing a special officer in charge of the Garrow Hills, they have been separated from the district of Gawalparah, and formed into a distinct jurisdiction under a first-class Assistant Commissioner; and some administrative changes have been sanctioned, by which the police and revenue responsibility in each village or tract may be made to rest with one headman. Measures were also taken to open out communications.

At the annual meeting with the Abor chiefs, an agreement was made with the 14 clans of the Bor Abor tribes, who had hitherto kept apart from all intercourse with our officers. The only tribe which still maintains an unfriendly attitude is the Pashre Meyong Abors, and it is hoped that they will not long hold aloof.

In order to gain an accurate knowledge of the different tribes inhabiting the confines of Akyab and Chittagong, and to increase the means of protecting our villages from future attacks, an officer has been appointed Superintendent of the Arracan Hill tracts. The result has been so far satisfactory that there has been no fresh Shindoo raid during the year.

A series of inroads was, however, committed in these tracts by the Looshai Kookies of the Howlong tribe, which had hitherto made no incursions in this direction. It was at first intended to send a force to punish them; but as no expedition would be likely to prove effectual against this tribe (which numbers 16,000 men), unless conducted by a regularly equipped military force, the only measure sanctioned for the present was to raise the police to its full strength, and it was directed that all attempts at dacoity should be repelled, the marauders being followed only where it could be done with safety.

Endeavours were, in the meantime, being made to discover why the measures for the pacification of the frontier have hitherto proved unsuccessful; and also to induce the Looshai and Syloo chiefs to enter into engagements similar to those which have been made with other tribes.

For the administration of the Dooars ceded by Bootan, a new division has been formed, under the title of the Cooch Behar division, which, besides that territory, comprises the subdivision of Titalyah, the districts of Darjeeling, Gawalparah, and the Garrow Hills, and the Native State of Cooch Behar, so long as it may remain under British management.

Central Pro-  
vinces.

During the year 1866 the Rajah of Makrai, a feudatory chief of the Nerbudda country, died; he has been succeeded by his adopted heir, a youth aged 16, and well disposed.

Jug Shahai, Rajah of Phuljhur, also died during the same period; but his successor had not been decided upon. This chieftain was one of the most important non-feudatory chiefs of the Mahanuddy Valley.

Tonk.

Rajpootana has been during the year the scene of bloodshed of a very serious character, which has led to the deposition of the Nawab of Tonk, under the following circumstances. The Thakoor of Lawa was invited by the Nawab to his capital, and was there placed in confinement, and his uncle and minister, Rewut Sing, together with 15 other persons, were all foully murdered in the house of the confidential minister of the Nawab of Tonk. Doubts were entertained at first as to the extent of complicity on the part of the Nawab; but from subsequent inquiries it was made clear that he had been a party to the assassination. As a mark of displeasure, the Government of India deposed the Nawab, assigning him an allowance, with a place of residence, and nominating his youthful son in his place, during whose minority the administration of affairs is to be conducted by a Council of Regency, under the superintendence of a British officer. Sarwar Shah, the minister at whose house the murder took place, was to be confined for life as a political prisoner. The Thakoor of Lawa will no longer be subject to the Tonk state, but will be placed under the control of the political agency of Jeypore. Pensions payable out of the revenues of Tonk will be granted to the heirs of the murdered people; and the salute hitherto rendered to the ruler of this State will be reduced from 17 to 11 guns.

Indoor.

An important question has been raised in connexion with the construction of railways passing through Native States, in consequence of the Maharajah Holkar having levied excessive duties on the transit through his territories of merchandise intended for transport by railway. It has been suggested that

if

if concessions for railway undertakings, injurious to the finances of any Native State, are required, some corresponding advantage should be granted to reconcile the chief to any loss he has sustained.

The administration of affairs in Bhawalpore (see last year's report at page 40) made most satisfactory progress. Civil and criminal courts have been established; a police force has been organized; and the diminution in crime, both in this State and the adjacent districts, has been very marked in consequence. Considerable reductions have taken place in the transit and import duties, which were very oppressive; the wasteful expenditure of the Commissariat Department has been also checked; and the accounts of Revenue and Expenditure brought into something like order; attention has been likewise paid to irrigation with more effect, and a system of forest conservancy has been organized; a school has been opened, and measures taken for establishing dispensaries in the larger towns. As might be expected, some few of the old officials, who find themselves debarred from the illicit gains enjoyed under the lax rule of the Nawab, cavil at the existing state of things; but all the respectable portion of the nobility and upper classes, and the mass of the people, fully appreciate the comforts conferred by the changes in administration, and as the best practical test of the feelings of the people, it may be mentioned, that old proprietors were rapidly returning to lands which they had abandoned, and applications for new grants were made in such large numbers that in one sub-division alone, 100,000 acres of land had been leased out to new cultivators during 1866-67. Bhawalpore.

Reliable intelligence has been received of the death from fever of Feroze Shah, (the rebel son of the ex-King of Delhi), at Bokhara, where he is said to have received a compassionate allowance from the Ameer. Punjab.

In 1864 the Maharajah of Cashmere considerably reduced the rates of duty leviable on merchandise entering his territory; a measure which resulted in a large increase in the trade between that country and the adjacent districts of British territory. Recently, however, complaints were received by the Punjab Government that at Ladakh, a noted emporium for the trade between British territory and Eastern Turkistan, the revised rates of tariff were not duly observed, and that exactions detrimental to trade were still practised by the officials of the Maharajah. His Highness was accordingly addressed upon the subject; but the result not being satisfactory, the Punjab Government recommended, and the Government of India sanctioned, as an experimental measure, the deputation of an English officer to Ladakh, for the purpose of seeing that the tariff of 1864 is fully adhered to, and of collecting information regarding the progress of events in Eastern Turkistan, and the prospects of developing commercial relations with those countries. The presence of this officer has already led to a further reduction of duties, and has increased in a marked degree the confidence of British traders. Her Majesty's Government have now decided that the deputation of a British officer to Ladakh shall be made every season, with the full understanding that he is to abstain from any course of action calculated to give offence to the rulers of Cashmere and other foreign territories adjoining. The Maharajah has since evinced his good feeling towards the British Government, by placing at the disposal of the Lieutenant Governor of the Punjab a sum equivalent to between 6,000*l.* and 7,000*l.*, for the promotion of literature and science in that Province. In imitation of this good example, the Rajah of Khupoortullah has contributed 1,000*l.* for the same purpose. Cashmere.

During the past year a survey was commenced, with the view of ascertaining the best practicable route for the construction of a railway from Rangoon to Western China, the operations for which were confined to an examination of the country lying between that town and the north-east portion of British Burmah. No serious obstacles by this route appear to have been met with within British territory. The question of extending the survey beyond the frontier having been referred to the authorities at home, it has been decided by the Government of India to suspend all further operations for the present, as the prosecution of such an enterprise, in the existing state of affairs, might probably lead to political embarrassment, and create complications with Burmah. Burmah.

With a view to regulate commercial relations with the Burmese State, Colonel Fytche was appointed on a mission to Mandalay; which resulted in a revised treaty being satisfactorily concluded on the 25th October 1867, between

the British Government and the Government of Burmah. The provisions of the treaty appear to be such as to conduce materially to the interests of the two countries.

**Travancore.** Steady progress has been made in the administration of both civil and criminal justice in Travancore, and continued improvement appears in the efficiency of police operations; the great increase which would have been entailed by the raising of their salaries has prevented the adoption of a measure, the importance of which, with a view to their better organization, has been fully recognised.

The enfranchisement of the Crown lands of the State, to which allusion was made in last year's report (page 42), has produced most beneficial results, and extensive sales have consequently taken place. All compulsory labour in the working of forests has been done away with. An experiment is being made of planting chinchona trees in different parts of the forests.

Satisfactory progress still continues to be made in education. A higher or collegiate branch of the high school had been established under a gentleman from the Edinburgh University; a preparatory branch attached to the high school has been proposed to meet the continued demand for education; besides arrangements for the instruction of females of the higher classes, a general school is about to be formed, under the superintendence of a lady from England, whose services have already been engaged for this purpose.

The vigorous prosecution of public works in different parts of this territory greatly mitigated the distress experienced in the past season of scarcity.

His Highness the Maharajah was, in February 1867, invested as a Knight Grand Commander of the Order of the Star of India, and his Highness's Dewan, Madava Rao, was at the same time made a Knight Commander of the same order, for his valuable administration of the affairs of this State.

**Cochin.** Improvement has been made in the High Court of Appeal by the appointment of a qualified First Judge. Additional steps have been taken for the improvement of the other Courts. The scale of punishments laid down for offences under the Penal Code has been adopted in Criminal Courts, and the jurisdiction of the Moonsiffs has been extended as in Travancore. It is in contemplation to enlarge and improve the jail accommodation. Education continues to make satisfactory progress.

**Carnatic.** The long pending question as to the claim of Mahomed Ali Khan, better known as Azeem Jah, to the throne of the Carnatic, by right of inheritance, may be now considered settled; Azeem Jah having consented to renounce all pretensions to the Musnud of the Carnatic. A settlement of the case has been undertaken by Her Majesty's Government, the principal terms of which, as accepted by him, are as follows:—

That the title of Prince of Arcot be conferred upon His Highness Azeem Jah, and on successive representatives of the head of the Arcot family;

That he be allowed a salute of 15 guns, to cease at his death;

That his allowance be increased from 15,000*l.* to 30,000*l.* a year, of which one half be continued to his successors in perpetuity;

And with the view of enabling him to maintain his position, a commission be appointed to inquire into the liabilities incurred by his Highness while he acted as Regent during the minority of the late Nawab Mahomed Ghous, for the settlement of which a sum not exceeding 150,000*l.* be set apart.

The proceedings of this Commission are not yet concluded.

**Kolapoor.** By the untimely decease during the past year of the Rajah of Kolapoor, this Native State loses an enlightened ruler and the British Government a firm friend.

In consequence of the youth of his successor by adoption, this State has been placed under British superintendence, and measures have been taken for the suitable education of His Highness, who is reported to be a young man of considerable promise. The satisfactory condition of the finances will admit of many works of improvement being carried out during the minority of the present Rajah, and the revenue survey will be completed.

Inchulkurrunjee and five other estates, in consequence of the youth of the Chiefs, are also under British management. The affairs of two principal States in Kolapoor (Vishalghur and Bowra) have been satisfactorily conducted by their respective Chiefs during the past year.

**Kattywar.** In Kattywar, bodies of outlaws, under Wagheer leaders, continued their depredations, but in greatly diminished numbers. The Thakoor of Veerpore entertained some of these bands, and, the offence having been brought home to him, his estate has been placed under attachment.

Other

Other Chiefs, however, have shown creditable endeavours to persevere in a course of progress. The Nawab of Joonaghur, the Jam of Nowanuggur, and several other minor Chiefs, have been occupied during 1866 with works of improvement in their respective jurisdictions. Postal communication has received attention, and receipts from this source have largely increased; 34 new schools have been established, with 2,275 pupils in excess of 1865.

An engagement took place in December 1867 between one of these Wagheer bands, consisting of 26 men, under their noted leader Dewa Manek, and a Native force commanded by European officers, with a portion of the Nowanuggur Police, which resulted in the death of the Wagheer leader and 16 of his followers; only 7 of the whole escaped. But it is much regretted that this success should have been gained at the cost of the lives of two most able and zealous officers (Captains Hibbert and Latouche), through the cowardice displayed by the Native Police, whose conduct has been brought to the notice of the Jam of Nowanuggur.

In Kutch the leading event of the year was the birth of an heir to his Highness the Rao, which, according to practice, was the occasion of a general amnesty among prisoners in jails, though protested against by the Political Agent. The revenue administration of the province has been successful, and further progress has been made in education by the opening of an additional school for girls. Important judicial reforms have been promised by the Rao, and for the attainment of this object his Highness has secured the services of a trained Native judicial officer, who will also be his minister. Cholera made its appearance during the year, but, owing to the measures adopted by the Durbar, it was confined to a small compass, and the deaths were comparatively few. The prices of grain and other necessaries continued high.

Kutch.

Bheema Naik, who had for a long time disturbed the peace of the Sautpoora Hills, and had successfully evaded arrest, was apprehended in the Burwancee State during the past year.

Khandeish.

The question relating to the provision of the ex-Ameers of Scinde and their families has at length been finally settled. Allowances have been granted to the various persons entitled to consideration; but no grants of land were to be made under any circumstances; and, on the death of any such pensioner, the continuance or otherwise of the allowances thus lapsing to Government will be considered on the merits of each individual case.

Scinde.

REVENUE.

LAND REVENUE.	1865-66.	Eleven twelfths of 1865-66.	1866-67.
Number of Estates -	225,145	206,383	225,747
Total Demand -	£ 4,137,188	£ 3,792,422	£ 3,646,638
Collections -	3,765,451	3,442,497	3,341,987
Remissions -	31,520	23,893	11,672
Balances -	350,217	346,032	292,979
Advance Payments -	20,443	18,740	44,387

Customs.	1865-66.	Eleven twelfths of 1865-66.	1866-67.
Gross Collections from Merchandise -	£ 937,928	£ 859,767	£ 858,165
Receipts on Salt -	1,956,559	1,802,679	1,771,854
Total Receipts, including Wharf-rent, &c. -	2,922,613	2,679,061	2,613,597
Deduct Refund Drawbacks and Charges -	156,286	143,262	97,899
Net Revenue -	2,766,327	2,535,799	2,515,698

The annexed statement shows the Demands, Collections, Remissions, Balances, and Advance Payments on account of Land Revenue for the official year 1866-67 as compared with 1865-66. The falling off in the Collections was principally in the Cuttack Division, and attributable to special causes. The Remissions and Balances were less than in the preceding year, while on the other hand the Advance payments were greater.

Bengal.

The entire revenue from Customs is shown in the margin for the same period. The net revenue showing an increase of 10,199%, over eleven twelfths of the previous year. The gross Collection in Calcutta amounted to 2,575,931%, as compared with 2,645,842% in 1865-66, showing a decrease amounting to 69,911%.

The Government of India ordered a thorough revision of the Tariffs of Valuation throughout the whole of

India; a Committee was appointed, and on receipt of their report Act XVII. of 1867 was



was passed, by which the export duty on Grain of all kinds has been raised from two to three annas per maund, or 3*d.* to 4½*d.* for every 82 lbs. The export duty on Saltpetre, and the import duty on all Machinery, have been removed, while the import duty on Sparkling Wines and Liqueurs has been raised to 3*s.* per Imperial gallon.

SALT.	Eleven twelfths of 1865-66.	1866-67.
	Lbs.	Lbs.
Government Salt - - -	27,130,148	147,658,384
Excise Salt - - -	581,134	145,304
Imported Salt - - -	452,520,956	452,943,482
Total - - -	480,232,238	600,747,170

The total quantity of Salt cleared amounted to 600,747,170 lbs., exceeding by 120,514,932 lbs. the quantity cleared in the previous year. The net revenue amounted in the past year to 2,518,577*l.*, while in 1865-66 it was 2,198,449*l.*, showing an increase of 320,128*l.*, mainly attributable to the increased sales effected of Government Salt, and to a slight increase in the duty realised from im-

OPIMUM.	1865-66 (Eleven Months).	1866-67 (Eleven Months).
	£	£
Gross Receipts - - -	5,957,718	4,944,014
Gross Charges - - -	1,738,427	1,269,660
Net Revenue - - -	4,124,291	3,674,354

ported Salt, while the charges debitable to the latter had decreased by about 8 per cent. An Amendment of the Salt Law was under consideration of the Legislative Council at the close of the year under review, with the object of enabling all classes of Magistrates to try Salt cases.

The net revenue derived from Opium was 3,674,354*l.*, which, when compared with eleven twelfths of the previous year, showed a decrease of 449,937*l.* The aggregate decrease of revenue, including the reduction under the head of Abkarree, amounted to 454,657*l.*

OPIMUM.	1865-66 (Eleven Months).	1866-67 (Eleven Months).
	£	£
Chests sold - - -	51,343	38,680
Amount realized - - -	5,461,124	4,823,313

A similar comparison of the number and value of chests sold showed a decrease of 12,663 chests, with a value of 637,811*l.* In order to meet the requirements of revenue from this source, the Opium Agents at Behar and Benares have been authorized to extend the cultivation of Opium from 700,000 to 750,000 acres.

The main cause of the decrease of net revenue for the year in question is assignable to the same reason given in last year's report; namely, the reduced condition of the people, arising from the scarcity of food felt in so many districts.

The increase in the charges of Collection which was noticed in the Report of last year is assignable to similar causes, it having been found impossible to reduce the expenditure incurred in the collection of Excise and Income Tax together, in proportion to the revenue lost by the abandonment of the latter impost. The per-centage under this head had risen during the year under review from 6.5 to 7.8.

The revenue derived from sale of Stamps showed an increase over eleven twelfths of 1865-66 of 3,630*l.*; and of 355,623*l.* as compared with 1851-52, while the comparison with 1861-62 showed a decrease of 42,004*l.*

The expediency of revising the Stamp fees in judicial proceedings having been brought to the consideration of the Government of India, Act XXVI of 1867, was accordingly passed with this object.

The average amount of rain-fall was nearly four inches more than in the year preceding. The harvests on the whole were fair, though in certain districts not quite up to the average, and in one part a partial failure of the crops occurred from the want of early rain.

LAND REVENUE.	1865-66.	1866-67.
	£	£
Demand - - -	3,904,875	3,907,448
Collections - - -	3,836,393	3,849,812
Balance - - -	68,482	57,636

The Demand and Collection of Land Revenue both showed an increase, while the balance exhibited a decrease as compared with the previous year.

The outstanding Balances, which amounted to 546,679*l.* in 1863-64, have been reduced to 125,070*l.* in 1866-67; thus showing a gradual decrease during the last three years.

The



The number of Suits under the Rent Laws has again increased, there having been 64,935 suits against 60,813 in 1865-66.

The principles on which the permanent settlement of the Land Revenue of Estates effected by Canal irrigation is to be carried out have been under the consideration of the Government during the past year, and it has been finally ordered, "that no estate shall be permanently settled in which the actual cultivation amounts to less than 80 per cent. of the culturable area; and that no permanent settlement shall be concluded for any estate to which Canal irrigation is likely to be extended within the next 20 years, and the existing assets of which should thereby be increased in the proportion of 20 per cent." Instructions have accordingly been issued by the Board of Revenue and in the Irrigation Department.

The gross collections in Customs amounted to 1,123,670*l.*, as compared with 1,045,950*l.*, or eleven twelfths of 1865-66, showing an increase of 77,720*l.*

There have been none of the rapid fluctuations of trade observable in former years, consequently a steady increase appeared to have occurred in the receipts during each month of the year.

A satisfactory increase has to be noted also in the gross receipts realisable from Stamps, mainly under the head of Judicial Stamps.

Since the organization of the Central Provinces, the public Revenue has received full attention. There is now a Forest department, yielding a revenue of 40,000*l.* a year. The Salt Tax, which in 1861 afforded an income of 90,000*l.* annually, now realizes 180,000*l.* This increase has been gained without raising the duty or burdening the poor; indeed at the present time the retail price of salt at Nagpore is cheaper than it has been for the last seven years. The Liquor Excise Revenue has been placed on a sound footing, and every attempt to encourage intemperance has been done away with. The Stamp Revenue has been more than doubled during the last five years; and the burden of certain local assessed taxes, which used to press upon the poorer classes, has been transferred to the richer, with benefit to the people and the public treasury.

The public Revenue has been punctually realized during the past year. The total receipts were about 6 per cent. in excess of the income of the preceding year.

The total demand for Land Tax amounted to 646,170*l.*, being 89,589*l.* over the demand of the foregoing year. Out of this, 641,125*l.* were collected, leaving a balance uncollected of 5,045*l.*; but of this, 2,449*l.* only were realizable. The net balance, therefore, amounted to one third per cent., on the total demand, as compared with one half at the end of 1865-66.

The regular settlement in these Provinces progresses satisfactorily. Five additional districts have been completed, and two more (Chindwara and Upper Godavery) are very near to completion. There remain only Chutteesgurh, Chanda, Nimar, and Mundla in which operations have to be forwarded. In districts where settlements have been completed, a copy of the record of rights, and of the field survey of his estate, is placed in the hands of every landholder. The people now fully understand their rights, and appreciate the value of the record thus made over to them.

The total yield of the Salt and Sugar taxes may be compared thus: in 1865-66, 183,330*l.*; and in 1866-67, 160,653*l.* The decrease was owing to the temporary stoppage of imports during two months at the close of the year, which materially affected the receipts for the whole year. This is explained by the fact that the new arrangement for collecting the duty at the railway stations had not been matured. The completion of the railway to Nagpore is expected to give a large impetus to the trade in Bombay salt, and enable it to compete with the Madras salt, which comes in through another part of the country. Prompt measures have been taken to repress the system of smuggling, of which there was every appearance in the year 1865-66.

The total Excise Revenue was 97,554*l.*, as compared with 92,799*l.* in 1865-66. The increase was thus five per cent. in excess of the receipts of the foregoing year.

The improvement of the Excise Revenue by the adaptation of the central distillery system, especially in the Nerbudda Division, contrasts most favourably with the monopoly farm system in other districts. It has been ascertained that the liquor consumers of the open country can afford to pay higher rates, and accordingly the rates of still-head duty have been raised in such parts, while

the licenses for retail sale in towns and populous tracts have been put up to auction, and fetched high prices. Thus the revenue has increased without any corresponding increase of drinking, the moral and material benefits of which have been noticed by both European officers and impartial Natives, and are becoming more and more apparent among the hill tribes.

The gross receipts from stamps realized 57,343*l.*, against 57,384*l.* in the foregoing year. The provisions of the Stamp law are being more generally understood, and offenders were systematically punished. Prosecutions for such offences against the revenue rose from 985 in 1865-66 to 1,199 in 1866-67.

The Pandhari tax, which is an ancient impost, has now been placed upon a firm legal basis; a corresponding increase took place in this source of revenue from 22,612*l.* to 33,297*l.* in 1866-67.

Punjab.

The season of 1866-67 was drier in the Punjab than its predecessor; the average rainfall for the whole province having been 22.9 inches against 26.5 inches in 1865-66. The deficiency was confined to the latter half of the year. The want of rain during the winter was very general, causing distress in some parts of the country.

	1865-66.	1866-67.
Demand	£ 1,996,825	£ 1,960,723
Collections	1,941,975	1,944,575
Balances	24,850	16,147

The demand and collections of revenue for the past two years are shown in the accompanying table. The balances outstanding were less than in the previous year, of which 1,184*l.* only was recoverable. The land revenue of the province generally, save in one or two instances,

has been realized with facility, and with less arrears than in 1865-66. There has been a reduction of over 5,000*l.* in the regular revenue; in addition to which there was a further reduction of 15,000*l.* from the revised settlements in the Amritsur division, owing mainly to the system adopted of assessing canal villages at un-irrigated rates, allowing the canal department to reap the whole benefit of the share due to the Government from increased assets resulting from such irrigation; a measure which has not met with the approval of the Government of India. A considerable addition, however, to the revenue was expected during the current year, on re-assessment of these estates.

A great accession to revenue took place from sale of wood for railway and other public purposes.

The districts of Mooltan and Dera Ismail Khan suffered from drought during the past year, which necessitated a certain amount of relief; and it was expected that the balances of revenue in Peshawur would have to be remitted in consequence of the inundations which occurred in that district.

Of the financial results of the new settlement operations that have been carried on of late years in the Punjab, it appears that the immediate result for the districts of Goordaspore, Amritsur, and Sealkote in the Amritsur division would be a net decrease of revenue to the extent of 4,540*l.*, but which decrease would disappear within 15 years, and be converted into an increase of 4,041*l.*, and after 15 years to an increase of 5,257*l.* over the amount of last settlement. In the districts of Lahore, Goojerat, and Goojeranwala, which were in course of settlement, there will be an immediate increase of revenue of 16,500*l.* on a present assessment of 16,200*l.*, which increase will be enhanced by 8,000*l.* within 15 years, and by 4,500*l.* more after 15 years. The net result of the assessment of the six districts assessed up to date will be, in round numbers, an immediate increase of revenue of 16,400*l.*, with an ultimate increase after 15 years of 35,000*l.*, upon an aggregate revenue of 497,300*l.* The net cost of these settlement operations was estimated at 55,000*l.*, so that the entire cost to Government was expected to be recovered in three years from the enhanced revenue obtained.

Of the other branches of revenue of this province there has been a corresponding increase under each item, the aggregate collection of which amounted to 1,085,185*l.* in 1865-66, and 1,144,173*l.* in 1866-67, thus showing an increase of 58,988*l.*

Hyderabad  
assigned  
districts.

The area of cultivated land in the assigned districts of Hyderabad was 4,592,228 acres, being 374,859 in excess of the quantity in the previous year, or equal to nine per cent. The land revenue demand rose from 397,144*l.* to 425,431*l.*, thus exhibiting an increase of 28,287*l.*, which had been collected without the slightest difficulty. The arrears only amounted to 1,188*l.*, of which about 156*l.* were said to be irrecoverable. Advances and remissions on account of revenue are unheard

of

of in these parts, and land is eagerly sought for. In 1866 the average prices of grain reached their highest points, and a sensible reduction was felt in the year following.

The revenue from excise duties amounted to 107,137*l.*, being 27,563*l.* in excess of the previous year; the outstanding balances at the close of the year amounted only to 540*l.* During the year the excise regulations were thoroughly revised, and the cultivation of opium was likewise regulated for the first time by a system of license. The total area under poppy cultivation was 3,902 acres, with a tendency to increase; the quality was pronounced to be excellent, and it commanded a high price in the market.

These districts will in future be included in the great salt cordon which stretches from the North of India to the Godavery, known as the Imperial Customs line. Heretofore this line was drawn at the banks of the Wurdah river. The revenue from the sales of manufactured salt showed a decrease of 2,497*l.*

The income derived from stamps was 26,187*l.*, against 23,767*l.* in the previous year, being an increase of 2,420*l.*

The gross revenues of this province rose from 509,019*l.* to 577,417*l.* in 1866-67, an increase equal to 13 per cent. The increase in revenue during the last six years was estimated at 80 per cent.

The total revenue for the Province of British Burmah would appear to have fallen greatly in the official year ended 31st March 1867, but when compared with eleven twelfths of the previous year there will be a small increase of 2,826*l.* This comparatively small increase was attributed to a reduction in the revenue from forests, amounting to 35,127*l.*, arising from the disturbances in Upper Burmah and the depressed state of the timber trade. In all other items of revenue there seems to have been an increase, particularly in Excise, Stamps, and Land.

1865-66, Twelve Months.	1866-67, Eleven Months.
£ 1,001,453	£ 920,825

British  
Burmah.

	1865-66.	1866-67.
Revenue	£ 6,331,713	£ 5,621,374
Charges	666,856	620,353

The revenue in Madras amounted to 5,621,374*l.*, being 182,696*l.* less than eleven twelfths of the revenue of the preceding year. This decrease was due to the effect of a disastrous season, and to the almost complete cessation of collections on account of arrears of Income tax. The charges for

Madras.

collection during the same period were 11 per cent. on the revenue, and exceeded those for the preceding year by 9,068*l.* This excess is accounted for by an increase to the service generally, principally in the Forest and Land Revenue establishments.

The drought which prevailed during the first half of the year 1866-67 created such a distress and suffering as had not been experienced since 1832, and, combined with the two preceding years having been unfavourable for agriculture, led to a famine in the Ganjam and Bellary districts, and happily the north-west monsoon, which commences in October, having brought a plentiful supply of rain, the prospects of the districts changed for the better. In the latter of the districts, a fifth of the number of cattle perished from want of water and pasture, and prices of grain rose correspondingly high; but in spite of these disadvantages the area under cultivation increased by 70,998 acres, though the assessment decreased by 8,472*l.*

There was a slight diminution in the receipts from the Timber customs, arising from the depressed state of the trade in the French territories. The revision of the Revenue establishments, which was concluded during the year under review, led to a net saving of 78,544*l.* per annum.

	1865-66.	1866-67.
Town and Island of Bombay	£ 7,724	£ 7,702
Southern Division	1,184,503	1,132,881
Northern Division	1,318,182	1,429,123
Sind	356,853	292,135
Total	2,867,262	2,861,841

The Land Revenue for the whole of the Bombay Presidency showed a decrease amounting to 5,421*l.*, which was slight, considering the period under review. The decrease in the Southern Division was assigned partly to a change in the dates fixed for the collection of the revenue instalments *in part*. In one district the decrease was occasioned by the commutation rates fixed for the Govern-

Bombay.

ment Grain revenue having been lower than in the preceding year.

The whole of the increase in the Northern Division is due to extended cultivation and enhancement of assessment leviable in those Talookas which have been brought under the Revenue Survey Settlement.

1865-66.	1866-67.
£ 592,014	£ 544,362

Of the other branches of revenue there has been a decrease under the head of Sayer Revenue, realizable for the whole Presidency, including Sind, amounting to 47,652*l*. This decrease was general throughout, and was partly due to the change of the official year and partly to the abolition of the Income tax, with the exception of one district in the

Southern Division, where the increase was due to a large revenue having been derived from forests and other miscellaneous items. Throughout the Northern Division there was an increase under this head, amounting to 6,942*l*.

	1865-66.	1866-67.
	£	£
Customs	774,633	707,722
Salt	535,331	373,372
Opium	2,127,360	1,852,140
Miscellaneous	74,975	65,748
Total	3,512,299	2,998,982

The decrease in Customs duty amounted to 66,909*l*., of which 46,894*l*. was on Imports, and 20,015*l*. on Exports. The falling off in the latter is attributable to the general depression of trade. The decrease in Salt revenue was owing to fewer removals of salt, in consequence of a very large quantity having been taken away in the previous year, in anticipation of the increase in the

rate of duty, which came into force at the early part of 1865. The number of chests on which fees were levied were 30,869, against 36,200 in 1865-66, being less by 5,331. The revenue derived therefrom was proportionally less by 275,220*l*.

#### FORESTS.

Bengal.

The attention of the Forest Department in Bengal has been almost entirely confined to the forests of Sikhim during the past year. The difficulty in procuring labour has been overcome, and the wages of coolies have been less than in the previous year. A License system has been introduced to prevent the needless waste in the cutting of canes, which grow at an elevation of about 5,000 feet above the level of the sea. Licenses have also been granted for the collection of wax and lac.

During the months of March and April numerous fires annually occur in these forests, but by cutting away narrow strips of jungle along the sides of roads, the progress of this destructive element has been effectually checked. Boundary pillars have been erected in those districts where no natural limits for the reserved forests exist in the Terai.

The damage sustained by the forests in the Bhootan Division has been very great from the fact of the Bhootan Government leasing large tracts to zemindars, who sublet to timber merchants without any restriction. In order to obviate this evil these forests have been brought under the control of the Government of India.

North-west Provinces.

The operations of this Department in the North-west Provinces have consisted principally in carrying out a new system of conservancy, as mentioned in last year's report (page 8). The actual Revenue for 1866-67 was 56,777*l*., and the Expenditure 31,475*l*., which, after deducting a deficit of 2,993*l*. for the Meerut and Gurwhal Districts, leaves a net Revenue of 25,302*l*.

In the Meerut Division it has been found necessary to extend the width of the boundary clearings from 10 to 40 feet, in consequence of the branches of trees on each side growing over and the jungle springing up. It is expected that in a very short time the heavy expenditure in this Division for making the necessary roads will cease, and conservancy will then be carried on at a moderate cost.

An Assistant Conservator of Forests has been appointed to the Goruckpore District, in the Benares Division. The value of timber obtained by thinning and clearing the forests of dead trees will more than cover the expenditure of the operations undertaken. These forests are expected to supply hereafter a large quantity of valuable timber for building purposes.

Central Provinces.

The forests of the Central Provinces extend over an area of about 23,000 square miles, and are classed as reserved and unreserved forests. The demarcation of the former has now been brought almost to a conclusion. In the more important tracts these reserves are in full working order, and the people of the country thoroughly understand the rules for conservancy, making no attempt to trespass

trespass nor to injure the trees. Growing trees have been spared so as to keep in view the requirements of future years.

The most noteworthy explorations of the past year were made in the Chanda District; arrangements are being made to work these forests under special agreement, which will give to the proprietors a considerable revenue, and secure at the same time a regular supply of first-rate timber for the Nagpore and Godavery Valley markets.

The system of working the unreserved forests has now become consolidated, except in the Chutteesgurh Division, where the demarcation of the boundaries between Government wastes and private estates has not yet been completed. The right of collecting forest produce is let out annually, the leases being taken up by the leading residents of the nearest tracts; thus a revenue to Government has been obtained with the least amount of inconvenience to the people of the country. A remarkable concurrence of testimony exists among all District officials, to the effect that the people have everywhere become accustomed to, and are satisfied with, the Forest Laws. Prosecutions for breach of these rules were exceedingly rare, and complaints of their stringency seldom heard.

		Net Profit.
		£
1864-65	-	10,808
1865-66	-	13,716
1866-67	-	23,985

The financial results of the past year, comprising only eleven months, have proved highly satisfactory as compared with the twelve months of previous years.

The plan of working the forests of British Burmah by Government contractors and permit-holders was still continued. The quantity of teak timber brought to the seaports from British territory showed a decrease of 14,279 logs when compared with the previous year, which is attributable to the distance the timber has to be dragged to the water, to the increased cost of removal, and to the short supply of water. The foreign timber brought down by the rivers Salween, Irrawaddy, and Sittang shows a proportionately larger decrease, as will be seen in the margin; the causes for which have already been given at page 37.

British Burmah.

		Logs.
1865	-	126,382
1866	-	69,538

		1866-67.
		£
Receipts	-	42,649
Disbursements	-	28,513

The financial operations show a satisfactory result, leaving a net revenue of 14,136 $\frac{1}{2}$ l., to which should be added sundry receipts appertaining to the year's transaction of 14,156 $\frac{1}{2}$ l., making the result for the eleven months ending 31st March 1867 amount to 28,292 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. as a gross net receipt.

The general condition of the Forest Department in the Punjab, and the attention paid to conservancy, have improved. The timber results for a year, with no good floods, and officially only lasting 11 months, are stated to be satisfactory. As many as 22,600 holes were planted during the past year, towards the artificial reproduction of the deodar. Planting for fuel in the plains has been extended, and about 3,000 acres have now been operated upon, under the orders of the Conservator of Forests, with a fair measure of success. It is expected that by 1875 a sufficient area will so have been planted, as to ensure against a dearth of wood fuel, along the whole line of railway from Mooltan to the Jumna.

Punjab.

The system of Forest Conservancy in the Hyderabad assigned districts is similar to that in practice in the Central Provinces. The total revenue from this source has risen from 2,130 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. to 5,172 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. in 1866-67; and has been mainly obtained from a tax levied on wood brought for sale from unreserved forests, and from grazing leases. This tax, though appearing at first sight somewhat hard, is practically not felt by the inhabitants, who have always been accustomed to some impost on wood brought to market, the right to levy which had been frequently conceded by the Mahomedan Government to the marauding tribes on the hills, as a species of black mail. The amount realised from sale of Government timber was but small.

Hyderabad assigned districts.

Her Majesty's Government have acceded to the requisition for a trained forester from Scotland for these forests, on the recommendation of the Government of India, and a competent person has been sent out accordingly.

The receipts in the Forest Department for the Madras Presidency were larger than those of the previous year, the net revenue amounting to about 12,200 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. A large quantity of timber was sold during the year, and the value of the

Madras.

stock at the depôts was less than at the end of 1865-66 by 1,112 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Specimens of the most valuable kind of timber were supplied to the Paris Exhibition.

The total net surplus of actual receipts over charges since the creation of this Department in 1856-57, including the value of timber in stock on 31st March 1867, shows an ultimate gain to Government, amounting to 185,804 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; thus a most valuable public property has been brought under conservancy, the vast timber resources of the country have been carefully developed, and the interests of the State and of the public have been protected from risks which were daily assuming greater magnitude, and which until lately scarcely attracted attention.

Bombay.

	1865-66.	1866-67.
Receipts	£ 73,035	£ 56,894
Expenditure	63,392	50,070

In the Bombay Presidency the forest receipts fell short of that of the previous year by 16,141 $\frac{1}{2}$ , while there was an improvement in the expenditure, being less by 13,322 $\frac{1}{2}$ . The net balance to Government was 6,824 $\frac{1}{2}$  against 9,643 $\frac{1}{2}$  in 1865-66.

The deficiency in the Revenue was assigned to the generally depressed state of trade, which created but a small demand for timber during the year under review.

## WASTE LANDS.

Bengal.

The number of grants for waste lands in the Bengal Presidency, under the old rules, made during the year 1866-7, was 23, with an area of 80,078 acres, the eventual maximum revenue of which will be 2,249 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; the total number of these grants up to the end of the year was 549, possessing an area of 1,315,778 acres, the eventual maximum income of which will be 39,051 $\frac{1}{2}$ . The present revenue received was 2,902 $\frac{1}{2}$ , realized from 724,743 acres granted in the Soonderbuns. The remaining grants, to make up the total of 1,315,778 acres, were effected in the tea districts of Assam, Cachar, and Sylhet.

The number of grants under the old rules redeemed was 16, with an area of 32,131 acres, for which the price of commutation already paid amounted to 4,098 $\frac{1}{2}$ , leaving a balance due of 4,486 $\frac{1}{2}$ . The aggregate number of grants redeemed up to the end of 1866-67 was 95, with an area of 242,676 acres, for which the price of commutation received was 25,482 $\frac{1}{2}$ , while a balance of 33,852 $\frac{1}{2}$  remained to be paid.

Very few sales of waste land were effected, as compared with previous years; the total number of lots sold had been 620, with an area of 641,293 acres, and the price already paid amounted to 66,364 $\frac{1}{2}$ , leaving a balance of 267,104 $\frac{1}{2}$  to be paid.

The cultivation leases taken up under the ordinary settlement rules were 761, up to the end of the year under review; covering an area of 103,370 acres, the present income of which was 7,035 $\frac{1}{2}$ , and the eventual maximum revenue will be 10,196 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

As the rates, and in some matters, the particulars of the leases, vary in different districts, the general principles upon which cultivation leases have been granted are as follow :

In Chittagong the rate is one anna or 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  $\frac{1}{2}$  per acre for the first five years, increasing a like sum for each similar term until the sixth quinquennial period of the whole term of lease of 30 years, when the rate will be 6 annas or ninepence per acre.

In the districts of Cachar and Sylhet the rate is rent free for the first three years; 4 $\frac{1}{2}$  $\frac{1}{2}$  per acre for the next five years; 9 $\frac{1}{2}$  for the second, and 1s. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$  for the third period of five years each; and 3s. per acre for the last twelve of the 30 years for which time the leases have been granted.

In Darjeeling the term of lease is for ten years only, of which two are rent free and for the remaining eight years the rate has been fixed at ninepence per acre.

In Assam, where there is a vast extent of waste lands, there are no fixed rates. The practice here is for any one to break up waste land at pleasure, paying only a fixed minimum rent for whatever land is cultivated. If the lands are retained the cultivator obtains at once a transferable title, subject to any tax that the Government may impose; but the lands may be relinquished without any responsibility, at the option of the cultivator,

With a view of affording relief to owners of tea plantations who had been suffering from the depreciation of their property, a somewhat exceptional rule has been laid down, by which the sale of a lot purchased prior to 1st January 1867, which has become liable to be sold for arrears of purchase money and interest, was held to be a sufficient satisfaction of the claims of Government against the defaulting purchaser on account of such lot; and a purchaser of more than one lot was permitted, on application before 1st July 1867, to relinquish any entire lot, and to transfer all sums paid on behalf thereof to the credit of other lots in his occupation, the payments for which had not been then completed.

In the Central Provinces the area of Government waste lands extends over 24,000 square miles. During the past year 46,262 acres had been sold in fee simple under the waste lands sale rules; the price realized was 12,889*l.*, or an average of 4*s.* 2*d.* an acre. Central Provinces.

But little waste land appears to have been sold in British Burmah, extending to 4,586 acres in the Tenasserim division only. But grants, under the rules of March 1865, had been made in the Pegu division to the extent of 55,413 acres under certain stipulations, during the past year. Further grants have been suspended until the Government of this province has been able to observe the use made of the privileges allowed under these rules. British Burmah.

The sales of waste lands in the Madras Presidency have been also of a limited character, amounting to about 2,274 acres. Madras.

#### FINANCE.

The income for the 11 months of the official year ended on 31st March 1867 amounted to 42,012,566*l.* against 48,935,220*l.* in 1865-66; and the expenditure was 44,639,924*l.* as compared with 46,169,152*l.* in the previous year. The surplus in 1865-66 of 2,766,068*l.* was therefore followed by a deficit of nearly equal amount in the year under review. Of the total expenditure in 1866-67, the sum disbursed in India was 37,094,406*l.*, and 6,814,469*l.* in England, to which must be added 731,049*l.* paid partly in India and partly in England, on account of guaranteed interest of Railway and other companies, after deducting the net traffic receipts. The expenditure had increased under the heads of army, public works, telegraphs, and marine. Receipts and Disbursements.

An increase has been made to the debt of India in this country, amounting to 2,592,600*l.* during the past year. This was effected by an addition to the bond debt of 1,932,700*l.*, a further issue of 130,000*l.* debentures, and an increase of 529,900*l.* to the capital of the five per cent. stock. The four per cent. debenture bonds, which became due during the year, were renewed at five per cent. Debt.

The amount of the public debt in India has also increased from 71,437,251*l.* to 72,526,815*l.* at the close of 1866-67; and the amount of cash balances in the treasuries of India was 11,057,054*l.* against 13,771,625*l.* at the close of the previous year.

The circulation of Government currency notes throughout India at the commencement of the year was 7,020,254*l.*, and at its close it amounted to 8,090,868*l.*, thus showing an increase in circulation during the year of 1,070,614*l.* The maximum circulation was 10,160,959*l.*, which was covered by 5,762,514*l.* in coin; 755,504*l.* in bullion; and 3,642,941*l.* in Government securities. The minimum circulation was 7,871,897*l.*, and the average was 8,989,317*l.* as compared with an average of 7,784,060*l.* in 1865-66, being an increase of 1,205,257*l.* The extensive use by the public, of notes of the branch circles in India, for the purposes of remittance to the Presidency towns, formed a marked feature in the transactions of the past year. These notes were cashed at the head office, and have been issued to persons requiring them in any amounts desired. Orders were issued by Government to facilitate the conversion of currency notes at Government treasuries. In the Bombay circle the amount of notes in circulation during the past year was liable to violent fluctuations, arising from the unsettled state of monetary affairs, and from the depression of trade generally. Paper Currency.

The business of exchanging notes was transferred from the Presidency banks to the Government on the 1st March 1867. The saving to the State by this change was expected to be considerable.

No returns of the operations of the Calcutta Mint for 1866-67 have as yet been received. Mint.



## STATEMENT SHOWING THE MORAL AND

	1865-66.	1866-67.
	£	£
Value of— Silver coined	544,994	148,079
Copper coined	95,644	19,500
Total	640,638	167,579

In regard to the Coinage the past year appears to have been an exceptional one in Madras. The receipt of bullion fell much below the average of many years, in consequence of the great decrease in the export of cotton, and the unfavourable rate of exchange in England, which rendered it more advantageous to purchase bills for remittance from England than to transmit bullion; hence the limited character of the Mint operations. For the first time in the history of this Mint, rupees were exported as bullion to England during the year.

	1865-66.	1866-67.
	£	£
Value of— Mint Certificates issued	7,530,434	1,895,940
New coins paid into General Treasury	7,020,900	2,563,440

At Bombay also the Mint operations were of a limited character. The table annexed gives the amount of Mint certificates issued, and of the money coined, for the past two years. The excess of the new coin over the amount of certificates granted during the year under review is the coinage of unworked Government bullion which was on the Mint balance at the close of the year 1865-66.

The License tax, which was introduced at the close of 1866-67, and which is referred to under the head of "Legislation" in the earlier pages of this Report, has been modified, and assumes now more the form of a tax on income.

## PUBLIC WORKS.

Bengal.

The hindrance occasioned to the prosecution of public works in Bengal in 1865-66 by the paucity of officers available for such employment during the Bootan campaign was mentioned in the Report (page 16) for that year; and in 1866-67 the work was paralyzed by a similar scarcity of officers in many places, owing to the great demand on the establishment occasioned by the relief works in Orissa, and that not merely by the number sent to that province, but also by the fact that those selected were picked men for the work. The Superintending Engineer of the Cuttack Circle was left free to give his undivided attention to the relief and embankment operations in Orissa, and the duties of Consulting Engineer to Government in respect of the East India Irrigation Company were reserved for a separate officer.

The water supply of Fort William has been brought into active operation. About 4,000 persons are daily furnished with a supply of 16 gallons per head, which, including all such uses as watering roads, flushing drains, &c., is a much smaller quantity than was anticipated. The cost of the water is about one fifth of that which would be paid for the same quantity supplied by water-carriers. It is now no longer necessary to employ for any purpose the brackish water of the river.

The enlargement of the Cartridge and Percussion Cap Factory at Dum-dum has been completed, and good progress has been made in remodelling the Gunpowder Factory at Ishapore.

The Sailors' Home for unemployed seamen has been completed, and as soon as the arrangements for the out-offices are finished possession will be taken of the building.

	1865-66.	1866-67.
	£	£
Imperial outlay	761,501	779,695
From local funds	163,585	98,247
By civil officers	118,455	88,800
Total	1,043,541	966,742

The plans and estimates for the central jails in Bengal are still under consideration, but it is feared that the climate will not admit of their being constructed of such cheap materials as those in the North-west Provinces. The Central Penitentiary for European convicts at Hazareebaugh is nearly complete.

The expenditure on account of public works in Bengal was less by 78,799*l.* than in the previous year.

The aggregate expenditure on public works in the North-west Provinces exceeded that of the previous year by 69,697*l.*, this increase having been in the outlay from the Imperial Treasury. In addition to the expenditure from local funds, a sum of 7,108*l.* was defrayed by private individuals on works of public utility. These consisted chiefly of

North-west  
Provinces.

	1865-66.	1866-67.
	£	£
Imperial outlay	578,900	704,496
Local outlay	204,208	148,309
Total	783,108	852,805



of wells alongside some road. As many as 195 such wells were constructed during the past year.

The principal military works in hand during the past year were the completion of new barracks at Agra and Morar for artillery, also some new barracks in the fortress of Gwalior. Final orders as to the size of the infantry lines for the new cantonment at Nowgong having been received, the construction of the buildings has been taken in hand.

Of civil works, new central jails were in course of construction at Benares, Allahabad, Futtchgurh, Bareilly, and Agra. The public offices at Allahabad have been delayed in consequence of certain ironwork required from England. No progress worth noting has been effected in the completion of the memorial church at Cawnpore, in consequence of the want of a qualified assistant as superintendent of the work, the executive engineer's time having been fully occupied in another channel.

A landslip occurred at the Mohund Pass on the road from Roorkee to Dehra, which overthrew one of the wings of a tunnel. At first it was determined not to restore it; but the treacherous nature of the soil prevented the execution of the work in open cutting, and tunnelling was found to be necessary. This work was successfully completed without any accident. The whole of the road between Agra and Bombay is now open, and the only works remaining are those necessary to prevent interruption to traffic in wet weather. Satisfactory progress has also been made in the Bundelcund roads during the past year.

	1865-66.	1866-67.
Imperial outlay	£ 895,901	£ 927,642
Local outlay	25,250	115,000
Total	£ 421,151	£ 442,642

The expenditure on public works in the Central Provinces was greater than in the preceding year by 21,491*l.*, the increase being due to the large amount expended by the several local and municipal committees.

Central Provinces.

The heaviest expenditure for military buildings appears to have occurred at Jubbulpore, Saugor, Kamptee, and Nagpore, and good progress is reported on the works in hand. The Government of India having sanctioned the improvement of the defences of the fort at Seetabuldee, with permanent accommodation for the European garrison, the works have been commenced.

In civil works very satisfactory progress has been made in the advancement of the four central jails at Nagpore, Jubbulpore, Hoshungabad, and Raipore, in the construction of which convict labour appears to have been utilized to the utmost, with good financial results. The construction of permanent police buildings has been in abeyance, waiting a revision of standard plans. A handsome post office near the railway station at Nagpore was expected to have been completed in August 1867, and a new telegraph office at Jubbulpore is well advanced.

Among the miscellaneous and municipal improvements which have been commenced or completed during 1866-67 may be enumerated schemes for supply of water to the towns of Nagpore and Hinghughat, a town hall at Jubbulpore, a clock tower at Hurdah, market places at Toomsur, Seonee, and Baitool. In addition to these, the example that has been set by public bodies towards improving street architecture, opening broad streets and squares in chief towns, has stimulated private individuals toward similar exertions, and it is reported there is hardly a town of any importance but has its drinking fountain, well, schoolhouse, dispensary, or some public building erected by private munificence.

Great efforts have been made towards completing the Godavery navigation works up to the first barrier, which, when finished, as it was expected to be by June of this year (1868), will throw open the river for use to a distance of 220 miles from the sea.

	1865-66.	1866-67.
From Imperial Revenues	£ 583,818	£ 702,226
Local Funds	180,560	169,549
Total	764,378	871,775

The expenditure in the Punjab had increased by 107,397*l.* Of the whole sum assigned for this purpose a large proportion, or about one half, was expended on works connected with military buildings, roads, and bridges; and as much as 50,000*l.* had been disbursed on account of miscellaneous

Punjab.

public improvements out of local funds.

A sum of 77,950*l.* had been expended on Public Works in the Hyderabad assigned districts, against 65,928*l.* in 1865-66; the bulk of which was for civil buildings

Hyderabad assigned districts.

buildings and local works, amounting together to 45,051*l.*, and as much as 22,534*l.* was spent in the construction of necessary roads required for these districts, in which satisfactory progress has been made, considering the difficulties existing in the black yielding soil of Berar. Of the Civil buildings completed may be mentioned two court houses, with offices attached; a jail capable of containing 500 prisoners, and several police stations, &c. The municipal expenditure of the past year amounted to 32,755*l.*, but the work was generally of a petty nature. The only city of any size or consequence is Oomrawuttee, where several large schemes have been taken up. Conservancy establishments have been maintained in all towns of any size or importance; and in most parts of Berar the number of local schemes pressing for early execution was very great.

Burmah.

During 1865, partly from want of labour, and partly from causes over which there was no control, public works in British Burmah had been much impeded, but in the following year satisfactory progress had been made under all heads except military.

	1865-66.	1866-67.
Imperial outlay - - -	£ 182,081	£ 183,066
Local outlay - - -	30,788	67,000
Total - - -	212,869	250,066
Imperial outlay for Port Blair - - -	45,006	28,984

The expenditure in British Burmah during the last two years contrasted favourably, particularly in comparing the outlay on local works with that in the previous year, which may be considered sufficient evidence of the energy displayed in pushing on improvements during the year under review.

Among the miscellaneous public improvements which have taken place in these provinces, at the expense, principally, of the municipalities, it may be stated that at Rangoon, besides the construction of roads, streets, and drains, planting and watering of trees, &c., the whole expenditure for the eleven months ended 31st March 1867, for municipal improvements, amounted to 33,000*l.*, nearly at the rate of 3,000*l.* a month, which was considered a very large sum for so young a town to afford. The main pier at Akyab has been completed, and has already been used by ships.

Madras.

Expenditure.	1865-66.	1866-67.
Imperial outlay - - -	£ 639,684	£ 620,400
From local sources - - -	54,133	84,209
Total - - -	693,817	704,609

In the Presidency of Madras as much as 704,609*l.* had been expended on works of public utility, exceeding the outlay during twelve months of the previous year by 10,792*l.* The imperial outlay, as shown in the margin, does not include advances to civil officers.

Rates of labour increased in almost all the districts, in consequence of the high prices of the common necessaries of life.

The new Central Jail at Rajahmundry has been completed, also one at Coimbatore.

#### RAILWAYS.

Several events occurred during 1866-67, both in England and in India, to disturb the progress of railways. In this country financial disasters tended much to check the raising of capital, and in India commercial difficulties interfered with the development of traffic. At the same time, however, the construction of lines of railway was not allowed to be impeded by the deficiency of funds of some of the companies, the Government having readily come forward with the necessary advances.

At the commencement of the year 1866 there were 3,331 miles of railway completed, since then 306 additional lines had been finished, making a total of 3,637 miles open for traffic on 1st May 1867; and leaving 2,005 miles to complete the net work of railways sanctioned for India. An addition of 7,750,000*l.* had been made to the capital expenditure, which on the 1st April 1867 reached a total of nearly 68,000,000*l.* The materials sent out during the year under review amounted to 326,845 tons, of the value of 2,658,357*l.* The aggregate quantity of goods sent, for the use of railways in India, from this country, had reached 3,195,862 tons on 1st January 1867, costing about 20,200,000*l.* in round numbers.

The following table exhibits very favourably the traffic operations of all the railways in India for the past two years.

The

Years ended 30th June	Gross Receipts.	Working Expenses.	Net Receipts.	Number of Passengers.	Receipts from	
					Passengers.	Goods, &c.
1866	£ 4,537,235	£ 2,225,495	£ 2,311,740	12,867,000	£ 1,278,580	£ 3,091,723
1867	4,898,727	2,563,309	2,335,418	13,738,472	1,446,426	3,314,903

The Indian Branch Railway has now become a guaranteed Company, and its designation has been changed to that of the "Oude and Rohilcund Railway Company, Limited." A portion of their line, from Lucknow to Cawnpore, was opened for traffic in May of last year.

The line of railway between Allahabad and Jubbulpore, a distance of nearly 90 miles, was also opened for traffic on the 1st August 1867, but in consequence of the failure of some of the works, the opening of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway, which joins the East Indian line at the latter place, and which was expected to have been finished by the close of 1868, has been delayed.

A serious accident occurred on the Great Indian Peninsula Railway by the fall of the Mhow-kee-Mullee viaduct on the 19th July last, which might have terminated more disastrously, but fortunately no loss of life or injury to any person was experienced. Every means were taken restore the communication without loss of time. This viaduct formed part of the Bhore Ghat incline, the traffic on which had been conducted since 1863, and originally cost something under 45,000*l.* The new viaduct, which is to replace it, is estimated to cost about 36,000*l.*

Her Majesty's Government have sanctioned the construction of a new passenger station or terminus at the Presidency town in consequence of the increasing growth of the traffic on the Madras railway. An eligible site near the people's park, and not far from the company's present goods station, has been selected, and the ground has been cleared for the purpose. The removal of this terminus to a more central locality will enable the traffic operations, both in goods and passengers, being conducted with greater economy and convenience.

The Government Director of the Indian Railway Companies (~~Mr. Juland~~ Danvers) in his report for 1866-67 writes that "in spite of commercial depression and monetary disasters, of drought and famine, of unprecedented floods and destructive inundations, the works under construction have steadily progressed and the traffic has increased. A larger expenditure has taken place than in several proceeding years, the revenue has been greater than at any previous time, and the effects of the railways upon the general prosperity of the country have been abundantly manifested, whether regarded in relation to its material progress, to the comfort and convenience of the people, or to their social improvement."

#### TELEGRAPHS.

The total number of miles of Government Telegraph throughout India open on 31st March 1867 was 13,371, of which 11,826 miles were single lines. The amount of capital, including the outlay, during the year, was 1,081,676*l.* The total receipts for the year amounted to 142,978*l.*, and the expenditure for maintenance and repair, &c. was 136,275*l.*, thus leaving a profit of 6,703*l.* The number of messages transmitted was 29,444 on account of Government, 239,422 private, and 10,200 free messages, making an aggregate of 279,066 messages. The value of messages transmitted was 103,490*l.*, against 102,021*l.* in 1865-66, being an increase of 1,471*l.* This increase appears to have been smaller than was expected, and is attributable partly to the peculiar stagnation of trade during the year. The average cost of a message was 7*s.* 8*d.*

The number of Indo-European messages amounted to 24,455, giving a monthly average of 2,223, against a total number of 27,517 and a monthly average of 2,293 in the preceding year.

A new system of accounts, similar to that in use in the Public Works Department, has been established, by which a more speedy audit and adjustment of

subordinate officers accounts has been attained, besides enabling a better check being kept on expenditure by the head office.

In June 1866 an attempt was made by a wealthy banker in Ajmeer to bribe the telegraph officer in charge, to divulge the information contained in the opium messages received at that station. It was duly reported, and the offenders were subsequently convicted, and punished by a fine of 400*l.*, with six months imprisonment. The Government employés were rewarded for their conduct on the occasion.

The new cable between India and Ceylon was successfully laid in January 1867 in two sections, the one, being 29 miles in length, was laid across Palk's Straits from Talamanaar Point in Ceylon to the temple of Rameseram on the Indian side, from this last point a land line is carried across the island of Rameseram to the Paumbem telegraph office, a distance of about 10 miles, whence two separate cables, each a mile and a half in length, cross the channel completing the communication with the main land. The tests that were applied after the cable was laid gave very satisfactory results.

During 1866-67 a second wire was completed between Deesa and Hyderabad in Sind, a distance of 319 miles, in the short space of three months. This line forms part of the two main lines to Bombay and Calcutta, and will ultimately no doubt require four lines as the traffic on them increases.

Besides the foregoing, the line from Deesa to Ahmedabad, 98 miles in length, was also fitted with two wires, as was also the section from Bombay to Surat, of 168 miles.

The line between Kurrachee and Hyderabad had also been doubled during the year under review. It is expected that this section will be obliged to have six wires, in consequence of the whole of the Indo-European traffic passing along it. In the completion of the double line between Kurrachee and Bombay, that portion between Ahmedabad and Surat by Broach was expected to be finished in May 1867.

At Deesa, where the Indo-European messages for Calcutta will branch off via Agra, a distance of 473 miles, so as to complete the communication, a second wire has been erected. The old line of telegraph from Allahabad to Agra, 324 miles in length, formerly conducted along the grand trunk road via Cawnpore to Futtehgurh, thence by Mynpoory to Agra, has been removed, and a new line has been constructed alongside the railway, by which a saving of 44 miles has been effected; and a new line containing four wires has also been completed between Allahabad and Mogul Seraie, a distance of 102 miles.

In Bombay town the signal office has been removed from Colaba to the Fort, a change which has been highly appreciated, as one of great public convenience.

The only important work in Madras Division was the completion of the Hyderabad and Bezwarrah line, which had to be thoroughly reconstructed.

In the Central Provinces an entirely new line of telegraph has been constructed along the road between Nagpore and Chanda, a distance of 103 miles, with a branch to Hinghunghat, which is the principal cotton mart in these parts. At this last place a telegraph office was opened early in 1866, affording great convenience to the cotton trade, whence a telegram was despatched to Liverpool, reaching its destination in 38 hours.

Telegraphic communication was much interrupted during the past year in British Burmah, arising from injuries caused by jungle fires, storms, or wild beasts. A new cable has been laid between Moulmein and Martaban.

#### IRRIGATION AND CANALS.

A large quantity of work has been done to the embankments in Orissa, partly in consequence of the necessity for affording relief to the distressed population, and partly on account of the great damage done by the unusual floods.

With the view of properly regulating and controlling the large streams of that province, and of deciding what works should be entrusted to the East India Irrigation Company, a committee, consisting of the Commissioner of the division, the Chief Engineer of the Company, and the Superintending Engineer of the Cuttack Circle, was appointed to report on the subject; and survey parties were authorized for the collection of the necessary data.

The

The better regulation of the floods of the Damoodah, Roopnarain, Selye, and Cossye rivers has also engaged the attention of the Government; and Lieutenant Heywood was employed in the cold season to explore the upper reaches of the Damoodah and its tributaries.

The works of the East India Irrigation and Canal Company have made considerable progress, with the assistance of the funds advanced for this purpose from the Government treasuries. The principal works in course of construction are: the Narajé weir which is to regulate the quantity of water to flow into the Mahanuddy and Katjooree rivers respectively; the Kendraparah and Taldunda canals and Machgaon branch which were in progress; the High Level canal, into which the water has been let for a length of 11 miles; the Midnapore canal, which is open for 20 miles, between Oolobariah on the Hooghly and Panchkooorah on the Cossye; and the Tidal canal which admits of inland navigation from Calcutta to Baligal, within 25 miles of Jellasore.

A special officer has been appointed as Consulting Engineer to the Government of Bengal in respect to the Company; and, at the solicitation of the Company, a Deputy Collector, paid by them, has been selected to explain to the people the advantages which will arise to them from the use of artificial irrigation.

The Ganges canal consists of 653 miles of main canal and 2,968 miles of distributing channels. The gross income shows an increase of  $11\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. over that of the previous year, of the total income  $92\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. was derived from water rate, and  $7\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. from miscellaneous sources. The total area irrigated was 633,774 acres. The water rate per acre averaged about 4s. 6d. per annum. The Orissa famine created a considerable traffic in grain, of which, it was estimated, about 8,000 tons must have passed down the canal during the last nine months of the year 1866-67. North-west Provinces.

The operations which have been carried on towards improving the outfall of the Solani river, and so obviating the mischief effected to the Ganges Khador drainage works, have been most successful; its floods have been controlled, and were employed in silting up swamps, instead of devastating the Khador lands; and drainage cuts have been formed for the relief of marshy lands in the upper portion of the valley.

The Eastern Jumna canal is 130 miles in length, with 596 miles of distributing channels. The gross income for the year exceeded that of 1865-66 by 25 per cent., partly due to the fact of cultivators having become more reconciled to the enhanced water rates, which at one time gave a check to irrigation. The water rates remain the same, and the areas irrigated were 82,137 in 1865-66 and 157,398 acres in 1866-67.

The Doon canals comprise five small canals in the Dehra Doon, aggregating 57 miles in length, with 10 miles of minor channels. The increase in the gross income was  $20\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. over the previous year, arising from the fact already named. The areas irrigated were 3,577 acres in 1865-66, and 7,047 acres in 1866-67.

The total number of miles comprising the Rohilcund canals is 153. This does not include the Kylas canal, which is not yet finished. The gross revenue showed an increase upon that of 1865-66 of 51 per cent., and was nearly equal to the revenue obtained in 1864-65, the largest yet realized. In addition to those above named, there are two other canals, but one of them was closed while the head works were being repaired.

The Agra irrigation works, which consist of the Futtehpore Seekree reservoir and the channels leading therefrom, appear to have been unused for sanitary and other reasons during the past year. The escapes were left open, and no water was stored.

The Humeerpore irrigation works comprise one lake at Jeitpore and seven lakes at Mahoba; the first aggregate seven miles in length, while the latter have 25 miles of watercourses. The gross revenue showed an increase of  $21\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. over the preceding year.

In the Central Provinces the progress that was hoped for in irrigation works had not been realized. Of the schemes selected, estimates for the Saonair alone were submitted; but the project was practically valueless from its great cost. The management of the irrigation division has passed into other hands, whence better results were looked for. Central Provinces.

In the Madras Presidency the operations of the main canal from Soonkasala to Cuddapah, a length of 188 miles, had come to a standstill. The Madras Madras.

Irrigation and Canal Company, having expended more than nine tenths of the guaranteed capital, were obliged to suspend works until their appeal for assistance to the Secretary of State for India met with a favourable result. It was arranged, under certain conditions, that a sum of 600,000*l.* should be advanced to the Company, and accordingly, upon the contract being signed on the 6th October 1866, the Company at once resumed operations, though only to a trifling extent, at the close of the year.

#### AGRICULTURE.

Exhibitions,  
fairs, &c.

In consequence of the distress which was felt throughout the Bengal Presidency, no exhibitions were held during the past year except one at Tezapore in Assam, on the 27th December 1866. Though the exhibition was reported to be successful, yet the result was not such as to justify its repetition in this part of India, except it might be in connexion with a local fair, when perhaps the people might be induced to attend in greater numbers, and more readily exhibit their products. The expenses of this exhibition amounted to 239*l.*, and the assets realized only 123*l.*

Towards the close of the year an exhibition of the agricultural and industrial products of the North West Provinces was held at Agra, and the opening ceremony took place on the 4th February 1867. The success that was attained was far greater than was anticipated; the contributions of exhibitors exceeded the almost extravagant space which had been provided. The admission was free to all, excepting on the days of opening and closing; and the presence of large crowds of women and children of the agricultural classes was a satisfactory indication both of the freedom of access, and of the readiness with which the people availed themselves of it. Every endeavour had been made to popularize the exhibition; to enable the people to understand that the aim of the Government was simply to promote their general good; and the effect produced upon the Native mind was something considerable. The total cost of this exhibition was somewhat less than 25,000*l.*, of which 2,500*l.* had been received from the Imperial and 2,500*l.* from the Local Government; the remainder had been contributed from local and municipal resources.

Agricultural exhibitions had also been held during the year at Bareilly, Seharunpore, Dehra Doon, and Oraie; the first of these was particularly interesting, from the intelligent share taken in the proceedings by most of the leading gentry of the province. The steam engines and machinery imported for drainage and irrigation works attracted great attention, and were exhibited in full work.

The Etawah Fair, although of a totally different character to the exhibitions previously noticed, is a mere Native fair, possessing peculiarities of itself, and not altogether devoid of interest. Unlike other great fairs held in these provinces, it is neither hallowed by antiquity nor sanctified to the people by any superstitious feelings. It has no shrines, nor is it a place of pilgrimage, and originated spontaneously in the desire of the inhabitants to celebrate the opening of a new square in the centre of the city constructed principally from their own contributions, being surrounded by the High School, Public Offices, the Civil Court, the Hospital, various markets and shops, the whole promising to form, when complete, a *tout ensemble*, which, for its cleanliness, neatness, and convenience, will be unequalled in these provinces. During the past year the fair was specially successful; it lasted 15 days, during which time nearly 70,000*l.* worth of European and Native manufactured goods were disposed of by retail, and it is supposed that there were no less than 200,000 visitors. No accident, contretemps, or crime is said to have occurred, affording most striking proof of how much may be effected under judicious direction, through the agency of the people themselves; for the whole of the arrangements were entrusted to the Native municipality.

The fair that is annually held at Hurdwar, taking its name from this town, and situated on the banks of the Ganges, near Roorkee, is a well-known Hindoo place of pilgrimage, where a large concourse of people assemble for the purpose of bathing in the sacred stream, and for other religious ceremonies. Every twelfth year it assumes large proportions, and during the past year it was computed that their numbers, on the great bathing day, did not fall far short of 2,885,000. Every possible measure was taken by the officers of the Government to ensure comfort to the people, and to avoid anything like confusion, special  
attention

attention having been paid also to the conservancy and sanitation of the various camping grounds. The principle of the Dry Earth Conservancy (alluded to under the head of Sanitary in this Report) was generally adopted. A large body of police was drawn from neighbouring districts, for the preservation of order and prevention of crime, and the heavy and responsible duties which devolved upon them were discharged with the greatest efficiency and success. The people resorted to them with confidence in their difficulties, gratefully acknowledging the attention received from them.

The marked success which attended the Nagpore exhibition, held in December 1865, led to the holding of a similar display at Jubbulpore in 1866, to which allusion was made in last year's Report (page 29), the result of which last was equally favourable as on the former occasion. In some branches of manufacture there was a decided improvement in the Jubbulpore as compared with the Nagpore exhibition, particularly in those departments of industry which received European supervision. Among cattle breeders and growers of produce, much encouragement and instruction was also derived. These displays have been instrumental in bringing landowners to purchase and use hydraulic and agricultural machinery, some of which are actually at work in towns and villages of the different districts. As evidence of the interest taken in machinery generally, nearly 5,000*l.* worth of articles shown in this department were purchased.

The visitors to the Nagpore exhibition consisted chiefly of people from districts round Nagpore, and from the whole country below the Sautpoora Hills, with a few of the wealthier inhabitants of the Saugor and Nerbudda territories, but none of the middle class of these parts, such as landowners and traders, were present. These people, who as a class are well to do and intelligent, came in crowds to the Jubbulpore exhibition. Koonbees and Lodhees from the Nerbudda Valley; Rajpoots from the borders of Bundelcund and Baghelcund; Gonds and other aboriginal tribes from the wilds of Mundla and Seonee, were also present on the latter occasion.

The satisfactory result attending the annual exhibitions of cattle and agriculture at Addanky and Nellore in the Madras Presidency has led to a similar display at Calicut and Machery, they were well attended, and promised well for the future.

An attempt was made to exhibit agricultural machinery, produce, and stock in February 1867 at the annual Mhyjee Fair, in the Khandeish Collectorate of the Bombay Presidency, which was attended with moderate success. Owing to the lateness of the season at which the sanction of Government was obtained, it was not found practicable to obtain machinery from England, but several implements were however exhibited by a firm at Bombay. Those which attracted greatest attention from the assembled agriculturists were the several descriptions of machinery for lifting water for irrigation purposes, and the winnowing machine, also the chaff cutter and the grain bruiser. Two of these winnowing machines had been purchased by the Collector, and sent into the wheat districts of the Taptee Valley, where it was expected they would soon pay their expenses on being worked for their hire.

A great improvement was also visible in the show of horses. The produce of the Government stallions excelled those of past years. Every effort was made to divest the Native mind of the idea that Government would claim the foals from mares served by their stallions. Time alone will secure confidence in the measures taken by Government for improving the breed of horses.

The prizes for cattle were warmly competed for; about 1000 head were exhibited, and among them some very fine animals.

Among the articles of produce exhibited were some fine specimens of sugar-cane, wheat, indigo, and the common grains of the country, but the most important of all was cotton.

In connection with this subject, the establishment of a model farm has been suggested, with a view of introducing and acclimatizing foreign products, improving breeds of horses, cattle, &c., and practically teaching the ryots the use of machinery and improved modes of agriculture; but the information being considered insufficient, the Government has not sanctioned the proposition.

During the past year, a commission was appointed to inquire into the present Tca. condition of the tea districts in Bengal. The commission was to consist of three members selected by Government, and to be entirely unconnected with the planting interest, so as to be perfectly free from any bias upon the subject, with



an additional member representing the interests of the planter, appointed by the British Indian Association. The object of this commission was to collect every information bearing on the prosperity or otherwise of the tea plantations, and on the treatment and condition of the labourers employed on the estates. The necessity for taking this course arose from a previous inquiry which had been instituted respecting the mortality which had of late years occurred among emigrants despatched to the tea plantation, in reply to the request for labourers; and from the planters having complained of the want of proper care and attention to their health and comfort on the sea passage thither, and that the regulations laid down by Government had failed in reducing the death-rate.

The employment of Native labourers in Assam, Cachar, and Sylhet having been much commented on, various proposals were made, with the view of making the contract lighter to the labourers, and of relieving the employer of labour from some of the burthens laid upon him by existing laws. Fresh legislation is, however, deferred until the report of the commission has been received.

Assam.	1865.	1866.
Area under tea cultivation	Acres. 45,827	Acres. 43,500
Out-turn of tea - -	lbs. 2,571,680	lbs. 2,938,568

was under actual cultivation in 1866. An increase, however, of 366,883 lbs. was visible in the out-turn as compared with the previous year.

Cachar.	1865-66.	1866-67.
Area under cultivation -	Acres. 20,005	Acres. 20,906
Out-turn of tea - -	lbs. 927,825	lbs. 1,722,068
Sylhet.	Acres.	Acres.
Area under cultivation -	3,145	2,210
Out-turn of tea - -	lbs. 172,130	lbs. 169,600
Darjeeling.	Acres.	Acres.
Area under cultivation -	9,829	7,986
Out-turn of tea - -	lbs. 335,481	lbs. 371,174

The actual out-turn, however, appeared to have been favourable.

Tea is also cultivated in Dacca, Chittagong, and Chota Nagpore. The quantity exported from Calcutta amounted to 6,936,843 lbs. against 4,581,830 lbs. in eleven-twelfths of 1865-66, being an increase to the extent of 2,355,013 lbs. Although tea planting had been successful in the north of Arracan, yet the difficulty of obtaining labour discouraged capitalists in coming forward.

The Deputy Commissioner of Kangra, in his annual report on the cultivation of tea in that part of the Punjab, remarks that great improvements are apparent on the estates held by European planters. Year by year the cultivation is extended; and by a system of high culture, already introduced in many of these estates, the quality of the tea is getting better and better, and will gradually reach a point of excellence as to make it more popular in the market. Tea planting in the Murree hills has, after a series of trials, proved a failure, and the Government experimental plantations have been finally abandoned.

Opium.

Opium.	1865-66.	1866-67.
Extent of land taken -	Acres. 275,784	Acres. 289,062

In consequence of the authority given for the extension of opium cultivation, the total quantity of land taken in Bombay exceeded that in 1865-66 by 13,278 acres. The out-turn of the season was estimated at 48,500 chests of provision opium, and 3,523 chests of abkarree opium. And in Behar and Benares the area had increased from 700,000 to 750,000 acres.

The



The total number of Chinchona plants existing in Government plantations of the Bengal Presidency amounted to 782,048, and in those of private companies to 232,778. There were 1,194 plants of *C. Succirubra* distributed to planters in Darjeeling during the year 1866-67; 600 were despatched to Chittagong in furtherance of the experimental cultivation carried on in that district; 300 plants were also sent to the Saharunpore Botanical Gardens; and 650 to the Cossyah Hills, where a nursery had been formed for the introduction of Chinchona by private individuals in Assam. In the Madras Presidency the average number of plants propagated recently increased to 48,968; there are now 557,551 trees planted, the oldest of them being as much as from 15 to 22 feet in height; they have blossomed freely, producing excellent and abundant seed. The increase in alkaloids is so great as to be altogether unprecedented in the finest samples of mature American bark.

Chinchona.

Years.	Acres Cultivated.	Yield in lbs.
1861	953,076	95,980,000
1862	985,578	84,618,800
1863	1,135,688	89,764,080
1864	1,730,630	156,619,040
1865	885,102	66,968,200
1866	1,112,677	83,696,960

The accompanying table shows the area under cotton culture in the North-west Provinces, and the estimated yield of the crop for the past six years. The confidence regained by the growers has evidently led to a reaction in the year 1866, for, though the cultivated extent be less than in 1863 and 1864, the area was greater than that in 1861 and 1862. The cultivation of the acclimatised New Orleans seed

Cotton

lately imported into these Provinces, and distributed among cultivators, was not popular with the Native agriculturists, from the fact of its requiring more expenditure and attention than the indigenous article. It has nevertheless proved successful, where carefully sown, watered, and looked after.

The season of 1866-67 was generally favourable to the cotton crop in the Central Provinces, and the out-turn, both as to quantity and quality, was better than

Years.	Acres Cultivated.
1864-65	690,198
1865-66	587,398
1866-67	611,722

had been known for some years. The increase in the amount of land sown was 24,324 acres throughout the whole province. The recent general fall in the price of this article had more effect in contracting sowings in the Nerbudda Valley than in the Nagpore country, on account of its inferiority, as contrasted with the latter.

Hence cotton was displaced by cereals, which ruled extraordinary high prices at the sowing season of 1866. The average yield per acre has been estimated at about 55 lbs. in the Wurdah Valley, and at about 42½ lbs. in other parts of these provinces, which estimate has been confirmed from several carefully conducted experiments. Towards the further development of the cultivation and trade of cotton in these parts, a Cotton Commissioner was appointed in September 1866, under whose guidance and instructions considerable improvement may be expected in the culture of the indigenous article. Gardens were also being established under Government officers, with the object of securing first-rate seed from pedigree cotton. It was in contemplation to extend certain portions of the Cotton Frauds Act of Bombay to these provinces.

Besides cotton, the principal produce of the Central Provinces consists of wheat, rice, millet, grain, oilseeds, sugarcane, tobacco, and opium.

A Cotton Commissioner was also appointed for the Hyderabad assigned districts. The out-turn of cotton in Berar may be approximately estimated at 33,616 tons; the average price of the year was 11d. per pound; and the wealth involved in this traffic was valued at about 3,750,000l. While the crop in 1866 was held to be much according to the average of several preceding years, that for the season of 1867 was said to have a prospect equally good; thus it would seem that the culture of this staple, so much stimulated by the late American war, was still well maintained.

Laudable efforts have been made for the introduction of the best description of Hinghughat seed. The people of Berar were at first shy of accepting this seed, confusing it in their minds with other foreign seed, of which they entertained no favourable impression. But this difficulty had been overcome, and many thousands of pounds of Hinghughat seed had been distributed by the Cotton Commissioner.

The traffic to and from Khamgaon, where a market was in course of construction, will be much facilitated by the opening of a new station on the railway at Jullum, about seven miles from the town.

In British Burmah cotton is grown to a limited extent. The area cultivated fell from 110,000 to 7,000 acres in 1866-67.

The principal product of this province is undoubtedly rice, the estimated area cultivated was 1,881,202 acres, as compared with 1,563,380 acres on which revenue has been paid for rice crops in 1865-66.

Tobacco is also grown in British Burmah, but not to any great extent.

Years.	Acres cultivated.
1860-61 - -	1,060,558
1861-62 - -	977,738
1862-63 - -	1,362,498
1863-64 - -	1,824,763
1864-65 - -	1,742,078
1865-66 - -	1,516,076
1866-67 { eleven months	1,375,425

The cultivation of cotton in the Madras Presidency has decreased nearly ten per cent., but its extent was nevertheless greater than in 1862-63, or any previous year. This decrease may be said to be partly owing to the scarcity which prevailed in certain districts, and partly to the enhanced price in cereals, two causes naturally inducing cultivators to that kind of produce which would probably pay the best. At the same time, the average price had increased from 7½*d.* to 7¾*d.* in 1866-67, throughout

the presidency. The districts in which the heaviest fall of price occurred were Madras, North Arcot, and Tinnevely. The export trade of this article also fell considerably.

Successful experiments have been made in Madras Presidency towards the introduction of Carolina rice, which is said to possess great advantages over the indigenous varieties of this produce, and the seed was in great request.

The season of 1866-67 had been much more favourable for the cultivation of cotton in both the northern and southern divisions of the Bombay Presidency than its predecessor, and the crops were expected to be of a superior kind in both quality and fibre.

	1865-66.	1866-67.
Acres cultivated - -	1,710,797	1,978,182
Out-turn of cleaned cotton in lbs. - -	Actual 85,595,797	Estimate. 116,383,876

The aggregate extent of cultivation showed an increase of 267,385 acres over that of the previous year, while the estimate of the out-turn, taken at a careful and moderate computation, exceeded by 30,788,079 lbs. the actual out-turn of 1865-66. This increase in yield would represent, at 250 rupees

the candy of 784 lbs., or about 7½*d.* a lb., a sum equal to 962,128*l.*, and the out-turn of the whole season's crop, at the same rate, would amount to upwards of 3,500,000*l.*

The average yield of exotic cotton in the northern division was, in 1865-66, about 30 lbs. per acre, and of indigenous or native cotton 60 lbs. In 1866-67 it was 70 lbs. per acre for exotic and 59 lbs. per acre for the native.

In the southern division, however, the average yield per acre of exotic cotton was 66 lbs. against 60 lbs. in 1865-66, and of 49 lbs. against 43 lbs. per acre of indigenous cotton in the respective years under review.

The extraordinary difference in the yield per acre of exotic cotton in the northern division between the two periods mentioned was attributable to the Collector of Khandeish having imported a superior seed from Berar, which, until properly acclimatized, had yielded but a small quantity, and the favourable season of 1866-67 had greatly helped to increase the average yield.

The acting Cotton Commissioner for the Bombay Presidency reports that there can be no doubt but that India is making rapid strides towards improving its cotton, and that in the past year more had happened to discourage improvement than had been the case in any one season since the commencement of the late American war drew special attention to India as a cotton producing country.

#### Trade.

Imports.	1865-66. Twelve Months.	1866-67, ended 31st March.	1866-67, ended 30th April.
	£	£	£
Merchandise - -	29,599,228	29,038,715	30,639,282
Treasure or bullion - -	26,557,301	13,236,904	14,598,051
Total - -	56,156,529	42,275,619	45,237,333

Bearing in mind the alteration in the date of the past official year, and in order to obtain a fair and just comparison with 1865-66, as to the actual progress or retrogression of trade, three periods are given in accompanying table, from which

it will be seen that a considerable falling off appears to have taken place in the gross import trade during the year under review, amounting to 13,880,910*l.* in the eleven months ending 31st March, and to 10,919,196*l.* to the end of April 1867.

The

The decrease is mainly in the treasure imported, amounting to 11,959,250*l.* for the twelve months ending 30th April 1867. In the merchandise imported during the same period there was an actual increase of 1,040,054*l.* over 1865-66.

The following table will show some of the principal articles in which there has

Principal Articles.	Years ended 30 April		Principal Articles.	Years ended 30 April	
	1866.	1867.		1866.	1867.
	£	£		£	£
Arms and ammunition	77,503	87,739	Provisions and oilman's stores	286,567	318,806
Coal and coke	466,805	549,873	Salt	265,289	396,006
Cotton twist and yarn	1,961,144	2,636,181	Silk goods	367,380	438,718
Cotton goods	11,849,214	15,189,314	Spices	137,189	303,007
Dyes of all kinds	64,271	121,586	Spirits	416,592	420,729
Horses	37,071	51,869	Sugar and other saccharine matter	563,305	582,332
Machinery of all sorts	586,182	644,938	Tobacco, cigars, &c.	70,909	101,309
Malt liquors	528,485	576,518	Umbrellas	65,895	73,519
Metal manufactures	647,205	737,436	Woolen goods	583,132	594,108
Metals, raw					
{ Iron	488,374	560,944			
{ Spelter	60,866	93,998			
{ Steel	24,862	65,678			
{ Tin	93,231	236,532			

been an increase. Railway, telegraph, military and naval stores, which form large items in themselves in the imports of India, have not been taken into consideration, not being regarded as articles of commerce.

Of other principal articles imported during the year, the following table will best exhibit those in which there was a falling off.

Principal Articles.	Years ended 30 April		Principal Articles.	Years ended 30 April	
	1866.	1867.		1866.	1867.
	£	£		£	£
Apparel	510,352	410,588	Metals, raw { Copper	1,322,374	924,806
Beads	57,969	51,502	{ Lead	41,339	36,411
Books, stationery, &c.	375,381	307,312	Paints, colours, &c.	96,802	83,178
Carrriages	122,115	37,106	Perfumery	32,117	28,746
Drugs, medicines, &c.	153,904	151,838	Porcelain and earthenware	91,368	60,900
Fruits, nuts, and vegetables	392,446	229,660	Silk, raw	511,239	446,817
Glass-ware of all sorts	248,539	137,655	Tea	186,310	150,802
Gums	63,971	49,948	Timber and woods	132,641	63,770
Ice	61,994	24,997	Wines and liqueurs	474,344	461,254
Jewellery and precious stones, clocks, &c.	952,996	398,379			

Exports.	1865-66. Twelve Months.	1866-67, ended 31st March.	1866-67, ended 30th April.
Merchandise:	£	£	£
Indian produce, &c.	62,684,452	40,773,959	46,551,256
Foreign do.	2,806,671	1,086,035	1,178,356
Total	65,491,123	41,859,994	47,729,612
Treasure or bullion	2,165,352	2,431,503	2,473,165
Total exports	67,656,475	44,291,497	50,202,777

In the gross export trade of India there was a decrease to the extent of 17,761,511*l.* in merchandise, but an increase in treasure of 307,813*l.*, leaving a net decrease of 17,453,698*l.*, to which if the decrease in the import trade to the same date be added there will appear to have been an aggregate falling off in the total trade of 28,372,894*l.*,

or nearly 23 per cent. as compared with 1865-66, and 19 per cent. when compared with 1864-65.

The decrease in exports has been principally in the articles enumerated in the following table.

Principal Articles exported.	Years ended 30 April		Principal Articles exported.	Years ended 30 April	
	1866.	1867.		1866.	1867.
	£	£		£	£
Coffee	785,102	506,093	Oils	133,859	116,209
Cotton wool	35,587,389	19,756,489	Saltpetre	603,350	386,365
Cotton goods	1,732,133	1,275,575	Spices	163,008	142,053
Drugs	90,998	63,301	Sugar and other saccharine matter	361,362	168,406
Grain rice	4,909,562	3,791,296	Timber and woods	369,323	156,418
Ivory and ivory-ware	92,402	87,413	Wool	871,314	799,767
Jute	771,691	751,222			
Lac	305,575	169,908			

## STATEMENT SHOWING THE MORAL AND

The subjoined table will show the articles in which there has been an increase.

Principal Articles exported.	Years ended 30 April		Principal Articles exported.	Years ended 30 April	
	1866.	1867.		1866.	1867.
Dyes, including indigo	£ 1,958,862	£ 2,036,764	Seeds of all kinds	£ 1,750,197	£ 1,913,906
Grain, except rice	338,356	377,638	Silk, raw	745,352	962,861
Gums	20,765	23,657	Silk goods	88,829	100,697
Gunnies and gunny-bags	311,831	443,301	Tea	309,899	410,141
Hides and skins	609,803	752,891	Tobacco of all kinds	52,722	56,142
Opium	11,122,746	11,326,039			

	1865-66.		1866-67.	
	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.
Foreign Trade:				
Entered	5,865	1,958,168	5,438	1,932,073
Cleared	6,354	2,202,300	5,864	2,000,848
Total	12,219	4,160,468	11,302	3,932,921
Interport Trade				
Entered	19,005	1,737,196	13,287	1,511,216
Cleared	17,177	1,723,720	11,340	1,630,798
Total	36,182	3,460,916	24,627	3,142,009

In the number of vessels and tonnage, whether British or Foreign, engaged in the conveyance of the trade of the year, there was a decrease of 917 vessels, with a tonnage amounting to 227,547, from and to all parts, foreign to the continent of British India. Besides the number employed

in this external trade, there were 24,627 vessels, with a tonnage of 3,142,009, occupied in the coasting trade of India, being 11,555 vessels, with a tonnage of 318,907 less than in the preceding year.

The interport trade of Calcutta, both in imports and exports, had fallen off during the past year, amounting to 1,086,414*l.* in the aggregate, and was attributable to over speculation and mercantile failures.

In British Burmah, the value of the port to port trade decreased to the extent of 918,454*l.* The rebellion of 1866 in Upper Burmah, together with the depressed state of the rice and timber markets, combined to affect the trade of these provinces.

The interport trade of Madras increased by 281,461*l.* during the eleven months of 1866-67, as compared with the whole period of the previous year.

The decrease in the aggregate trade of the port of Bombay with other parts of India, as compared with eleven twelfths of the previous year, amounted to 2,428,233*l.*

## EDUCATION.

It has been proposed by the Trustees of the Gilchrist Educational Trust to establish two annual scholarships of 100*l.* a year each, to be held by the Natives of India at the Universities of London and Edinburgh. The Government of India suggested a substitution of one scholarship of 200*l.* for two of 100*l.* each, and that the admission of candidates should be extended so that East Indian youths generally should also be eligible, and that such scholarships should be made through open competition by the Authorities of the Presidential Universities in the three Presidencies of India in rotation, and that Latin should be omitted from the prescribed subjects of examination.

The Trustees have so far modified their original intentions as to decide that as regards the question of race, all persons born in India, except those of pure European descent, may be permitted to compete; but that they adhere to their decision that two scholarships shall be competed for of 100*l.* each per annum, to be continued for five years; that the award of such scholarships must be by open competition, by examiners under direction of the Trustees; and that they decline to relinquish Latin as one of its subjects. The Trustees have also agreed to waive the requirement of graduation in favour of such candidates as are preparing for the Civil Service Examinations.

The Secretary of State for India, with a view to encourage the proposed scheme, has sanctioned the grant of 100*l.* for passage to each scholar proceeding

The first examination has been announced

	Number of Institutions.		Number of Students.	
	1865-66.	1866-67.	1865-66.	1866-67.
Government colleges and schools -	295	305	23,356	22,894
Private schools, &c. receiving aid -	2,266	2,602	90,492	98,286
Private schools, &c. receiving no aid -	197	425	7,433	13,460
Total -	2,758	3,332	121,281	134,640

The total number of Colleges and Schools under inspection of the Education Department, as given in the margin, shows an increase of 574 institutions throughout the Bengal Presidency, with a corresponding increase in the number of students of 13,359. Sixty-four additional female schools have been opened during the last year, giving instruction to 6,541 pupils, as compared with 5,569 in the previous year.

The principle of fee payments has been adopted in many of these schools, showing, without doubt, the demand for means of instruction. The quality of the instruction given is, however, capable of improvement.

Expenditure.	1865-66.	1866-67.
From Imperial funds -	£ 138,048	£ 138,576
Local funds -	89,654	90,493
Total -	227,702	329,069

The total expenditure of the Department was estimated as shown in the margin. The amount contributed from local sources shows an increase of 839% over twelve months of the previous year. The charges incurred on purely private institutions which have accepted the inspection of the Department, but receiving no pecuniary aid from Government, were not taken

into account. Assuming the net charge upon public revenue to be 138,576*l.*, and the number of students at 121,180, excluding private schools receiving no aid, the cost to Government of each student's education was about 1*l.* 2*s.* 10*d.* In 1865-66 it was 1*l.* 4*s.* 3*d.*

The receipts from school fees were in 1862-63, 29,453*l.*; in 1863-64, 34,857*l.*; in 1864-65, 44,423*l.*; in 1865-66, 51,324*l.*; and in eleven months of 1866-67, 49,671*l.*; showing a gradual increase from year to year. Of the 49,671*l.*, 27,162*l.* were received by Government institutions, and 22,509*l.* by aided institutions.

1864-65.	1865-66.	1866-67.
1,396	1,500	1,350

The number of candidates for entrance to the University examinations showed a falling off, the reduction being attributable to the new rule by which admission

to examination was made dependent on the opinion of the teacher as to the probability of the candidates passing; this check having been imposed in consequence of a large proportion of failures in previous years. The successful candidates were principally from Government institutions.

A scheme for the establishment of Night Schools for the further encouragement of Female Education was under the consideration of the Government of India. It was proposed to open 100 schools at the outset, and, if the scheme be successful, to extend the number to 500, at an average cost of 3*l.* 10*s.* for each school, the object being to impart elementary education to those of the people as may be unable to attend in the day time.

A proposition for a local compulsory education rate, having for its object the providing a special cess for maintenance of local schools, though admitted to be sound in principle, did not meet with the sanction of Government.

	Number of Institutions.		Number of Students.	
	1865-66.	1866-67.	1865-66.	1866-67.
Government colleges and schools -	3,877	3,966	125,626	134,208
Private colleges and schools under inspection -	5,322	5,313	73,022	76,494
Total -	9,199	9,279	198,648	210,702

In the North-west Provinces the number of Colleges and Schools under Government increased by 80, with 12,054 additional pupils. Female education has made satisfactory progress, though there has been a falling off in some districts, the cause for which has not been explained. In Ajnere and Kumaon, where the education of females was most backward, some-

thing has been done during the year by the establishment of a class of widows who will, after a little training, become mistresses of girls' schools lately sanctioned

married men, to leave their homes to attend to their duties, hence the progress has not been so great as might have been desired.

Of the number of Natives employed for the first time by Government in 1866, 66 per cent. were educated at Government or aided schools.

	1865-66.	1866-67.
Number of schools - - -	122	184
Number of students of English - - - - -	9,757	18,355

A very marked sign of the general progress of the people is observable in the increase in the number of students desirous of learning the English language, being nearly 3,600. This increase has, no doubt, been stimulated by the prospect of obtaining Government employment in the army, the railways, and at the bar.

The hope of creating greater interest in the schools generally has dawned in the establishment of District or Local Educational Committees, composed of influential members of the community, official and non-official, formed for the purpose of co-operating generally in the promotion of Education, under control of the Director of Public Instruction.

Expenditure	1865-66.	1866-67.
From Imperial funds - - -	£ 78,469	£ 77,400
„ Local funds - - - - -	40,761	45,729
Total - - - - -	119,230	123,129

The expenditure in this Department for the past year amounted to 123,129*l.*, and, taking the number of pupils at 210,702, as shown in previous page, the cost per head was 11*s.* 8*d.*, as compared with 12*s.* in 1865-66.

Central Provinces.

	1865-66.	1866-67.
Number of schools of all classes - - - - -	1,441	1,570
Number of scholars - - -	46,738	58,137
Expenditure :-	£	£
From Imperial funds - - -	13,546	15,646
„ Local funds - - - - -	20,230	23,427
Total - - - - -	33,776	39,073

Similar progress appeared to have taken place in the Central Provinces, where the number of schools has increased 8 per cent, and the scholars 19 per cent. The cost of each pupil's education was 13*s.* 5*d.*, as compared with 13*s.* 11*d.* in the preceding year. An active desire has shown itself in these Provinces for English education; chiefly confined to the Mahratta districts, the number of pupils having increased from 1,526 to 1,970.

	1865-66.	1866-67.
Number of Female Schools	90	130
„ pupils - - - - -	2,361	3,621

The number of Females Schools continued to increase. Some of these Schools at towns or cities, where native gentlemen have become patrons, were making excellent progress. The teaching consists not only of reading, writing, and cyphering, but the more practical accomplishments of sewing and knitting.

Towards the close of the year, Government sanctioned a scheme for granting scholarships to be competed for at examinations, and to be tenable for two years at a Government or aided school of a higher class.

The receipts from school fees increased from 988*l.* in 1865-66 to 1,394*l.* in 1866-67. The highest monthly fee paid was 1*s.*, and in the majority of schools no fees above three halfpence a month have been exacted.

Ben Bur.

	1865-66.	1866-67.
Number of schools - - -	299	271
„ scholars - - - - -	6,747	7,080
Expenditure - - - - -	£5,334	£4,748

figures for 1866-67, shown in the margin. The cost of education is about 13*s.* 5*d.* per head.

The advance of Education in these Provinces was considered satisfactory, owing mainly to the exertions of Missionary bodies.\* A Director of Public Instruction has been appointed. There were several schools in large towns and villages, which have not been included in the

	1865-66.	1866-67.
Number of schools - -	1261	1386
"    pupils - -	43,056	31,118
Expenditure:—	£	£
From Imperial funds - -	62,067	61,607
"    Local funds - -	9,571	11,609
Total - -	71,638	73,216

The number of Colleges and Schools for the same period in the Madras Presidency has increased by 125; and the number of scholars by 6,062. This addition was entirely in private schools, and marks the extension of the grant-in-aid system. The aggregate expenditure for 1865-66 does not include a sum, amounting to about 30,000*l.*, incurred from other sources than the Government grants, by the managers of private schools under Government inspection.

Madras

In 1865-66 the number of candidates examined for the matriculation examination was 555, and in the year under report 895, showing an increase of 340. This increase is attributable in a great measure to the fact of the original minimum of one fourth of the total marks obtainable in the English language being reduced to one third. The number of successful candidates was in 306, as against 229 in the previous year; of these 142 were from Government, and 164 from private Institutions.

The results of the Educational Department in the Bombay Presidency will be seen

Bombay.

	1865-66.	1866-67.
Number of colleges and schools - -	1,397	1,754
Number of pupils on the rolls - -	94,002	117,547
Average daily attendance - -	69,756	89,894
Expenditure:—	£	£
From Imperial funds - -	87,007	91,668
From Local funds - -	84,423	60,163
Total - -	171,430	151,831

in the accompanying table. The number of institutions for instruction has increased by 357; and the number of pupils on the rolls, and the daily average of attendance, exceeded that of the previous year by 23,545 and 20,138 respectively. While there was an increased expenditure of 4,661*l.* from the Imperial funds, there was a decrease from Local sources amounting to 24,260*l.* The gross expenditure showed a decrease of 19,599*l.* The cost of educating each pupil was 1*l.* 5*s.* 10*d.*, as compared with 1*l.* 16*s.* 5*d.*

during the previous year. The increase in Imperial expenditure is due mainly to an extension of grants-in-aid to private schools and buildings; and the decrease from Local sources was more apparent than actual, being due to the exclusion of private expenditure of about 20,000*l.* from the head of Local Funds, which appeared under this head in the previous year. The sum realized from school fees throughout the Presidency was 14,341*l.*, being 943*l.* in excess of the preceding year. The Inspectors of Education write very encouragingly of the Local Educational Cess, which continued to make great progress and gained popularity, so much so that numerous petitions were received from the people, for schools and school houses, indicating a desire to reap the full benefit of the money contributed by them, and the school attendance of the agricultural classes showed a corresponding increase, besides, the effect of this cess was to set a good example to Inamdars, Jagheerdars, and people of non-government villages, in creating a wish for a similar cess being levied for them.

The grant-in-aid system, on the principle of payment for results, has been considerably extended in this Presidency, and its success is spoken of in favourable terms, as tending to stimulate the managers of private schools to fresh exertion in the improvement of their pupils, and to the constant raising and keeping up of the schools; it will prevent the attention of teachers being concentrated on the best pupils to the neglect of others; it is, moreover, a liberal and yet an economical system, for no grant is made except for actual progress. There is no doubt that the system will obtain a further extension, and be productive of great good in the future.

Of female schools there were 61 Government institutions, with an average daily attendance of 1,234 scholars, and 29 private schools, with an average attendance of 1,403, of which 12 schools only received aid from Government. The amount of Imperial funds expended on female education during the past year amounted only to 34*l.*, while 421*l.* was received from Local sources, in support of the 61 Government female schools. Of the private schools 310*l.* was paid under grants-in-aid rules, on the system of payment for results. In the Northern Division of the Bombay Presidency, the female schools are almost entirely supported by private endowments, though managed by the Department of Public Instruction. In Sind there does not appear to have been any attempt at introducing

ducing female education. With the view of extending education of a primary character among the Mahrattée, Gujerattee, and Canarese Districts, for the benefit of girls up to 10 and 12 years of age, the Government of India has sanctioned an annual sum of 3,000*l.* on a requisition from the Government of Bombay.

Punjab.

	1865-66.	1866-67.	
Number of institutions	2,978	2,845	
Number of scholars on the rolls at the close of the year	102,418	102,388	
Average daily number of pupils	84,136	86,608	
Expenditure.	£	£	
	From Imperial revenue	48,407	56,265
	From Educational Cess Fund	23,149	25,081
	From fees, &c.	15,120	13,560
Total	£86,676	£94,906	

In the Punjab the number of Educational Institutions had decreased; the number of village schools, and of Government and aided female schools, having fallen off since 1865-66. On the other hand, several new town schools have been opened; and the number of grant-in-aid schools of the superior and middle grades have increased. The aggregate number of scholars showed also a slight decrease, but their average daily attendance was much larger than in the previous year. The total expenditure in this Province exceeded that of last year by 8,230*l.*, and the cost of each pupil's educa-

tion rose from 1*l.* 0*s.* 7*d.* to 1*l.* 1*s.* 11*d.* The decrease in the amount received from school fees, subscriptions from municipal and local funds, &c., was but nominal in consequence of the absence of certain returns.

The results of University examinations show that out of 17 candidates for the first Arts examination, only four passed, three of whom belonged to the Delhi and one to the Lahore College; and that out of 81 candidates for the entrance examination, 22 passed, of whom four belonged to private and 18 to Government institutions. Great difficulty was experienced in inducing students to complete the curriculum of college and university education, from the facility with which they obtained well-paid appointments on the slightest pretence to education. The value of a college scholarship is less than the pay received by an ordinary copyist, or under-clerk in a Government or mercantile office; and the demand for such clerks was large; hence, the number of candidates for the higher University examinations continued small.

A new rate of fees has been adopted for the Government Zillah schools, which came into effect at the close of the year under review; and a fresh arrangement had also been introduced into the Dera Ghazi Khan district, which will lead to the improvement and extension of the middle-class and inferior schools.

Hyderabad assigned districts.

	1865-66.	1866-67.
Number of schools	35	147
Do. pupils	1,881	6,644
Expenditure	£ 3,444	£ 8,424

At the commencement of the year a Director of Public Instruction was appointed for the Hyderabad assigned districts, which led to an extraordinary spurt in Education. The increase in the number of pupils was equal to 253·20 per cent. The average cost of each pupil's education was 1*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.* per annum. Though this may appear high as compared with other Pro-

vinces, it should be borne in mind that these districts were but ill supplied with the necessary appliances and machinery; hence the expenses for the year included the most simple requisites for the schools as an outfit to the undertaking.

Two High Schools have been formed, both capable of imparting an education that will enable a pupil to pass his matriculation examination at the Universities of Bombay and Poona. Graduated scholarships in the Town Schools have also been instituted. Three new school-houses have been opened during the year, the want of which was felt as a great impediment to the advancement of Education in towns.

## SANITARY.

The adoption of Mr. Moule's system of dry-earth sewage has been reported to be the greatest public benefit conferred by a private individual in a matter so essential to public health. This system has been introduced throughout India at all hospitals, jails, and other public buildings, and although in its infancy, it has already worked wonders towards the improvement of conservancy arrangements



ments from what they were formerly. It does not appear to have been authoritatively adopted in the army, though it has been tried in some of the latrines of European regiments. There is no doubt, however, that its use will become more general, considering the unanimous expression of approval pronounced upon it.

A pecuniary reward of 500*l.* has been granted to the Rev. Mr. Moule by the Government of India, and sanctioned by the Secretary of State in Council.

	1865.	1866.
Total number treated - -	269,920	304,702

The total number of patients treated in the Bengal. charitable hospitals and dispensaries in the Bengal Presidency amounted to 304,702 against 269,920 in 1865. The per-centage of mortality to total treated among the indoor patients was 29·42.

	1865.	1866.
Medical College Hospital -	34,551	42,076
Calcutta Native do. -	165,346	176,381
Branch Dispensaries to same -	237,327	270,133
Calcutta Pauper and Police Hospital -	4,207	6,141

The accompanying table shows the number of patients treated, indoor and outdoor, during the past two years, in the principal hospitals and dispensaries in Calcutta. The number of deaths among the indoor patients of the Medical College Hospital amounted to 1,308, against 1,119 in 1865. The per-centage of deaths among Christian patients was 10·73 against 9·04, and among Native patients

30·86 against 29·90, in the preceding year. The number of deaths among the indoor patients of the Calcutta Native Hospital was 283 in 1865 and 430 in 1866, or a per-centage of 24·06 against 21·02. The proportion of deaths among patients treated in the Calcutta Pauper and Police Hospitals was less than in the preceding year, the numbers being 1,465 and 1,444 respectively. The cost and control of the Pauper and Police Hospitals have been handed over to the justices of the town, as mentioned elsewhere, under a Bill introduced into the Council of the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal. Great inconvenience having been felt from the locality of these hospitals, a different arrangement has been adopted, by which the sick poor were permanently accommodated in the building originally intended for the Sealdah Market, and the Amherst Street Hospital made available for the sick police, while the building at Entally was to be occupied by cases of cholera and other infectious diseases.

	1865.	1866.
Total number vaccinated -	152,099	194,753
Successful cases - -	121,618	164,529

The increase in the number of vaccinations was 42,654, of which 34,294 were entirely due to increased activity in Calcutta and its suburbs. In June 1866 a notification was issued, prohibiting inoculation in certain towns and places in the country. And a new scheme

for extending vaccine operations has been submitted for the consideration of Government, its principale feature being to increase the number of operators from 20 to 60 in Calcutta, and 76 to 151 in the country districts.

The operations in the Darjeeling vaccine circle, which came into full work during the past year, show very favorably towards overcoming the prejudices of the people. Out of 12,125 persons vaccinated, 9,988 cases proved successful. The cost of each successful case was a very little over one shilling.

The attention of the Government having been called to the prevalence of small pox during the year in Chota Nagpore, Beerbhoom, Midnapore, and Pooree, it was proposed to establish a new vaccine superintendency, with head quarters at Ranchee, with the view of affording the necessary protection from this epidemic.

Much difficulty having been experienced in obtaining the required number of Native doctors for employment in jails, and in meeting the demands of the public service generally, the Government of India granted certain concessions, in anticipation of the general question of revision of salaries, by which the condition and prospects of Native doctors would be greatly improved.

The Government of India has also approved of a scheme for the construction of a small pox hospital in the suburbs of Calcutta. The building and repairs of which were to be executed at the public expense.

Considerable progress has been made in the cities and large towns of the North-west North-west Provinces, where the municipal acts are in force, especially in those

those in which the introduction of the octroi or other municipal taxation, instead of the unpopular chowkedaree tax, has given a sufficient amount of surplus funds. Latrines on an improved plan have been built, the dry-earth system of conservancy has been adopted, old and narrow streets have been drained, paved, widened, and lighted, and the people generally appear to appreciate the advantages they are now deriving from improved sanitation.

The appointment of a special sanitary officer for these provinces has been strongly urged upon the Government of India.

	1865-66.	1866-67.
Total number vaccinated -	166,583	203,916
Successful cases - -	125,072	161,711

The vaccine operations of the past year contrast very favourably, there having been an increase in the number of persons vaccinated of 37,333, and in the number of successful cases of 36,639. The cost per head of each successful case in these provinces was 8½d.

An experiment is being tried, the result of which is anxiously looked for, during the present year, of enlisting, in the cause of vaccination, the services of Native practitioners, who are to receive a maintenance allowance during time of tuition, and when taught are to be supplied with the necessary implements, &c., and to be allowed to practise, charging suitable fees; they will receive a certificate of fitness, and be under the supervision of the vaccine department of the district.

	Number treated.
1865-66	513,169
1866-67	534,440

Six additional dispensaries have been established. The number of patients treated exceeded those in 1865-66 by 21,271. The average cost of treatment per patient was about 6d. a head.

The system in force of regulating the Government donation by the amount of private subscriptions received has been found to work well. Dispensary committees now take more interest in the management, and are consequently more active in adding to the sums subscribed, since they find they can spend the surplus annual increase in the manner they may find most beneficial to the interests of the institutions under their charge.

The mortality during the past year amounted to 830,076, which was composed of 193,144 males and 136,932 females. By far the largest proportion of both sexes dying occurred under ten years of age and between the ages of 40 and 60. The per-centage of total death to population was 1.11 per cent.

Central Provinces.

Conservancy and water supply arrangements have done much to mitigate disease in cities and towns of the Central Provinces. Many of these towns can now, in respect of conservancy and rate of mortality, vie with the best cities in Northern India. Great efforts have been made towards the inculcation and the observance of sanitary rules in country towns and villages. Wherever there was a resident magistrate, there sanitation was enforced under the authority of Act V. of 1861. In the large towns and cities it was regulated by byelaws, framed under Municipal Acts XVIII. of 1864 and XV. of 1867, and in the military cantonments under Act XXII. of 1864.

Considerable improvement was consequently visible in the health of the people, from the benefits of certain measures carried out under municipal improvements.

To combat disease in these provinces there were 56 medical institutions in full working order. And in order to meet the difficulty which existed in securing trained doctors, a scheme was under the consideration of the Government of India for opening a medical school at Nagpore for the training of men of the country to

	1865.	1866.
Number of patients treated	103,983	138,969

the profession of medicine. The number of patients treated at all the dispensaries, showed an increase of 34,986 over all districts, and the average cost per case treated was 11½d.

The operations of the Vaccine Department in Nagpore and Chindwarra districts		
	1865-66.	1866-67.
Total number vaccinated -	4,767	22,367
Successful cases - -	2,666	19,584

contrast also very favourably with the previous year. In 1865-66 the proportion of successful cases was 55½ per cent., and in 1866-67 it was 87½ per cent.

This extraordinary increase in the number of persons vaccinated, among those who have hitherto shown great reluctance in having their children thus operated on, was mainly

mainly owing to the efforts on the part of the superintendent to overcome the prejudice of the people, and to the fact of the small-pox, which attacked some small towns, soon becoming an epidemic during the past year. It was at this time that the superintendent stepped in, and vaccinated all children who were found unprotected. In not one case was a child thus operated on attacked by the disease. The news of this immunity spread rapidly, and the inhabitants of towns and villages became at once anxious that their children should not be forgotten.

The general death rate amounted to 25·09 per 1,000 among the urban, and 12·76 among the rural population.

The state of public health in the towns of British Burmah may be stated to have been generally satisfactory, with the exception of Sandoway, where the cholera broke out and carried off many people. Dysentery and fever also appeared to have caused mortality at Rangoon; there were only 45 deaths from small-pox. At Bassein the death-rate was 55 per 1,000; this high rate was attributed to a want of proper sanitary arrangements. Public works of improvement were, however, being carried out, from which a favourable effect might be expected; but the great difficulty appeared to exist in the want of means, and the reluctance of the people in coming forward to carry out local improvements.

British  
Burmah.

The total number of births, as far as could be ascertained, was 7,892 in 1865 and 7,977 in 1866, thus showing a small increase; while the deaths fell from 7,685 to 6,776 in 1866.

	1865-66.	1866-67.
Total number vaccinated -	7,413	7,870
Successful cases -	5,849	6,171

The progress made in vaccine operations continued slow, in consequence of the Burmese being strongly prejudiced in favour of inoculation, the Native inoculators doing all in their power to induce the people not to have their children vaccinated.

Number treated.	1865-66.	1866-67.
In-patients -	2,985	2,724
Out-patients -	19,604	18,236
Total -	22,789	20,960

The medical institutions were 13 in number, at which 20,960 persons were treated, against 22,789 in the previous year. The working of these dispensaries has been satisfactory. There was an increase in the amount of private subscriptions, thus showing that the benefits conferred were becoming more appreciated by the people.

The health of the civil population during the past year has been decidedly unsatisfactory; cholera, small-pox, and epidemic fever have been prevalent in most of the districts of the Madras Presidency. Famine has also contributed to the mortality of the year, no doubt causing much of the epidemic disease witnessed.

Madras.

The number of deaths, therefore, was unusually great, having been 14,636, which was in excess of the average of the previous ten years by 3,142. The greatest number was reported to have occurred during the months of July, August, and September.

	1865-66.	1866-67.
In-patients -	23,154	16,574
Out-patients -	254,953	223,740
Total -	278,107	240,314

The civil dispensaries continued to afford valuable aid to the destitute poor of the presidency town and at up-country stations.

With few exceptions, these dispensaries were all self-supporting; but, owing to the limited funds at the disposal of the local committees, great care had to be taken in the selection of cases. The only possible explanation offered for the apparent decrease in the number of patients treated was, that the outlying population, not actually residing in the towns where the dispensaries were situated, were prostrated with fever, and from their extreme poverty were unable to resort to the dispensaries at which they had formerly applied for relief.

Notwithstanding the difficulties consequent on the unhealthiness of the year under review, the results of the vaccine operations showed an increase. The average proportion of successful cases throughout the presidency was 86·38 per cent. Great interest has been evinced by the various officers of Government and by numerous independent gentlemen

	1865.	1866.
Number vaccinated -	191,394	194,509
Successful cases -	169,755	168,057

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gentlemen in the promotion of vaccination, towards making known generally the effects and method of the operation. The number of vaccinators employed by zemindars, municipal associations, and private individuals was steadily increasing.

Bombay.

Pending the erection of a new European General Hospital, considerable alterations and improvements have been effected in the building now in use, by the conversion of certain old barracks into wards for patients. Gas and water have also been laid on. A new hospital has been erected at Karwar, for the police; and a new civil hospital at Kaira has been sanctioned.

Twelve new dispensaries have been opened, two of which were established by the Telegraph Department on the Meckran coast.

	Number treated.
1865-66	284,468
1866-67	305,170

The total number of persons treated during the past year at the hospitals and dispensaries was 20,702 in excess of the preceding year.

The proportions of deaths to treated were as under:—

In the European General Hospital	-	-	7.26
„ Jarnsetjee Jeejeebhoy „	-	-	20.05
„ Civil Hospitals	-	-	3.85
„ Police „	-	-	1.12
„ Jail „	-	-	3.59

The Department of Public Health was in full operation during the past year in the city of Bombay, and the work of cleansing the town, and making arrangements for the prevention of the spread of any infection, has not been without benefit to the health and comfort of the people. The rate of mortality fell from 30.62 in 1864, and 35.4 in 1865 (during which the cholera was prevalent), to 20.50 in 1866.

	1865-66.	1866-67.
Total number vaccinated	357,247	372,394

The number of persons vaccinated exceeded that of the previous year by 15,147. The per-centage of successful operations to number vaccinated was 92.89.

Punjab.

In the Punjab the number of dispensaries increased from 55 to 69 in 1866, and the patients treated from 342,277 to 377,754, the increase being most noticeable in the number of female patients. Owing to the unusual healthiness of the year the number of indoor patients decreased.

In consequence of the great success which attended the establishment of rural dispensaries in the Sealkote district, the entire expenditure of which was met by a tax of about 2*d.* on each house in the village, a similar system has been introduced into other districts of this province; and 29 youths, sons of Native practitioners, were being educated, at the expense of local funds and by private subscriptions, with a view to their future employment as Native doctors.

	1865.	1866.
Total cases	230,607	248,094
Successful cases	196,400	212,979

The results of vaccine operations were satisfactory. Opposition to vaccination, though occasionally met with, was steadily on the decrease. In some places the vaccinators have been hailed with pleasure. The endeavours made, however, to persuade Native physicians to practise on their own account have not been encouraging, except at Amritsur, where very satisfactory results had been obtained. Of the 1651 operations performed by them 93.15 per cent. were successful.

The total number of deaths in the Punjab amounted to 200,691 in 1866, the per-centage to population being 1.32 as compared with 1.71 per cent. in 1865.

Hyderabad assigned districts.

In the Hyderabad assigned districts the past year has been providentially marked by an entire absence of cholera, which had previously appeared to have become endemic. The general health has also been certainly better than in former years. Much yet remains to be done in the way of sanitation, especially in the more rural villages. The conservancy establishments kept up in the large towns and under the eye of the Tehsildars have really done some good, and they have certainly much improved the exterior of the streets.

District officers have been instructed to employ the agency of the village headmen, accountants, and watchmen freely in insisting upon ordinary precautions being taken against the spread of infection and disease.

MUNICIPAL

## MUNICIPAL.

Several city improvements were effected in the course of the past year by the extension and widening of certain streets in Calcutta, and by the construction of slaughter-houses, which were expected to be completed towards the close of 1867.

Arrangements had also been made towards raising the funds required for the execution of the drainage and water supply works of Calcutta, by opening a loan for 100,000*l.* on the security of the rates and taxes, under certain restrictions. Of this amount, 86,000*l.* had been actually raised within the year.

The amount required to be raised for the water supply works was 520,000*l.* As the corporation of Calcutta were unable to obtain this sum without a guarantee, the Government of Bengal decided on borrowing the money themselves, and lending it to the corporation, in three yearly instalments, carrying interest at 6 per cent. Out of this rate, 4 per cent., with 1 per cent. from the Imperial funds, will be set aside to pay the interest on the loan raised, and 2 per cent. will be invested as a sinking fund for the redemption of the principal amount.

At the request of the municipality of Howrah, the powers conferred on the Oriental Gas Company by Act V. of 1857 have been extended to that station.

A revised Municipal Act for Madras, to supersede Act IX. of 1865, had been submitted during the past year for the sanction of the Governor General in Council, by which the municipality might be enabled to raise loans for the execution of important public works of drainage and water supply; the municipal corporation be enlarged; and extended powers be granted to the president of the commission, in order to secure more efficient administration.

Considerable progress has been made in Bombay towards lighting the town with gas. On the 31st December 1865 there were but 220 lights, and on the same date in 1866 the number had increased to 1888, exclusive of ornamental lamps. During the past year eight Native gentlemen presented the municipality with large ornamental lamps for central positions on public roads.

A steam fire brigade, founded upon the model of the London Fire Brigade, has been established at Bombay, and had already done excellent service on several occasions.

## ECCLESIASTICAL.

During the year 1866-67 two new churches have been erected at Chindwarra and Khundwa, in Nimar; and that at Hoshungabad was very near completion. Sufficient funds have been collected for a new church at Chanda, and for transforming an existing building at Nursingpore into a place of worship.

A new church, raised entirely by voluntary contributions, has been completed at Chudderghat in Secunderabad, and a church at Berhampore is now nearly finished. A similar building was also under construction at Tellicherry, to be erected from funds bequeathed for that purpose by Mr. Brennen in 1860. At the close of the year under review there were 168 clergymen in the diocese, of which 52 were Native clergymen.

Two additional churches have been constructed in the Bombay Presidency, one at Egutpoora and another at Poona. The former was built partially, and the latter entirely, at Government expense.

A Church of England Mission has been sanctioned for the penal settlement of Port Blair in the Andaman Isles.

Two new churches (at Purneah and Gya) have been completed, and those at Cachar, Arrah, and Moteeharee were very nearly so.

The monumental church at Ferozepore has been improved by the addition of a tower and spire, and the Roman Catholic chapel at Meean Meer has been re-roofed and enlarged. The church at Attock was progressing towards completion.

## POSTAL.

On the 19th November 1867 negotiations were brought to a conclusion, and a contract entered into with the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, for the conveyance of the mails to India, China, and Japan. By this contract the Company are to find adequate vessels, with appropriate steam power, and properly equipped and manned by competent officers, including a surgeon,

on board each vessel. The speed of the vessels employed is to be at the rate of ten knots per hour on the western route between England and Alexandria, and not less than nine and a half knots on the routes east of Suez. Each vessel to sail at such days of the week and at such hours as may be directed by the Postmaster General.

The subsidy to be paid by Her Majesty's Government for the performance of such service is to be 400,000*l.* a year, in equal quarterly payments, with certain provisions. Passengers will be conveyed by these vessels, the priority of accommodation being accorded to Civil, Naval, or Military Officers under Government. The rates being similar in each class.

This contract commenced on the 1st day of February 1868, and will continue in force for 12 years.

There is now a weekly service between Southampton and Alexandria, calling at Gibraltar and Malta; between Marseilles and Alexandria via Messina; between Suez and Bombay, calling at Aden; and once in every two weeks a mail will be conveyed between Suez and Calcutta, calling at Aden, Point de Galle, and Madras; also between Bombay and Hong Kong, calling at Point de Galle and Singapore; between Hong Kong and Shanghai, and between Shanghai and Yokohama, calling at Nagasaki. The return voyages will in each case be the same, but reversing the order of stoppages.

The postage of the correspondence of Officers of the Army in India has been reduced from the 1st of January of the present year to sixpence the half ounce, under instructions issued by the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury.

A proposal has been submitted to transmit the correspondence of China and India with the United States by a line of packets recently established between San Francisco, Yokohama, and Hong Kong. As the arrangement may be considered advantageous to the public, it is hoped the Government of India will agree to it.

#### EMIGRATION.

Bengal.

	1865-66.	1866-67.
Mauritius - - -	15,115	478
British Guiana - - -	2,842	4,509
West Indies - - -	2,006	5,188
Total - - -	19,963	10,175

In last year's Report mention was made of a very large increase in the number of Emigrants from Bengal, as compared with 1864-65, and that the increase was entirely amongst those who were despatched to the Mauritius; but in 1866-67 there was a corresponding diminution in the number despatched when compared with the previous year. This decrease

was among those shipped to the Mauritius, and was attributed to the high price of grain imported for the consumption of labourers at that Colony, also to the depressed state of agricultural prospects of the Island, arising from a severe drought to which it had been subject. In fact, Emigration to Mauritius on account of Government had been suspended for a time. A number of old Emigrants, however, had returned to Mauritius at their own expense; a fact which speaks for itself as to the condition and prospects of laborers in that Colony.

The proportion of female to male Emigrants still continued excessive, which is assignable to the same cause as mentioned in last year's Report, viz., the scarcity of food in the recruiting districts.

1864-65.	1865-66.	1866-67.
2,882	3,747	2,325

The total number of Emigrants returned from Mauritius and other places is shown annexed for the last three years. The mortality among those sent to Mauritius was 0.62 per cent., and 1.02 per cent. on those returning from the same Colony, and from Réunion 0.71 per cent.

In order to obviate a recurrence of the excessive mortality which prevailed among Emigrants despatched to British Guiana in 1864-65, which was also alluded to in last year's Report, and while the suggestions of the Sanitary Commission are being considered by Government in connexion with the amendment of Act XIII. of 1864, a rule had been laid down, under recommendation of this Commission, that, weather permitting, one third of the number on board shall always be on deck under awnings, and that the Director of Emigrants was to see that their clothes were carefully disinfected prior to embarkation.

A proposition was submitted to the Government of India for a more simple means of remitting the savings of Coolies to India, similar to the method already adopted

adopted at Mauritius, viz., by the grant of money orders payable in Calcutta, and the Government to provide their further transmission to the interior of India; the Colonial and Danish Governments agreeing to bear all risks of adverse exchanges.

This arrangement has been authorized by the Secretary of State in communication with the Colonial Office. Steps have been also taken to ensure an accurate registration of Emigrants, with the view of securing identification and the discovery of heirs in case of death.

The number of Coolies sent to the Tea districts of Assam, Cachar, and Sylhet was 12,487, against 44,582 sent in 1865-66; of which nearly 56 per cent. were females. The mortality was 252, or about 2 per cent. against 466 per cent. in the previous year. The demand for labour was limited during the months from June to December, but increased considerably during the three closing months of the year under review, attaining an average of the three preceding years.

With reference to the Cherrajoolie flogging case mentioned in last year's Report, besides the appointment of an Assistant Commissioner as a protection of labourers in Assam, Government sanctioned the establishment of a number of new subdivisions, with head quarters in the vicinity of tea plantations, with the view of increasing the Civil Administration of that part of the country.

A corresponding decrease in Emigration appears to have taken place from Madras, the number being 2,141, against 5,192 in 1865-66. In the five ships which left for Mauritius, carrying 1,853 persons, only 4 deaths occurred. This decrease was not owing to any paucity of applicants, but to the causes already assigned. The unfavourable nature of past seasons and scarcity of money, therefore, precluded the British colonists from sending for extraneous labour, and the stream of Emigration was directed therefore to the French Colonies.

Notwithstanding the dearness of food and the prevalence of sickness in Black Town, the mortality at the depôts was less than might have been expected; 21 cases occurred at the Mauritius depôt, chiefly among Emigrants from the interior; there were no deaths in the Natal depôt.

On a question arising in 1866 as to the allotted space for Emigrants in depôt, it has been decided that each Emigrant should be allowed 24 square feet, with a height of 12 feet.

The number of returned Emigrants from Mauritius was 495. No serious mortality occurred, except on board one ship, on which 15 deaths took place among 151 passengers. From an inquiry instituted, it was ascertained that the greater number were invalids and aged persons.

1864-65.	1865-66.	1866-67.
2,351	2,155	10,200

No vessels left Madras for the French Colonies; but while Emigration from the English ports for the British Colonies ceased, there was a large increase in the numbers from French ports. Of those embarked, 6,097 went from Pondicherry, 2,819 from Karikal, and 1,284 from Yanam; 2,477 were bound for Réunion, 3,889 for Guadeloupe, 2,595 for Martinique, and 1,239 for Cayenne.

The proportion of women to men despatched to the French colonies was 31 per cent.

#### GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

In Bengal and Behar the systematic examination of the Coalfields has been steadily carried on. The fields lying to the south of Hazareebaugh and near Ramghur have been thoroughly revised, completed, and mapped as correctly as the defective nature of the Topographical maps admitted of. Bengal and Central Provinces.

The Bokaroh coal-field covers an area of about 220 square miles, but is not rich in valuable beds of coal, though several are of considerable thickness, and of fair quality. From the northern and western ends, a considerable amount of coal had been carted away during the last two years, for burning lime, bricks, &c. for the extensive buildings now in progress at Hazareebaugh, and at Gya the coal was raised in the rudest way from mere open quarries without any mechanical appliances. The Ramghur coal-field is much more limited in extent, and though not rich in coal, nor of the best quality, there exist many points of high interest to the geologist.

A large area near Nagpore having been represented as covered by coal-bearing rocks, preparations were consequently made for carrying on the Survey between Hazareebaugh and Raneeunge in the north, and Mumerkuntuk and

Sumbulpore in the south, a district hitherto unknown as to its geological structure. This preliminary reconnaissance will prove most important and valuable when the more detailed investigations of the Survey can be extended into these regions.

The Karunpoora or Hoharoo coal-field had been carefully examined. Its extent is not less than 500 square miles, but unfortunately very little coal exists, and none worth working, in the upper group of the Damudah series. The smelting of iron ore was carried on extensively, and there were nearly 200 furnaces at work.

The South Karunpoora field is found to be of larger extent than at first supposed. Its western boundary near Patal almost touches the Karunpoora field mentioned in previous paragraph. Igneous intrusions in this part of the Damudah valley are less than in the Bokaroh or Jherria fields to the East. Limestone occurs in subcrystalline rocks further south. The Jherria coal-field had been estimated to cover an area of about 200 square miles, and that it would yield an available supply of about 465 millions of tons of coal.

The Palamow coal-field had been commenced, and a portion carefully examined, but the examination could not be continued from the want of detailed maps of this part. Further progress in the examination of a considerable area in Maubhoom was stopped from a similar cause; operations were then diverted to a district lying west of Purulia. The mapping of a large area in the districts of Dumoh and Saugor had been completed.

**Bundelcund.** The researches made in the district extending from a little west of the Sone river to beyond Kalinjer fort, tend to show the existence of two distinct series of strata of a general gneissoid character, to the younger of which belong the crystalline rocks west of the Dessau river which had been doubtfully grouped with the Bijawur series. The limestone of Heerapoor and Sorai had been identified as a part of the same series and similar to the brecciated limestones occurring to the south and west of the great Vindhyan country in the Nerbudda Valley.

**Gwalior and Dholpoor.** The re-mapping of the neighbourhood of Gwalior had been completed on the larger scale of one mile to the inch, adding a further area of about 350 square miles to the north of lat.  $26^{\circ} 30'$  consisting chiefly of Bundari rocks and alluvium. From a reconnaissance made to the south and west in Rajpootana, the geological structure of which country was unknown, a more accurate western limit had been obtained to the continuous trappian area of Malwa, and also to the great Vindhyan group. In places, the boundary of the same rocks with the crystalline rocks beneath them is well defined, but elsewhere, and to the northwards, it becomes intricate when in contact with non-crystalline rocks.

**British Burmah.** The Survey of the year 1865-66 was confined to the country lying east of the Irawaddy river, and north of the latitude of Prome. Gravels containing fossil-wood are abundant in the Prome district; some of the silicified trunks are 60 feet long. These gravels are supposed to be identical with the ossiferous beds of Upper Burmah, and contain a considerable quantity of a concretionary argillaceous peroxide of iron, at one time largely smelted in this district; they are nowhere disturbed, though largely denuded.

The rocks of the Eastern Yema range form a distinct group, differing entirely from those known as the Prome group. Fossil wood gravels occur in the Eastern or Toungoo side of this range.

Petroleum has been noticed at Namian, south of Prome. Iron used to be largely smelted, but it is now superseded by the English material. Tin was reported towards the frontier north of Toungoo; the ore occurs in large crystals, and the source was considered to be of some value, but there would be some difficulty in making it, on account of the proximity of the Karen Tribes.

#### THE CYCLONE OF 1867.

The Lower Provinces of Bengal were again visited with a severe hurricane during the night of the 1st November 1867. The storm originated apparently at some point in the south-east portion of the Bay of Bengal, the centre of which was reported to have passed to the east of Saugor Point and Calcutta, in a north-easterly direction. The greatest violence of the gale was felt at Calcutta between 1.30 and 3.30 a.m. of the 2nd November, and the injury sustained by the town was even greater than that inflicted by the cyclone on 5th October 1864, mainly owing to the occurrence of the disaster during the night.

The



The number of persons killed amounted to 1,116, of which 622 were on the river. 29,394 houses were destroyed; but of these 25,148 were thatched houses. 538 boats have been sunk; besides these, 295 boats were sunk in the canals to the east of Calcutta, of which 182 have been recovered.

The damage done to the shipping was of less severity than in October 1864; this was owing to the hurricane at its worst having swept down instead of up the river, and to the absence of a storm wave, as on the last occasion; thus the ships in port were enabled to ride out the gale, and escape much injury. Several of the vessels belonging to the Government, to the Dockyard, and to the moorings and buoys of the port, were more or less severely injured. Two Government flats had been sunk; a floating light was reported missing.

At the Emigration Depôts all the Coolies were saved, though the buildings were blown down or unroofed. A greater loss of life, however, occurred at the depôts of the Labour Transport Company, 26 Coolies having been killed by the all of the principal shed.

Beyond the city of Calcutta and its suburbs, the effects of the hurricane were most disastrous at Port Canning; here the gale was accompanied by a storm wave five feet high, which passed over the town with fearful violence. The station house, goods sheds, and railway hotel were all blown down, a great portion of the jetty was carried away, and the fresh-water tanks were salted by the storm wave. The number of casualties amounted to 90, and 500 head of cattle were destroyed. Altogether the 24 Pergunnahs suffered more severely than any other district.

In Jessore also the storm was very violent, the casualties did not exceed 100. The demolition of buildings, however, was very extensive, and caused much distress, though borne with much cheerfulness by the people.

In Nuddea the force of the gale was not so violent, and the loss of life comparatively insignificant, but the destruction of cattle was not less than 15 per cent.

Considerable damage was done to boats, houses, and trees in the Dacca division, but no loss of life was reported.

In the Chittagong and Rajshahye Divisions the gale was less severe; there was no loss of life, and the amount of injury done was inconsiderable.

In Burdwan the wind blew with great violence, but no casualties were reported.

In Cuttack Division there was heavy rain and high wind, but no injury to any extent was inflicted.

In the Cossyah and Jynteah Hills the storm did a great deal of damage among trees of large girth, but no loss of life or destruction of houses was reported.

The damage done to the crops standing has been variously estimated; and notwithstanding the losses felt among the rice, sugar cane, and other crops, there was no fear of any general scarcity in the districts where the storm was most felt, and in some districts there was no necessity for charitable relief.

Nearly 400 tons of salt was reported to have been lost during the hurricane, within the limits of the Soonderbuns.

The measures taken for relieving the distress caused by this hurricane were carried out with promptitude and alacrity. A Relief Committee was at once appointed, and a subscription opened by the Chamber of Commerce in aid of the sufferers, the Government promising to double the amount collected by subscriptions, issued instructions to District Officers to that effect wherever local subscriptions may be raised. The part of the country where relief was most urgently demanded was to the south of Calcutta. In Port Canning great distress was felt for the want of fresh water. 1,500 gallons were taken down by the South-eastern Railway Company in every train; besides which, a steamer was sent with good water and clothing for distribution to the indigent. It is satisfactory to note that the want of food was not generally complained of, and that the grantees or owners of the Soonderbuns Lots had assisted their tenantry speedily, with due regard to their wants and necessities.

In the District of Nuddea the landlords were informed by Government that suspension of revenue would be granted to them on their showing any indulgence to their ryots, and the magistrates were authorized to employ on petty works any of the labouring classes who may be found to be in immediate want. In

Serampore remissions of certain taxes had been made by the municipality in favour of the sufferers. The remissions on account of all outstanding taxes on dwelling huts in the suburbs of Calcutta amounted to 3,000*l*.

Within a month of this disastrous gale the Committee of the Cyclone Relief Fund had expended 9,310*l*.

#### WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The question of revising the system of weights and measures in use throughout British India, having engaged the attention of the Supreme Government at various periods since the year 1837, was again revived during the past year.

In May 1863 the Madras Government drew attention to the importance of steps being taken for some reform which might, without disturbing the present nomenclatures to any great extent, bring about a uniformity in the present system of weights and measures in use in India, and assimilate it with the plan now existing in England.

The Calcutta Trades Association also proposed the appointment of a mixed commission, with a view of enquiring into the existing system, and recommended the adjustment of the same to one Imperial Standard, and that the revised system should be enforced by legislation.

Prior to dealing with this important subject, the Government of India resolved to appoint committees of well-selected persons to be held at the chief cities of each Presidency or Province of India, and ordered that the results of their labours should be duly reported to the Local Governments or administrations, for submission to the Supreme Government, with any further remarks which the local authorities might deem necessary.

In approving the decision of the Government of India, Sir Charles Wood, then Secretary of State for India, remarked, in a Despatch, dated January 1865, that it was obvious that great care and circumspection would be required in treating with a question so intimately connected with the interests and habits of the people, and requested to be fully informed upon this subject before any steps were authoritatively taken towards interfering with the present system existing in India.

Finding a great difference in the modes proposed to be adopted by those committees, on the receipt of the replies from the Local Governments and administrations, the Government of India referred the entire question to a central committee, appointed to meet at Calcutta in November 1867, towards obtaining a definite result as to the best method of carrying out so revolutionary a change.

The report of this committee, which was to be prepared within three months, is expected shortly.

In the meantime, however, a deputation from the Metric Committee of the British Association, introduced by the Earl Fortescue, waited on the Secretary of State for India, Sir Stafford Northcote, and pointed out the great inconvenience that might ensue hereafter from any revision of the Indian system of weights and measures, upon the plan proposed by the Government of Madras of assimilation with that now existing in England, while there was every probability of the English system being changed to that of the metric system, now so universally in practice in Europe and elsewhere.

A report of the representation made by this deputation was accordingly forwarded for the consideration of the Government of India, in a despatch, dated 15th February 1868, to be communicated to the central committee sitting at Calcutta, which pointed out, at the same time, that it would be better for the Committee to endeavour to establish a system more nearly approaching the best theoretical model than to adopt the English system, under the circumstances set forth; the Government was also cautioned not unduly to sacrifice practical convenience to theoretical symmetry.

#### FAMINE.

Allusion was made in the report for 1865-66 (page 3) to the famine which prevailed in Orissa and other parts of the Bengal Presidency; and it was mentioned that a Commission had been appointed to enquire into the causes of the famine, the conduct of the relief operations, and the measures to be adopted for preventing a recurrence of the calamity.

The report of the Commission having been laid before Parliament\* at full length, it is unnecessary to enter on this occasion upon many of the points therein

\* House of Commons Papers, 335 of 1867.

discussed; but it may not be amiss to repeat some of the facts and conclusions set forth by the Commission, with regard to the causes which led to the scarcity, and the precautionary measures recommended for adoption in future.

The natural cause of the famine was the premature cessation of the rains of 1865, in the middle of September, throughout the lower provinces of Bengal, and over a portion of the Madras coast. In most of the districts of Bengal, the fall of rain, though irregular and out of season, was not unusually small; but in part of Orissa the total fall was much below the average.

The increased demand for rice in Bengal of late years, partly due to exportation to other countries in Asia and Australasia, and partly to the supplies sent to other provinces of India where rice had been displaced by the cultivation of more valuable products, had tended to raise its value; and though the wages of labour have also in some degree increased, this had not been in proportion to the rise in the price of grain.

The result of the crops of 1865 throughout Bengal was, that in the eastern districts material injury was not sustained; in the central districts, there was a very serious shortness of crop, but not famine, except in a limited tract lying within the district of Nuddea, where timely and liberal measures of relief were adopted, and all considerable mortality was avoided; in the districts to the west of the Hooghly, the low-lying alluvial portions escaped with comparative impunity, but in the still more western province of Orissa, and the higher part of the western districts of Bengal, where the alluvium gives place to a laterite soil, the full extremity of famine was reached. The scarcity having also extended into Behar and the district of Benares, it was impossible for the crops of Bengal to be supplemented from that quarter.

The immediate effect of the failure of the crops was to raise prices to a height which, though not famine point in Calcutta, was really such in districts where rural cheapness of food had been hitherto combined with very low wages of labour; and the labour market being in no way relieved, the labouring and landless classes were very soon thrown out of employment, and reduced to a state of extreme destitution.

Early in the year 1866, evidence was given of this condition of the country around Balasore and Midnapore, by an outbreak of crime, in the form of plunder by gangs of men in whom hunger had destroyed all respect for property. Nor did these grain robberies diminish till the rains and the exhaustion of men and stocks caused such violent crime to subside from inanition.

In southern Orissa the pressure of extreme prices, and consequent suffering, came earlier, but the disorganisation from lawless plunder did not shew itself so soon, nor to such an extent. In this province the fall of rain, though generally sufficient for the cultivation of rice, is very precarious; and the country is extremely subject to the opposite evil of inundations, the rivers being liable to overflow to an extraordinary degree, while the storm wave of the sea occasionally proves an even more destructive enemy, sweeping over the embankments which have been raised for the protection of the low lands.

The natural difficulties of the country had not been much relieved by the artificial remedies; little had been done in the way of irrigation; the rivers were inaccessible to the ordinary class of European vessels; the only protected anchorage, False Point, is so far from any landing place and any civilized and populated part of the country, as to be of little use; while the roads are impracticable, during the rainy season, for wheeled carriages, and communication can at best be carried on only by means of pack bullocks.

The province of Orissa proper is about 200 miles long, and is divided into the three districts of Pooree, Cuttack, and Balasore, the collective area of which is stated to be 8,518 square miles. According to a return recently received from the Government of India, the population, before the famine, was estimated at 3,015,826. In addition to this territory, there is a very large hilly tract in the interior (about twice the size of that above mentioned), which is inhabited by a population partly Ooriah and partly aboriginal, and is under the management of chiefs exercising hereditary jurisdiction, in subordination to the Commissioners of the division. Nothing reliable is known respecting the number of the population of these "tributary mehals."

In all this part of India there is only one rainy season, but the crop is usually sown in such a manner as not to come to maturity all at once. For the most part, the early crop, principally grown on the higher lands, ripens in August

and September, and it bears an extremely small proportion to the late crop, which ripens in December, and on which almost the whole supply of food for the greater portion of the province depends.

When the country came into British hands at the beginning of the present century, there were many semi-independent chiefs, all of whom became British subjects; those in the hill tracts were allowed to retain their territories on the old terms, but the chiefships of the lowlands were annexed to the districts under the British Regulations, the chiefs remaining in possession of the land revenue, subject to a low quit rent, being, in fact, placed in the position of zemindars at a low permanent assessment. Some of the original zemindars have survived to the present day, and a few have lapsed to the Government, owing to rebellion and other causes. Among these was the principal estate in Orissa, that of Khoorda, held by the representative of the ancient Rajahs of the province, whose mismanagement created a rebellion among his people, which led to his expulsion, and the estate is held in direct possession by the Government. Settlements have been made with the ryots and heads of villages, under which Khoorda had attained a prosperity unknown in any other part of the province.

In the settlement made at the time that the British took possession of the country, the usual Bengal system was followed of recognising a proprietary right in the person who dealt directly with the Government, with a general reservation of all subordinate rights. The record of rights made at the time gave great satisfaction, and the apportionment of the assessment which reserved two thirds for the Government was good according to the ideas of those days, although not equal to the liberal allotment of modern times, which gives half the assets to the zemindar for profit and expenses. There seems, however, to be doubt whether a sufficient margin was allowed, in a province so peculiarly subject to vicissitudes of seasons, to cover the risks of the most exposed estates, in the hands of poor and improvident owners. The practical result was that they were always greedy for remissions of revenue, and a constant struggle took place between the zemindars asserting extreme losses, and the Government distrusting their assertions, and generally with reason. The country enjoyed general peace and contentment, and grain was cheap and abundant; but wealth did not accumulate, wages were very low, and the condition of the people was tolerable rather than good.

Within the last few years, however, a decided improvement had occurred in the position of the agricultural classes in Orissa. Traders from the Madras presidency scoured the country to buy up grain, and an enterprising French house exported it largely by way of False Point. In consequence of the stimulus thus given to agricultural operations, the cessation of the Government manufacture of salt on the coast, which took place in 1863, did not cause the distress which might have been expected from the loss of their earnings by the persons employed in the manufacture, but the effect was, undoubtedly, to increase the class of agricultural labourers whom any derangement of the ordinary operations might throw out of employment and out of food.

As regards the dangers of inundations, the most intense calamity of that nature in the present century was that caused by the sea overflowing the coast of Balasore in 1831-2. To restrain the floods of the rivers, an extensive system of embankments had been formed, which is maintained partly by the Government and partly by the zemindars; but it was never wholly effectual in great floods, and, in the limited tracts to which these were necessarily confined, the people had become in some degree habituated to them, and general famine had not resulted. This would only arise from drought, which, in the most severe form, had not visited the people for the last two or three generations.

The crops of 1864, though considerably below the average in Pooree, were by no means bad in Cuttack, and very good in Balasore; and the amount of rice exported by sea in the year 1864-5 reached the enormous height of 30,000 tons.

In the following year the scantiness of the rainfall had brought prices in Pooree to a famine rate, even before the total failure in October. In Cuttack the prospects were good, on the whole, till the rain ceased on the 18th of September 1865; and the same may be said of the condition of Balasore.

The thirty years' settlement of the province was just expiring, and no new arrangement had been made, a state of things which tended to contract rather than extend the assessable area and cultivation.

Such was the position of affairs, very briefly stated, in which the end of the year 1865 found the province of Orissa, when it was visited by a calamity, the effects

of which were to sweep away, by starvation, and disease resulting therefrom, so many persons that the Commissioners observe that they are unable to say that the estimate one fourth of the whole population is too high, even in parts which did not suffer from the inundations of 1866.

It is not necessary in this report to enter into a minute review of the progress of the famine, or the measures adopted by the Government and its officers, and of private individuals, to relieve the sufferings of the people. It appears sufficient to mention one or two of the chief points bearing on the condition of the country during the season of distress.

As well as can be estimated, the outturn of the crop in Orissa appears to have been about half the usual quantity in the more favourably situated tracts, while in others it was very much less, the total yield being perhaps about a third of the full crop.

A table has been compiled of the prices of common rice, for each week from November 1865 to December 1866, from which it appears that for the five months from April to September the cost of food, in the best supplied markets, ranged from five to ten times the ordinary rate. In the interior of the districts food was generally not to be procured for money, and, when sold, was about 35 times the usual price. Feeding centres were established at which grain was sold, and cooked food distributed; but many of the famishing people were unable, and some were unwilling, to avail themselves of this relief.

The mortality reached its culminating point in August, during the heavy rain and storms which preceded and caused the floods. The people were then in the lowest stage of exhaustion, and the cold and wet killed them in fearful numbers. The damage to the tracts lying near the rivers in the central portions of Orissa was excessive; and, owing to the isolation caused by the floods, the rate of mortality was probably greater there during their continuance than at any other time.

In September there was some slight relief, not only by the extension of the system of supplying food, but also, in most parts of the country, from the ripening of the small early crop of rice. The mortality, however, was not lessened, inasmuch as many who had hitherto survived under the pangs of starvation died as soon as they obtained the meals to which they had long been strangers.

In the final report of the Commission on the mortality caused by the late famine in Orissa, received in February last, the number stated to have perished was 814,469, and 115,028 supposed to have emigrated or disappeared from this province, making a total loss of 929,497. The number of surviving inhabitants now left amounts to 2,086,329. The per-centage of deaths was 27·00; including emigrants, and those missing, the general per-centage amounted to 30·81, as loss of population during the famine.

In the districts where this early crop had been destroyed by floods, the loss terribly increased the prospective as well as the present sufferings of the people.

In November the new crop began to come into the market in considerable quantity, and then the general famine may be said to have come to an end. The people returned to their avocations, leaving only the very emaciated, the orphans, and the widows to be supported by gratuitous relief. There still, however, continued to be more general distress in the unfortunate tracts which had suffered a second calamity by the inundations.

Though special mention has thus been made of the progress of the famine in Orissa, the distress was almost as great in many of the other districts of Bengal, particularly in Maunbhoon, Singbhoon, and Midnapore. From the districts lying nearer to Calcutta, where the crops also failed, great numbers of the people flocked into the metropolis, attracted thither by the reports of the charity which was munificently bestowed by rich Native gentlemen. The great increase of the pauper population in the city called for special measures; a relief committee was formed; camps for the immigrants were instituted, and hospital accommodation was provided. The subscriptions received by the committee were devoted to the general relief of the famine-stricken districts, as well as to the provision for those suffering in Calcutta; and the amount of money thus received and disbursed was about 60,000*l.*, including a sum of 10,000*l.* set aside for the permanent support of the orphans.

With regard to the measures which should be adopted for the future in the province of Orissa, the Commissioners recommend that the present settlement with the zemindars should be renewed for a term of years, in preference to the

Government at once effecting a permanent settlement, the circumstances of the country being unsuited for the necessary revision. The great body of the zemindars having been proved to have failed in their duty as landlords, the Commissioners suggested that, in the cases of those estates which had been so reduced by the past calamities that neither zemindars nor ryots could at once assume their old responsibilities, they should, as the law provided, be taken for a time into the hands of the Government, subject to the usual allowance of a per-centage to the proprietors.

Till the settlement was concluded, the Irrigation Company, whose works were rapidly coming to a point which will admit of their extensive use, could not, in the opinion of the Commission, be said to have a fair field; and it was very desirable to remove all misunderstanding with reference to the revenue to be paid by the zemindars and the ryots.

With regard to the Irrigation Works, the Commissioners recommend that the Government should continue the policy of advancing money to the Company, in order that no interruption might be caused by the state of the money market.

To open the province, now completely isolated at certain seasons, the Commission advised the completion of the trunk road from Calcutta through Cuttack, the improvement of the harbour at False Point, and the prosecution of a system of roads throughout the country.

In the third portion of their report, the Commission have considered the measures which may with advantage be adopted, with the view of preventing a recurrence of such a calamity. First, as regards the promotion of agricultural improvement, they place the question of tenure of the land; and, while unable to determine whether a permanent settlement is not merely a good thing in the abstract, but so good a thing as to render it desirable to obtain it by substituting other taxes for the progressive value of the land which is surrendered, the Commissioners suggested that, in view of the great increase of private wealth which would undoubtedly arise therefrom, at the cost of the public exchequer, the proprietor of a permanently settled estate might be called on to pay a higher proportion of the assets than under the present liberal system he would have paid; and further, that the revenue payable might be expressed in grain, convertible into money according to the average of seasons, struck at intervals of 10 or 20 years. A settlement made on this system, if including, not merely the zemindar but the actual possessor of the soil, would, in the Commission's opinion, combine permanency of tenure with a prospective increase of land revenue to the State, in some degree commensurate with its claims and its necessities.

Next in importance to the tenure of the land they placed the question of improving the great arterial communications which connect the various provinces. Much had been done towards the advancement of this object by the construction of railways; and the Commissioners remarked that the maximum carrying power of these roads might be vastly increased at a comparatively small expense by doubling the lines of rails.

Their further suggestions on this point were, that all future canals should, if possible, be adapted to purposes of navigation in a greater degree than those hitherto constructed in Northern India, and that all considerable roads should be so laid out, wherever the nature of the country admits of it, as to be capable of receiving a light railway.

As regards irrigation, the Commissioners thought that more effectual aid against the effects of famine might be obtained by the cultivation of rice than of any other crop; and while they would not recommend any very general system of irrigation throughout Bengal proper, they thought that occasional deficiencies might be mitigated by increasing the rice supply of neighbouring provinces. At the same time, they advised the examination of a scheme suggested by Sir Arthur Cotton, for bringing water to some of the western districts of Bengal, by damming the Gauges at Rajmahal, and thence conducting a canal through Nuddea and Moorshedabad to Calcutta. A plan for utilising the waters of the Damoodab, on the western borders of Bengal, was also recommended to notice; as well as the possibility of constructing a system of embanked lakes throughout the undulating tracts of the west of Bengal, similar to those which exist in similar countries in Southern, Central, and Western India. The Soane river, already the subject of a great scheme, may supply means of irrigation for the south of Behar; and a careful examination is urged to ascertain what facilities are afforded by the streams on the northern frontier of that province

EAST INDIA.

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STATEMENT

EXHIBITING THE

MORAL AND MATERIAL PROGRESS AND CONDITION

OF

INDIA.

DURING THE YEAR 1868-69.

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Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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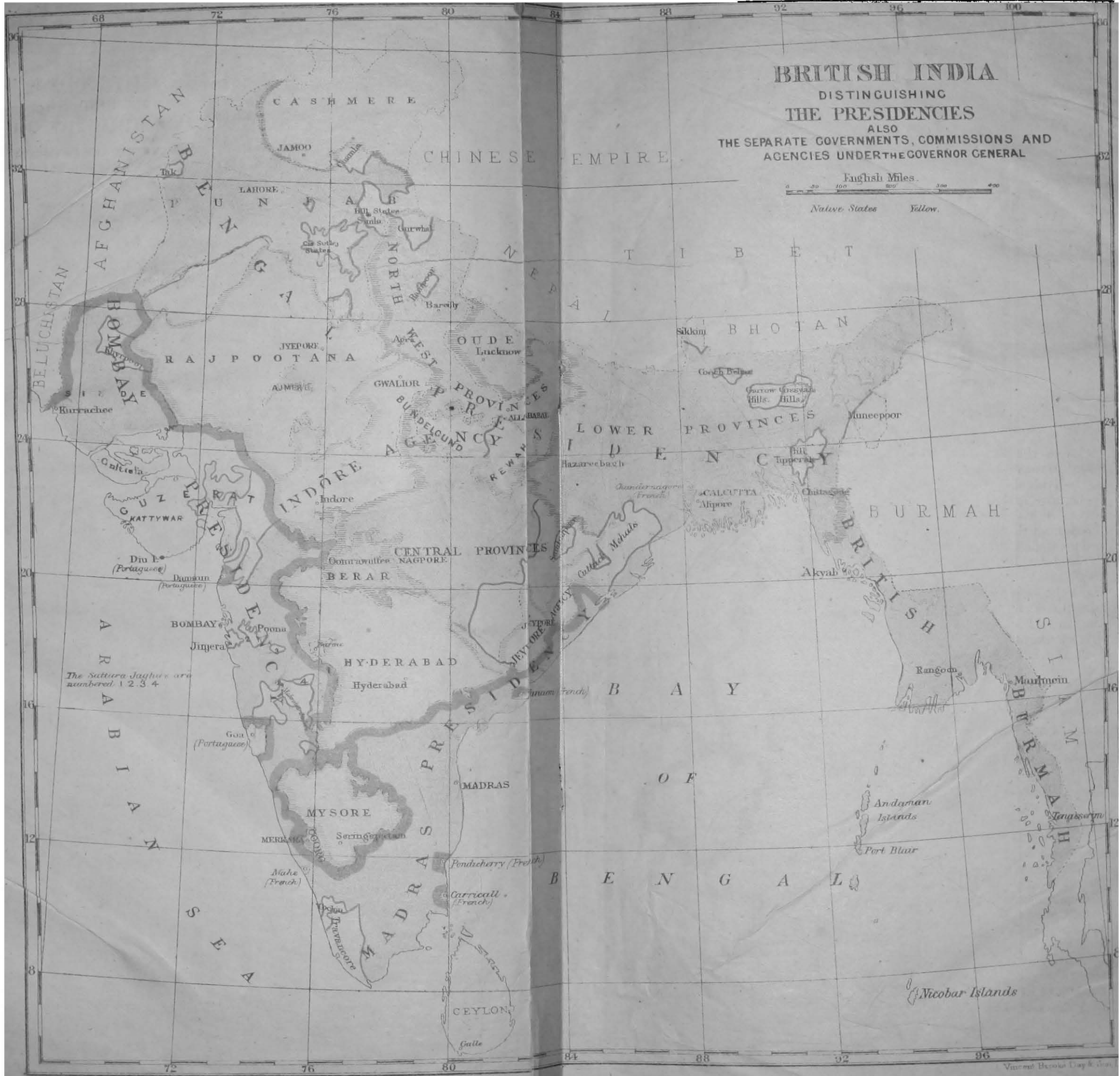
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# BRITISH INDIA

DISTINGUISHING  
THE PRESIDENCIES

ALSO  
THE SEPARATE GOVERNMENTS, COMMISSIONS AND  
AGENCIES UNDER THE GOVERNOR GENERAL



The Satwara Jaghirs are numbered 1, 2, 3, 4.

# STATEMENT

EXHIBITING THE

MORAL AND MATERIAL PROGRESS AND CONDITION OF INDIA,

DURING THE YEAR 1868-69.

## INTRODUCTION.

AMONG the numerous interests which claim attention in "A Report on the Moral and Material Progress of India," it is not difficult to select three topics which give an individuality to the year 1868-69. They are,—the retirement of the late Governor-General Sir John Lawrence, at the end of his term of office, and the advent of his successor, Earl Mayo; the drought which caused distress and anxiety throughout the greater part of British India, and severe famine in Rajpootana; and the serious deficit which became apparent at the close of the financial year.

Sir John Lawrence was appointed Governor-General at the close of the year 1863, on the death of Lord Elgin. He brought to bear upon the Government of India the weight of his great ability and long experience, and his retirement closed an active career of 40 years, devoted continuously to its service. On his return to England Her Majesty was graciously pleased to raise him to the peerage under the title of Baron Lawrence of the Punjab, and of Grately in Hampshire. Earl Mayo took the oaths and his seat as Governor-General at Calcutta, on the 19th January 1869.

The drought was wide spread, but unequal in severity. Rajpootana with its area of desert and its scanty water supply was most affected. It is usual for the population of the more arid districts to migrate to some of the more favoured neighbouring states, but on this occasion all were visited alike by the scourge, which was the most calamitous on record. Thousands of the famine-stricken poured into the British territories in search of food, greatly aggravating the burden already felt there. In the Central Provinces the drought though less severe, was universal; in the North-Western Provinces, the northern districts, and those bordering on Rajpootana suffered most; in the Punjab, those south of the Sutlej. In Madras there was slight anxiety, and in the Lower Provinces still less.

A detailed narrative of the distress and of the measures taken to avert it, is contained in the chapters devoted to the two first named provinces. On the political aspect of these measures, so clearly set forth by Mr. Morris, Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces, it will be interesting to quote the following from that gentleman's report.

"It must be never forgotten that the measures initiated by the Government in 1868 amount in fact to a new policy. In the earlier years of British rule State assistance was limited to the Native method of remitting revenue, but this under the native system was only one part of a general scheme which turned on a full recognition of the State as landlord. The Mahrattas probably laid more stress on the rights of property than on its responsibilities, but the greater the share which they assumed of the fruits of the soil, the more helpless they left the cultivating

classes; and therefore to prevent an entire collapse of the agricultural system, they were bound to regulate its machinery minutely and watchfully, and in times of difficulty to take almost the whole burthen of supporting farmers, who had never been encouraged or indeed allowed the opportunity of standing by themselves. Thence arose the yearly fluctuation of the assessments, to adapt them to the seasons, and the storage of grain in warehouses, whence seed and food grain were lent to the people to be repaid with interest at the first good harvest. Our revenue system, even before it had developed a proprietary body independent of the State, leant towards European models, and attempts were made from the first, by fixed revenue settlements on comparatively light terms, to wean the land farmers from their dependence on authority. Hence the Government retired from its position as a grain-dealer, and though our system was obviously better calculated to promote the prosperity of the country in the end, it is questionable if at the commencement of British rule the poorer land-holders did not sometimes look back with regret to the days when they had to exercise no thought for the morrow. In another important branch of relief—the support of the old and infirm poor—our predecessors had a method which it was not easy to replace. The richer inhabitants of the famine-stricken districts or tracts were authoritatively invited to succour their poorer neighbours, and thus the Government provided for its starving subjects absolutely without expense. The few thousand rupees which the English Government distributed among millions of people in the first outbreaks of distress with which it had to deal, were a poor substitute for the enforced charity of hundreds of rich men, and even the subsequent system of large Government relief works in selected places, and relief Committees distributing alms, contributed half from private sources and half from State grants, left a good deal dependent on private impulse, and certainly failed to search out the whole of the existing distress.”

“The policy adopted during the past year, though in form but a development of former measures, was animated by the bold enunciation of a principle which, if not previously denied, was at least never so unreservedly admitted. The State has now publicly announced its responsibility for the life of the least of its subjects, and has proved to them its good faith by a measure of liberality, regulated rather by the wants of the people than by precedents or calculations.”

In Parliamentary returns already published the Indian accounts have been detailed with all fulness. It seems, therefore, scarcely necessary to notice in this Report more than briefly some of the main points connected with them.

The *gross revenue* of the Empire (including some small receipts in England 177,436*l.*), realised 49,262,691*l.* and exceeded that of 1867–68 by 728,279*l.* The *expenditure* amounted to 52,036,721*l.* or 2,494,614*l.* more than in the previous year.

There was thus a deficit of 2,774,030*l.* or, if the expenditure be made to include Public Works extraordinary, one of 4,144,643*l.*

On the side of receipts there was an increase under nearly all the heads; but in three of the four principal feeders of the revenue,—land, salt, and opium, which together produced close on 34 millions out of the 49 millions—there was a falling off. Land revenue yielded 19,926,171*l.* The decrease of 60,000*l.* compared with 1867–68 which this represents, was a consequence of the unfavourable season. So was the decrease of 137,853*l.* in salt which produced 5,588,240*l.* The most serious falling off was, however, in the opium returns, which yielded 8,453,365*l.* or 470,203*l.* less than in 1867–68, owing to the smaller cultivation in the Malwa State, doubtless also a result of the season.

On the expenditure side the chief item of increase in India was “Public works ordinary,” which had allotted to them 6,433,517*l.* or 633,248*l.* more than in 1867–68, and 460,177*l.* more than the estimate. The relief works for the employment of the distressed were the principal cause of the unfavourable difference.

Two events of interest which took place during the year deserve special mention. The visit of the Ameer Shere Ali to Earl Mayo at Umballa in April 1869, and the purchase by Government of the whole of the undertakings of the East India Irrigation and Canal Company in Behar and in Orissa for the sum of 1,054,000*l.*

With regard to the general arrangement of the Report much the same course has been followed as last year. The chapters on each administration are preceded by notices of various subjects which it will generally be found require to be treated as a whole.

The year under review is remarkable, both for an unusually large increase of revenue, and an unusually large increase of expenditure. The receipts, including official postage, were 608,447*l.* in 1867-68; in 1868-69 they amounted to 686,072*l.* The disbursements in the two years were respectively 475,494*l.* and 537,020*l.* These figures give a net revenue greater by about 15,000*l.* than in the previous year; but from the point of view which regards the Post Office as an institution deriving a revenue from the public only in return for services rendered both to the public and to the government, the revenue from private correspondence, which in 1864-65 fell short of the total expenditure by only 51,400*l.*, in the year under review fell short of it by 126,450*l.*

Post  
Office.  
Financial  
results.

Since 1858-59 (the year following the mutiny) there has not been a year with so large an increase to revenue from private correspondence. For the nine years from 1858-59 to 1867-68 the average yearly increase was 15,000*l.*; in 1868-69 it was 33,109*l.*

On the other hand, while the average yearly increase of expenditure for the nine years was 13,720*l.*, in the year under review it was 61,526*l.* The reason is easily to be explained. More than a quarter of it (16,329*l.*) was due to the cost of special trains for overland mails, for which no payments had been made in the previous year, because the rate of charge had not been settled. Moreover, in 1868 Government also determined to make the Post Office pay for the haulage of sorting carriages by railway, and the amount was 4,962*l.* These two items deducted, amounting to 21,291*l.*, about 40,000*l.* remains to be accounted for; or little more than the year's increase of revenue from private correspondence. Even with regard to this balance there are special explanations. During five months of the year there were heavy charges on account of famine allowances; expensive additions were also made to several of the chief mail cart lines; and, lastly, a revision of Post Office establishment, involving a very necessary addition to the salaries of the delivery peons or postmen, came into operation in 1868.

The re-arrangement in 1867-68 of the postal service between India and Europe, under which Bombay became the Indian port of embarkation and disembarkation of the entire overland mails, has been followed by the introduction of a system of sorting the mails on board the steamer instead of in the Bombay Post Office, whereby delay often amounting to a whole day is saved.

Sea sorting.

Notwithstanding the considerable enhancement of postage rates, the correspondence between India and England has increased considerably under the new arrangement, owing not merely to the greater frequency of the means of communication, but to the Bombay route being considerably quicker than the old routes.

Increased  
correspon-  
dence not-  
withstanding  
higher rates.

The value of the Indian share of postage, viz., 1*d.* per  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. letter, has virtually been reduced in respect of paid letters from India, owing to the heavy discount at which in India stamps are sold. Considering the now increased cost of the Indian inland transit of overland mails,—the virtually reduced share of Indian inland postage, and the fact that the Indian Post Office spends much more on their mails than it receives by way of postage on them, seem, in the opinion of the Director-General, to lead to the conclusion that the Indian share of postage must be increased.

Indian share  
of postage.

The local steam services performed under contract with the British Indian Steam Navigation Company are—

Local steam  
services.

- (1.) Calcutta and British Burmah *weekly*, with a continuation to the Straits *once every four weeks*. (Subsidy 2,133*l.* per mensem.)
- (2.) Bombay and Kurrachee *weekly*, with a continuation to the Persian Gulf *once a fortnight*. (Subsidy 2,311*l.* per mensem.)
- (3.) Calcutta, Bombay, and intermediate ports on East and West Coast *fortnightly*. (Subsidy 1,000*l.* per mensem.)
- (4.) Madras, Rangoon, and intermediate ports on East Coast *once every four weeks*. (Subsidy 600*l.* per mensem.)

The subsidy payments on account of the above-mentioned lines will for the future be shown as charges of the Post Office Department.

There are, besides, contracts with the Irrawaddy Steam Flotilla Company for services between Rangoon and Mandalay, and between Moulmein, Tavoy, and Mergui, and with the Euphrates and Tigris River Steam Navigation Company, for services between Bussorah, Baghdad, and intermediate ports. These are not under the control of the Post Office.

## STATEMENT SHOWING THE MORAL AND

- Post Office.** — During the year arrangements were made for the more free use of the opium steamers plying between Calcutta and Hong Kong for the conveyance of mails. Formerly commanders received bounty money on the mails; henceforth they will be classed as Indian mail packets.
- Increase to salaries.** The increase to the pay of the delivery peons throughout India, already alluded to, and to the salaries of the establishment in four of the provincial governments was much needed. It took effect in the latter part of the year.
- Postal guide.** The first number of a Postal Guide for India was published on the 1st April 1869.
- 551 new post offices and letter boxes were opened during the year against 601 opened in 1867-68, and 227 messengers were besides added, who collect as well as deliver letters.
- Postal lines.** There was an increase of 603 miles in all the classes of postal lines, from 49,678 miles, that is, to 50,281. Railway lines were 4,234 miles in length, or 240 miles more than in the previous year.
- Correspondence.** The figures in the margin give the total increase amounting to 9·88 per cent. In letters alone there was an increase of 10·107 per cent.
- |          |   |            |  |
|----------|---|------------|--|
| 1867-68  | - | 69,154,847 |  |
| 1868-69  | - | 75,987,617 |  |
| Increase | - | 6,832,770  |  |
- The increase in the gross value of stamps sold in 1868-69 was 12·4 per cent., against a corresponding increase of 4·78 per cent. in 1867-68.
- District post.** The district post consists of lines of communication connecting the head-quarters of each district with the interior police and revenue stations, and is maintained primarily for the purpose of conveying official correspondence. It has hitherto been under the management of the local governments, but it is gradually being transferred to the jurisdiction of the Director-General of the Post Office.
- There were 33 mail robberies during the year, or three more than in 1867-68. The increase was in the British districts.
- Establishment.** The persons employed permanently in the Post Office number 23,257, or about 2,000 more than in the previous year.
- |                                     |   |        |  |
|-------------------------------------|---|--------|--|
| Inspecting postmasters              | - | 99     |  |
| Postmasters and deputy postmasters. | - | 1,908  |  |
| Clerks                              | - | 1,684  |  |
| Peons, &c.                          | - | 4,512  |  |
| Road establishment                  | - | 15,059 |  |
|                                     |   | 23,257 |  |
- In conclusion it should be observed that while in England the Government service forms but a fraction of the whole operations of the Post Office, and puts the Department to hardly any appreciable additional expense, the case is far otherwise in India, penetrated as it is by State administration and State agency in every province, district, pergunnah, town, and village; where public works are constructed almost entirely by Government, not through private contractors; where education, surveys, and even municipal matters, are to a large extent controlled or undertaken by Government; and where, consequently, a very large proportion of the expenditure incurred by the Post Office is incurred directly on account of the service rendered to Government. All this should be taken into consideration in considering the financial condition of the department.
- THE ARMY.** The average strength of the Army in India in 1868-69, British and Native is shown in the margin. The whole force amounted to 183,000 troops, and the cost of their maintenance was 16,269,581*l.*
- |        | European. | Native. |
|--------|-----------|---------|
| Bengal | 36,795    | 46,276  |
| Madras | 12,766    | 45,992  |
| Bombay | 12,276    | 28,753  |
| Total  | 61,837    | 121,021 |
- The country is divided into sixteen divisional, and 25 brigade commands.
- EDUCATION.** The expenditure on education in India has gradually increased since 1813, when Parliament, in renewing the Company's Charter, directed that a sum of at least 10,000*l.* should be set apart annually for the promotion of education. Till about 1836 this sum was spent on the encouragement of purely Oriental literature and learning. From that time till 1854 Government schools were supervised by a committee or council of education, with a secretary; but in that year, during Sir Charles Wood's Presidency of the Board of Control, appeared the great Educational Despatch which established the present system of universities, colleges, and schools, with directors of public instruction, inspectors of schools, and grants-in-



aid, and supplied a stimulus under which education has advanced with rapid strides.

	£
1861-62 - - -	342,593
1862-63 - - -	400,361
1863-64 - - -	441,866
1864-65 - - -	531,980
1865-66 - - -	670,739
1866-67 (11 months)	674,717
1867-68 - - -	783,510
1868-69 - - -	836,990

Looking at the figures for eight years it will be seen that the sum spent by the Government of India on education, science, and art has increased from 342,593*l.* in 1861-62 to 836,990*l.* in 1868-69. And while in 1852-53 there were only 413 Government Educational Institutions with 28,179 pupils, on the 31st March 1868 there were 16,261, with an average attendance of 662,537 pupils.

The trade of India is recovering from the reaction which followed the abnormal state of things induced by the American war, and the extravagant price of cotton while it lasted. In 1866-67, the year of the panic, the foreign trade, including exports and imports, fell from 123,813,004*l.* to 95,440,109*l.*; in the following year it rose to 99,927,157*l.*, and in the year under review, ending March 1869, it sprang to 107,687,637*l.*, an increase of no less than eight millions sterling in one year, and that year a dull one. That produce commanded higher prices is proved by the fact that the increased exports of 1868-69 were carried by 5,103 vessels of 2,036,522 tons, against 5,843, of 2,090,192 tons, in the previous year. TRADE.

Of the four principal sources of revenue in India, viz., the land, customs, salt, and opium, the tax on salt is the only one which can be said to bear upon the general population, upon rich and poor alike. SALT.

The administration of the salt revenue varies in the several Presidencies, and likewise the duty, which has been determined as far as possible with a due regard to the very different circumstances of different parts of India.

In the Madras Presidency salt is manufactured on account of the Government, and is issued by them to the dealers at a fixed price, including duty and cost. Thus the fixed price per maund is 3*s.* 6*d.* of which 3*s.* represents the Government duty and 6*d.* the cost of production.

In Bombay the Government take no part in the manufacture of salt. They simply levy an excise duty on home-made salt and a customs' duty on imported salt; the duty in both cases being the same as in Madras, 3*s.* per maund.

In Bengal the Government discontinued the manufacture of salt in 1863, and the wants of this Province, and to a certain extent those of the upper Provinces of India, are supplied, 1st, by salt manufactured on the coast by private individuals; 2nd, by salt sold by Government, part of the stock which they had on hand on discontinuing the manufacture; 3rd, by imported salt, which comes three-fourths of it from Cheshire, the remainder from Jeddah, Muscat, Bombay, Madras, France, and Ceylon. The whole of this salt pays a duty of 6*s.* 6*d.* Private manufacture at present contributes little to the consumption of India, but looking at the small cost of its production there seems no reason why with proper arrangements and facilities for carriage Bengal coast salt should not eventually beat all imported out of the market.

Salt from Bengal is, however, but one of the sources of supply for the upper Provinces of British Continental India. The others will appear as the particular means therein adopted for ensuring the collection of the salt tax is explained.

Its collection is effected by means of a land frontier line 1,817 miles in length, traversing the continent and guarded by 10,832 officers and men.

This Imperial line may be described as separating British Continental India from Rajpootana, Central and Peninsular India, or conversely as separating from the rest of India the greater part of the Punjab (including Putteealla and other Native States), the North-Western Provinces, Oude, the greater portion of the Central Provinces, Bundelkund, and the whole of the territories subject to the Government of India, a tract of country possessing an area of 500,000 square miles and a population of 130 millions. To aid the realisation of the tax on the whole of the salt consumed within this area by levying an import duty along its entire land frontier, is the first and principal object of the Imperial customs' line; its secondary object is the levy of a light duty on all sugar produced within this tract, and thence exported by land, either to foreign states or to portions of British territory, which lying outside the line contribute less to the Imperial funds in the shape of salt tax than those portions which lie within it.

## STATEMENT SHOWING THE MORAL AND

To describe exactly the direction of the customs line seems unnecessary, for the object aimed at is the most complete supervision with the aid of the smallest possible preventive force, the direction varies from time to time as altered circumstances render such a change necessary.

It will be sufficient to bear in mind what has been said and that the line takes the form of an irregular figure 2, which starting from Mooltan on the Chenab, skirts the northern and eastern frontiers of Rajpootana and independent Central India; and at Boorhanpore on the Taptee, strikes eastwards across the peninsula to near the Bay of Bengal.

Duty-paying salt enters the tract east of the line from three quarters; 1st, on its northern boundary, coming from the rock salt mines of Kalabagh and Pindadun, towns of the salt range of mountains situated on the Indus and Jhelum respectively. This salt pays the Punjab Government a duty of 6s.; 2nd, on the south-east boundary, or from Calcutta principally; 3rd, across the line. This salt is chiefly manufactured in Jodhpore, at the Sambhur Lake, in the Bhurtpore State, in Guzerat, and at some

	Maunds.
From the Punjab - -	1,200,000
Across the line - -	3,730,000
From the south-eastern frontier	7,900,000
Non-duty paying, smuggled, and illicit - -	1,000,000
<b>Total maunds - -</b>	<b>13,830,000</b>

towns in our own territories, paying a duty of 6s. per maund; or it comes from Bombay and Madras, in which case traders who have already paid 3s. at the works are furnished with a pass, and on coming to the line are only required to pay an equal amount, bringing the total duty up to the 6s. paid by other salts. The approximate total consumption of salt in the tract to the east of the line is shown above. The preventive force on the line and the internal department for the prevention of illicit manufacture are, it will be seen, so far successful that by far the greater portion of the salt consumed pays duty. The smuggled salt comes, some of it, round the eastern end of the line by the gap between the termination of the line and the coast; some crosses the line, some descends from Thibet, and a considerable quantity is known to be smuggled up the innumerable creeks in the delta of the Hooghly. Illicit manufacture is carried on within the line, in Rewah, in the Punjab, the North-West Provinces, Behar, and other districts.

The salt duties have been the subject of consideration during the past year, and the Home Government has expressed its readiness to such a revision of them being made as shall have for its leading principle the equalisation of the duties over all the Provinces of the Indian Empire. Such equalisation would allow of the discontinuance between various portions of British territory of customs lines which are vexatious to trade as well as costly in their maintenance; though as long as any considerable duty is levied on salt at all it will still be necessary to guard the frontier of native salt-producing States.

## COTTON.

The exports from the Bombay Presidency in 1868 amounted to 1,294,291 bales, and exceeded those of 1867, which was itself an exceptionally favourable year, by more than 70,000 bales.

From Bombay -	1,240,692
From Carwar -	26,393
From Sind -	27,206
<b>Total -</b>	<b>1,294,291</b>

Throughout the Presidency there were in use, in 1868-69, 294 manual and 171 steam presses against 222 of the one and 153 of the other in 1867-68. The only gins employed, besides the native "churka," are McCarthy's. Their number was 1,288, not quite so many as in 1867-68.

The most important part of the report here made use of is that which, in connexion with the small number of cases tried under the Cotton Frauds Act, calls attention to its inefficiency for the purpose for which it was framed. The general feeling is stated to be in favour of the continuance of such an Act, though diversity of opinion, and to a certain extent of interests, makes it difficult to decide the exact course that legislation should take.

As the law now stands, he says, conviction of an offender is extremely difficult owing to the presence in section II. of the words "fraudulently and dishonestly," which cast upon the inspector the onus of proving fraudulent intention, even in the grossest cases of adulteration, and make him unwilling to prosecute, when by so doing he can only expose the weakness of the authority on which he acts. It has, therefore, been recommended that the words be omitted, and that when the

offence has been proved to be wilful it be left to the discretion of the magistrate to decide the question of motive. Another serious defect in the law is the absence of any clause to prevent the mixture of good and bad qualities of the same variety of cotton in the same bale, which is a common practice and one most detrimental to the interests of the cotton trade. With regard to *pressing*, it would much strengthen the hands of the inspectors had they the power of granting and suspending the licenses of press owners, who, under a law which makes the licensee the responsible person, can escape conviction and reopen the press under another name. The same officer who makes the last suggestion complains of the provision in the Act that no cotton can be legally examined which is not "offered for compression," or "exposed for sale." Neither of these conditions need apply to cotton until its arrival at Bombay, and as a consequence much that is adulterated passes through the districts undetected, and in its ultimate examination gives rise to the charge of remissness on the part of the up-country inspectors.

Dr. Forbes again strongly advocates the establishment of public cotton markets at all important stations, as a measure which would have the effect of bringing the European merchant into immediate contact with the cultivator and of freeing the latter from the bondage of the Native middlemen and brokers. Where they have been set on foot, as at Julgaum and Khamgaum, their success has been most marked. One of the inspectors says, "The establishment of the market is viewed with the greatest satisfaction by the cotton owners in the district, ryots, &c., who see that they have now an opportunity of escaping the unjust extortions practised on them when selling their cotton. At present, by using our scales, they sell their cotton at its true weight."

The chief stumbling-blocks in the way of the establishment of the marts are said to be the municipalities, the members of which are in many cases themselves cotton dealers and in league with the middlemen, while the hold that the latter maintain over the produce prevents agitation on the part of the European and Native buyers and the growers, which might be resented when cotton contracts required fulfilment. Dr. Forbes is of opinion that a clause in the proposed amended Bill, making their establishment lawful, would give them the stamp of authority, inspire confidence, and remove many of the present difficulties. Their control, he thinks, should be vested in the Cotton Department.

The statement in the margin shows the extent of land under cotton cultivation in 1868-69 and in the previous year.

—	1867-68.	1868-69.
	Acres.	Acres.
Northern Division -	914,343	803,634
Southern " -	1,046,735	1,171,827
Sind and Native States	220,095	190,252
Total -	2,181,173	2,165,713

It will be seen that while the net decrease amounted to 15,460 acres there was in the Northern Division the large decrease of 110,708 acres, which was, however, more than covered by an increase of 125,091 acres in the Southern Division. The Northern Division contains four collectorates, among which are the three important districts of Surat, Ahmedabad, and Khandeish.

In Surat the deficiency of 36,603 acres, of which 31,969 acres belongs to the Broach portion of the collectorate, probably shows a return to former limits.

The deficiency in Ahmedabad (48,773 acres) cannot be ascribed to the same cause, and shows that cotton cultivation is there getting into disfavour.

In Khandeish the decrease was 25,283 acres, and as in the case of Surat probably indicates a return to the average, and is, perhaps, also partly due to the rotation of crops.

The estimate for 1868-69 prepares us for a deficiency of 78,154 bales in the

—	1867-68.	1868-69.
	Bales.	Bales.
Northern Division -	153,928	85,880
Southern " -	133,752	132,362
Sind and Native States	36,302	27,582
Total -	323,982	245,824

yield of cotton for 1868-69 as compared with 1867-68. Here, again, by far the larger portion of the deficit, viz., 68,046, is absorbed by the Northern Division, where with the exception of Surat, the season is reported to have been very unfavourable. The deficiency in the Southern Division is only 1,388 bales. There are seven collectorates in this

division, of which the most important are Dharwar, Kulladgee, and Belgaum, the average yield of the two first being equal to that of the whole Northern Division. Dharwar contributes largely the cotton known in the home market as "Coompta."



The season in this district at first promised exceedingly well. In the beginning of January, however, there sprang up an easterly wind, accompanied by a species of blight, which in some cases attacked the leaves, drying them up and causing the plant to wither, and in others first affected the bark, and through it seemed to sap the strength of the plant. The loss here and in the neighbouring districts of Belgaum and Kulladgee from this cause is reckoned at not less than 35 per cent. of the whole yield. It is remarkable that, contrary to the experience of Mr. Rivett Carnac in the Central Provinces, it was here the indigenous cotton of the country, not the exotic variety, which suffered the most. American or New Orleans cotton has for some years past been thoroughly acclimatised in the Southern Division. Out of 1,171,827 acres under cotton cultivation in the season under report, it occupied 331,151 acres, and its use is still growing and gradually extending into the Native States.

The experiments conducted during the year with foreign seeds have met with varying success, partly owing to the unfavourable season they have had to contend against. The result, however, seems to prove that the translated cotton plant will succeed only in those districts where the surrounding conditions are similar to those to which it has been accustomed, and that until a more intimate knowledge of the peculiarities of the plant have determined its suitability for India and its habitat, it would be unfair and impolitic to force upon the Indian ryot, whose bread depends upon his land, the adoption of a seed from which an adequate return is doubtful. The experiments are therefore to be conducted by Government, who, in the opinion of the Cotton Commissioner, may rest assured that when the superiority of the exotic seed has been established, the Native cultivators will not be slow to come forward in their own interests.

In almost every division of the North-West Provinces there was a falling off in the area under cotton cultivation and in the out-turn;

—	Acres.	Lbs.
1867-68 -	1,300,000	58,162,080
1868-69 -	890,000	44,201,280

and in all there was a very heavy falling off from the normal crop. The average crop for the preceding seven years was rather more than 90,000,000 of lbs., so that, in fact, the yield of 1868-69 was less than half the average.

In 1867-68 the prolonged and untimely rains injured the plant and caused heavy losses; but the deficiency of 1868-69 is due to the directly opposite cause—the long-continued drought.

With regard to the comparative demand for English and country manufactures, the former is, no doubt, preferred by the upper and middle classes; but the lower classes still hold to the cheap and strong country cloth. One district officer remarks that the coarse country cloths are (except a few special manufactures, such as fine *pugrees*) the only native fabrics which have not been beaten out of the field by English goods, and that until some coarse, strong, cheap English-manufactured article appears they have the market to themselves.

The unfavourable season prevented the Hingunghât seed from having a fair trial.

KANGRA  
TEA.

Tea cultivation in India is a growth of the last 40 years, and originated in the discovery of the indigenous plant in Assam in the year 1830. From Assam it was introduced into Cachar and Darjeeling, thence into the hills of North-western India, where the first crop of tea obtained in 1843 in Kumaon was so successful as to lead to further extensions of the Government plantations. Operations were pushed on, private plantations were established, and in 1850 Dr. Jameson, with the sanction of Government, established two small nurseries in the Kangra valley. When Lord Dalhousie visited Kangra in 1852, pleased with the success of the experiment, he authorised the establishment of an extensive plantation at Holta, which in 1860 produced an out-turn of 29,312 lbs. of tea, that yielded an average of 2s. per lb. when sold by public auction, and 3s. 4½d. by private sale. From this plantation seeds and seedlings were given gratuitously year by year to all applicants, with the object of encouraging private enterprise, until numerous plantations had been established and the planters no longer required the distribution of seed. Eventually the Holta plantation passed into private hands. The only obstacle in the way of private enterprise was caused at the outset by the difficulty of obtaining land owing to an error in the settlement, which instead of reserving to Government the rights in the waste lands, made them over to the village communities, who would not sell them. Negotiation set the matter to rights, and now, instead of dense forest or long grass and stubble covering the extensive wastes, "neat paths with hedge rows of fruit trees

“ and wild roses lead through extensive tracts of rich tea cultivation, and these “ tracts from barren wastes have become rich gardens,” and the planter by conciliating the people and giving employment has been able largely to increase the area of his plantations by the purchase of fresh land.

All the plantations are situated in the lower slopes of the snowy range of Chumber, at elevations of from 2,500 to 5,000 feet above the sea. The aggregate area of the principal ones, 19 in number, comprises 8,708 acres, the area actually under tea cultivation 2,635 acres, and the gross aggregate produce in the season of 1868 amounted to 241,332 lbs. of tea. The average produce is 91.6 lbs. per acre, and the average price realised by sale 2s. 2d. per lb. Under a good system of high cultivation, a system that is adopted on most of the plantations, an acre of tea bushes might be made to produce 250 lbs. of tea. The cost of production and manufacture on a plantation which produces the average of 190 or 200 lbs. per acre may be set down at 1s. per lb. With regard to the small area actually under cultivation in the valley, this is said to be a healthy sign. “ It is the too rapid “ formation of extensive unmanageable estates that has led in some measure to the “ disastrous results of tea cultivation in parts of Assam.”

There are four markets for the sale of Kangra valley teas, viz., the home or London market, the local European, the local Native market, and the Central Asian. The home market is considered the least profitable, owing chiefly to the heavy transit charges, which from the plantation to the London market amount to 6¾d. per lb., making the total cost to the planter 1s. 6¾d. per lb.

The demand in the local European market, though yearly increasing, can never absorb the supply available; the local Native market is also of considerable and increasing importance. But of the four the most important for the sale of Kangra teas is the Central Asian market. The great mart for the supply of Upper India and Central Asia is Umritsur, from whence is the easiest route, viâ Jumoo and Cashmere, to Ladakh and the Eastern Provinces of Central Asia viâ Cabool, to the great Central Asian marts of Herat, Khiva, Bokhara, and Samarcand, and viâ Kur-rachee, to the ports in the Persian Gulf.

Labour in the Kangra valley is abundant, and at present remarkably cheap, 8s. a month representing the pay of an able-bodied labourer. A difficult and costly road, running for 60 or 70 miles through the valley, is in course of construction by Government.

The report concludes by bearing testimony to the excellent feeling displayed by the planters towards the authorities and their own people.

The only plantations still remaining in the possession of Government are two of small extent in Kumaon, which in 1868 produced an out-turn of 22,857 lbs. The work of Government in inaugurating the experiment of tea cultivation having been fully accomplished, these, like the rest, will be sold at a favourable opportunity.

There are now 2,595,176 chinchona plants belonging to Government on the Neilgherry hills, of which 1,148,424 are permanently planted out, the largest being 24½ feet high and 32 inches in girth near the ground. 178,605 plants have been distributed to private individuals, besides 295 ounces of seeds. CHINCHONA.

A recent report by Mr. Broughton, Quinologist to Government, furnishes answers to the problems in chinchona cultivation, which were suggested for his solution when he was appointed two years ago. He has established the fact that the highly cultivated bark is superior to that grown in a wild state, and clearly shows that the febrifuge alkaloids are more abundant in vigorous and quickly growing trees, that the yield increases with age, but that the ratio of increase becomes slower until, at a certain point not yet ascertained, the maximum yield is obtained.

The red bark (*C. succirubra*) flourishes almost everywhere and yields abundance of febrifuge alkaloids. This species should therefore be naturalised in all the fever-haunted districts. On the other hand, *C. Calisaya*, *C. officinalis* (lanceolate variety), and probably *C. Pitoyensis*, though much richer in quinine, and therefore more valuable commercially, require more special conditions for their development, especially as regards altitude.

Mr. Broughton finds that it is much cheaper to extract the alkaloids from the green bark, the saving of acids being more than one-fourth. He recommends that the harvest should be taken between January and March, when the atmosphere is very dry on the Neilgherries, and that the bark should be spread out on stages one above the other to be dried in the sun, avoiding exposure to the sunlight. The

maximum yield of alkaloids in the bark is also found to be in the dry season, and the smallest during the monsoon.

IPECACU-  
ANHA.

It has been brought to the notice of Government that the introduction of the ipecacuanha plant would be productive of immense benefit to the population of India, and measures have accordingly been taken for sending out a supply of the plants and for their vigorous cultivation. What quinine is as a febrifuge, ipecacuanha is found to be in cases of dysentery, one of the most common and fatal complaints of the country.

FORESTS.

The greater care which has of late years been bestowed on the forests of India is apparent from the increased revenue derived from them, coupled with their better preservation, and the progress that has been made in exploring them and marking their boundaries. It is hoped that the present system of preparing a certain number of young men annually for forest service in India by a two years' course of training in the forest schools of France and Germany, will in a few years furnish a band of experienced conservators, whose exertions, directed by their able chief, Dr. Brandis, will give this department the administrative strength which its great practical importance to the welfare of the country demands.

The gross receipts of the forests have risen from 304,440*l.* in 1863-64 to 420,700*l.* in 1868-69, and it is estimated that the requirements of the Government in connexion with the new lines of railways, will raise this item of revenue to the large sum of 596,180*l.*

COAL.

The total quantity of coal raised in all India during 1867 was 118,61,031 maunds, or 479,233 tons, and in the year 1868, 135,62,274 maunds, or 547,971 tons, of which but a very small portion was obtained elsewhere than from the Ranigunj field.

In the space of 10 years the amount raised has considerably more than doubled, having increased steadily from 61½ lakhs of maunds in 1858 to 127¼ lakhs of maunds in 1868. The chief customer is the East Indian Railway, which in 1868 consumed nearly one-half of the total amount raised in India.

GEOLOGICAL  
SURVEY.

The investigation of the Chanda coal-fields in the valley of the Godavery was continued during the year, and it is gratifying to learn that the additional information which has been gained on a subject whose importance as bearing on the welfare of the country can hardly be over-estimated, is all satisfactory. One of the great sources of doubt as to the extent of the coal deposits arose from the widely established fact that the beds in the group of rocks in which the coal here occurs (known to Indian geologists as the Barakar group), had invariably a tendency to exhibit very great variation both in thickness and quality within short distances. The result of careful borings, however, seems to point to the *general* continuity of the coals on a fixed horizon in the lower sandstones, and has shown that although, as was expected, there is a large amount of variation in the actual section, the beds are of considerable thickness, so much as 41 ft. 7 in. of coal having been cut in one boring in a total depth of 138 feet. It is hoped that as soon as the Chanda district is examined the investigations of the Geological Survey may be continued down the valley of the Godavery, at detached points in which small basins of the coal-measure rocks are known to exist.

Hardly less important in their practical results are the investigations which have led to Umballa being supplied with pure wholesome water. Umballa is a large military station about 50 miles from the foot of the Himalayas, where, as in many other stations in India, the insufficiency of the water supply has long been a source of sickness, anxiety, and expense. Mr. H. B. Medlicott, after his examination of the sub-Himalayan rocks, was of opinion that this much-needed supply of water was to be found in the water-bearing beds which must exist under all the country in that parallel along the foot of the hills, and that the pressure would be at least sufficient to bring it nearly, if not quite, to the surface from very considerable depths. The very first trial confirmed these sanguine expectations, and it is hoped that further trials will be now boldly carried out in those areas where, after proper examination, similar conditions may be expected to exist.

Further examination of the country, and the ascertained fact of the general limitation of the coal beds to defined areas, tend to a conviction on the part of Dr. Oldham that the great drainage basins of India existed (as drainage basins) at the enormously distant period which marked the commencement of the deposition of the great plant-bearing series. Thus the Ranigunj, the Jherria, the Bokaro, the Ramghur, and the Karunpura fields all belong to the drainage basin of the Damooda river. Itkuri (Eetcoora) and Kurhurbari fields are in the basin of the Barakar, the

largest affluent of the Damooda, from which, in the upper part of its course, it is separated by the lofty ranges of Parasnath and the wide plateau of Hazaribagh. The Kasta deposits and the limited fields near Dubrajur and the Deogur fields are in the valley of the Adjai, and limited to it, while the valley of the More, further to the north, has its small field near to Soory.

In a wider view, all these rivers may be considered to have formed one great estuary at an early period. The Talchir field, near Katták, the detached areas of Talchir sandstones in the Sumbulpur country, and the Belaspur field, are limited to the Mahanuddy basin. Palamow, the Singrowli, and South Rewah coals are all strictly confined to the Sone basin. The Chanda field, and the continuation of this field in detached areas down the Godavery valley, considerably below Dumagudiam, are all strictly confined to the basin of the Godavery and its affluents, while, similarly, the coal-fields of the Nerbudda valley are all limited to the drainage basin of that river.

In Madras, Mr. King has been able to complete a general report on the geological area occupied by the quartzites, slates, limestones, &c. which cover the large portion of the districts of Kuddapah and Kurnool, and which appear geologically to represent in the south the older portion of the great Vindhyan series. This area, containing many thousand square miles, being complete in itself, that is, being surrounded on all sides by rocks of totally different ages and different mineral characters, is treated as one.

In the Province of Bombay the examination of Kutch was completed in 1869, and an admirable map of the whole of Kutch, accompanied by a report embodying the latest researches, has been prepared by Mr. Wynne, who has now proceeded to the Punjab to take up the detailed examination of that Province, which offers to the geologist many points of great interest, as well as promise of valuable mineral products.

In Burmah, Mr. W. Theobald has completed the general examination of the Prome district up to the frontier of British Burmah, so far as that lies to the east of the Irrawaddy, and has now taken up the country lying to the west of the river in the same parallel.

*Publications.*—The memoirs of the Geological Survey of India (vol. vii., pt. 1, published during the year, and written by Mr. Frederick Mallet) contain a full report on the area occupied in North-western India by the great series of rocks to which the name Vindhyan has been given. Stretching along the northern escarpments of the Nerbudda valley, passing across the district of Jubbulpur, and forming the whole of the Rewah country north of the Sone, this great series extends in a continuous mass far into Bengal, where the picturesque cliffs of the Rhotasgurh hills form its steeply scarped limits on the left bank of the Sone. Returning towards the west by Sasseram, Chunar, Mirzapur, and a little south of Allahabad, the boundary thence stretches in a great sweeping bay or curve to the south by Kirwee, Bijawur, and crossing the Beas river, trends again north to Gwalior and Agra and Futtipur Sikri, whence the line again trends to the south and extends to near Neemuch. The rocks belonging to this widely extended and important group constitute one of the most remarkable and interesting series in all India. They become also still more important to the Indian geologist when he finds representatives of the same great series covering immense areas in Madras, as already noticed, stretching northwards along the flanks of the Ghats and up the Godavery country, until in Berar and the adjoining part of the Nizam's dominions, and again in Bustar and Chutteesgurh, they constitute the rocky basis of very extended districts.

They are divided into several different groups, characterised by peculiar lithological distinctions, and throughout the whole area described present a wonderful constancy of mineral composition.

The "Records of the Geological Survey" are intended to convey a notice of the current work of the Survey, and the issues of the year containing manypers of great interest.

Attached to the department there are a library, a museum, and a fine collection of meteorites.

Briefly summarised, the work of the Grand Trigonometrical Survey during 1868-69 comprises the measurement of a base line in the neighbourhood of Cape Comorin, of 72 principal triangles which cover an area of 6,508 square miles, and would if united form a chain of 320 miles in length, and of secondary triangles covering 6,615 square miles. Besides this, topographical surveys were carried out in Kattywar and Guzerat, and in the districts of Kumaon and Gurhwal. Much new

TRIGONOMETRICAL SURVEY.

ground was traversed in Trans-Himalayan regions by natives under the direction of Major Montgomerie. Numerous astronomical, pendulum, and magnetic observations were taken, and many maps and charts were prepared and published.

The narrative of the journeys of the Pundits revives the interest which was felt on the announcement of the successful result of Captain Montgomerie's first experiment in 1867.

One of the Pundits employed by Major Montgomerie penetrated to Rudok, the capital of North-western Thibet, and found it to be situated about nine miles from the Pangong lake. Thence, he advanced nearly due east over an elevated plateau 15,000 feet above the sea. The plain was of a dazzling whiteness, apparently due to some salt mixed with the soil, and it extended as far as the eye could reach. Throughout his route he passed numerous lakes producing salt and borax, and he heard minute descriptions of no less than seven separate gold-fields. The salt-fields appear to be the source from which the hill population from Nepal to Kashmir draws the greater part of their salt. Of borax there seems sufficient to supply the potteries of Staffordshire and all Europe if the supply from Tuscany should ever run short. The Pundit finally descended to Lake Mansarowar, of which he made a careful traverse with bearings to the peaks north and south.

Another explorer made a route survey of 1,190 miles in length; he managed to penetrate behind or north of the great Mount Everest peak.

The new routes explored during the year will, when combined with former explorations, add much to the elucidation of the Eastern Himalayas.

On the north-west frontier of India a Muhamedan gentleman has been employed for some time in exploring the countries beyond the Hindoo-Koosh, the Mustagh, and Karakorum ranges. Mirza was one of the lads brought from Herat by Pottinger, and has received a partial English education; he has kept up his acquaintance with that country, and, though for some time in the British service, has spent the greater part of his life there. He started via Affghanistan, and made his way to Candahar, where his progress was for a time arrested, owing to the war which resulted in reseating the Amir Shere Ali on the Cabul throne. Accompanying the Amir he witnessed various actions that took place during the Amir's advance from Candahar, and supplied our Government with accounts of them and the general state of affairs. Ultimately he was able to pass over to Badukshan, thence he ascended through the upper valley of the Oxus to Lieutenant Wood's Sirikul (or Victoria) lake. From this lake he made his way through a part of Sirikul district to Tashkurgan, crossing the watershed which divides the Oxus from Eastern Turkistan. From Tashkurgan he made his way over the mountains to Kashgur, where he was detained some time, and refused permission to go on to Kokhan. Ultimately he was glad to be allowed to return via Yarkund and the Karakoram pass to Ladak, and thence into British territory. His route from the Sirikul to Kashgur is entirely new, and may perhaps throw some light on Marco Polo's route from Europe to China, as that traveller stated that he went direct from Badukshan to Kashgur without passing through any larger town.

Expeditions are being organised to carry the explorations still further to the north of the Hindoo-Koosh, so as to account for the geography of the upper branches of the Oxus, of the Pamir Steppe, &c., projects which will probably be favoured by the present state of Affghanistan; and further routes will be directed in order to complete our knowledge of the geography of the Eastern Himalayas.

REVENUE  
SURVEY.

The Revenue Survey reports for 1868-69 show an area of 19,369 square miles surveyed during the year, at a total cost of 89,000*l.*, or at an average rate of 4*l.* 10*s.* 3*d.* per square mile.

In the Surveyor-General's office at Calcutta, in addition to the current work of compiling maps, many hundred copies of village plans were drawn for landholders and others.

Ten parties were employed in the upper circle, viz., four in the Central Provinces, one in Oude, two in the North-western Provinces, two in the Punjab, and one in Scinde.

In Oude 1,181 square miles were surveyed, leaving an area estimated at 1,500 square miles to complete the Province, of which about 1,100 were to come under survey in 1869-70. In the Punjab the Huzara district was completed, and is now ascertained to have an area of 2,975 square miles. Lieutenant-Colonel Johnstone, who conducted this survey, accompanied the Huzara field force in the expedition of October 1868, having previously determined the best routes to be taken by the

force to the west of the Black Mountain. During the three weeks that these operations lasted he reconnoitred and surveyed 400 square miles of hitherto unknown and unexplored ground, and made an important discovery respecting the true course of the Indus between Astoor and the Black Mountain, where in the published maps it is made to flow many miles too far south. Colonel Johnstone's work was almost entirely among the lofty mountains of Upper Huzara, among glaciers and masses of eternal snow, and stations were fixed on peaks which had hitherto been pronounced impracticable.

It was hoped that the survey of Scinde, which was commenced in 1855-56, would be completed in 1869-70. During the year under review an area of 5,891 square miles, much of it desert, was surveyed on the plains of Omerkote, and in Thurr and Parker.

In the lower circle six parties were at work; five in the Lower Provinces, chiefly in the Kamroop and Luckimpore districts of Assam, and in Cooch Behar; and one in British Burmah. The most severe work fell to Lieutenant Barron, in Luckinpore, a district on the extreme north-east, embracing Sudya, and extending some sixty miles beyond it. Its boundary is as yet undefined, but its estimated area is 11,600 square miles. He had the densest jungles to cut through, and was almost wholly dependent upon imported labour. This officer strongly recommends that the British boundary line should be fixed, and that within that boundary we should insist on the inhabitants living at peace with each other. At present the Naga and other tribes claim a sort of independence, and carry on petty wars with each other within the ostensible boundary line, the influence of our rule in some directions seeming hardly to extend beyond our outposts.

The object of the Topographical Survey, briefly stated, is to obtain fairly reliable maps on a moderate scale (one inch to the mile), and at a small cost, of wild, hilly, and unremunerative non-regulation districts within British jurisdiction, as well as of Native States, for purposes of administration, civil and military, and to obtain geographical information on a reliable basis, for the sheets of the great Indian Atlas, of vast tracts of country, which under any more expensive and elaborate system would take upwards of a century to complete.

TOPOGRAPHICAL SURVEY.

The surveys of the year were conducted by seven parties, three of whom were occupied in the Central India and Rajpootana agencies; two in the Central Provinces and the Vizagatam agency of the Province of Madras; and two in the Lower Provinces of Bengal. Of nearly all the ground allotted to these survey parties no reliable maps exist, and in some cases the tracts have been rarely visited by Europeans.

During the season of 1868-69 the final survey of 16,801 square miles was completed by the seven parties, at a total cost of 36,860*l.*, or 2*l.* 3*s.* 10½*d.* per square mile. Compared with 1867-68 these figures show a falling off of 3,400 square miles in the amount of work, and an increase of nearly 8*s.* per square mile in the cost of survey, results which are entirely due to the scarcity and dearness of food throughout the country, which made it necessary to curtail field operations by two months, and to increase the wages of the native employés. On the other hand, there is a large increase in the area triangulated in advance of details as a basis for future plane tabling, and a marked improvement in the number of points fixed by the triangulation and the number of elevations determined, both of which elements are of great importance.

Area of survey and cost.

The total out-turn of fair mapping by the seven surveys represents an area of 18,265 square miles reduced to one-inch and half-inch scales, besides 20,901 square miles of exaggerated mapping intended for reduction by photography and subsequent transfer to zinc by the carbon process. This work is reported to be exceedingly good, and to have kept every one employed to the latest day of the recess.

Mapping.

The Surveyor-General has directed his attention to the absence of any contribution whatever to the geography of the northern portion of the Province of Bombay during the last 40 years, and will take the earliest opportunity of supplying the blanks which have prevented the publication of several sheets of the great Atlas of India.

Summing up the work accomplished by the department, he states that during the last quarter of a century the enormous area of nearly 600,000 square miles has been surveyed, an area nearly five times as large as that of the whole of the British islands, more than twice and a half larger than that of France, upwards of five times the area of Prussia, more than double that of Austria, and three times

that of Spain. "The survey of India is a national task worthy of comparison with similar undertakings in other European countries."

The journals of the surveying officers contain much valuable and interesting information on the geography, ethnology, &c. of the districts visited by them.

ARCHÆO-  
LOGY.

The archæological remains of India may be divided into four classes: architecture, sculpture, coins, and inscriptions.

Architec-  
ture.

Architecture is naturally divided into the two great classes of Hindu and Muhammedan, which are widely distinct from each other. The former may be subdivided into the three distinct classes of Buddhist, Jain, and Brahman, corresponding to the three distinct religious beliefs which prevailed in ancient India.

*Buddhist.*—The Buddhist architecture consists of caves, topes, monasteries, temples, and pillars. As the earliest specimens of Hindu architecture the greatest interest attaches to the examples of this style, of which few now exist. Notable among Buddhist remains are the caves of Ellora and Ajanta, near Bombay, and the Sanchi Tope, near Bhilsa, in Central India.

*Jain.*—The principal Jain works are in Rajpootana, Gwalior, and Bundelcund. Though not so numerous as those of the Brahmans, they are equally important from their extreme richness and variety.

*Brahman.*—The Brahmanical style extended over a very long period. The early structures are few in number; those of later date are very numerous: but it is in most cases difficult to arrive at more than an approximate determination of their age.

The Muhammedan architecture, distinct only in style, may be broadly divided into Pathan and Mogul, but these again possessed diverse styles at different periods, so that Muhammedan architecture may be classed under the following five heads:—

	A.D.	A.D.
1. <i>Early Pathan</i> , of the Ghori and Khilji dynasties	- 1193 to 1321	
2. <i>Late Pathan</i> , of the Tughlak and Sayid dynasties	- 1321 to 1451	
3. <i>Affghân</i> , of the Lodi and Suri dynasties	- 1451 to 1554	
4. <i>Early Mogul</i> , from Humâyun's restoration to Shah Jehan's death	- 1554 to 1658	
5. <i>Late Mogul</i> , from Shah Jehan's death to accession of Alam Shah	- 1658 to 1759	

The great difference between the Pathan and the later Mogul architecture, as great as that existing between early Norman and perpendicular, is evident by comparing the majestic beauty of the Kutb Minar (A.D. 1200) and the stern grandeur of the fort of Tughlakabad (A.D. 1321) with the chaste elegance of the tomb of Taj-Mahal at Agra, built A.D. 1630 and the graceful lightness of Aurangzib's mosque at Rosa, Delhi, A.D. 1677.

Sculpture.

The Muhammedan religion forbidding the representation of anything living, either man or animal, the sculpture of India is limited to the Hindus, and, like the architecture or the same people, is divided into the three distinct classes, Buddhist, Jain, and Brahmanical.

The Buddhist sculptures consist of bas-reliefs and detached statues. The first are valuable as illustrating the dress and occupations of the people, as well as their buildings, &c.; while the sculptures are important from their unconstrained style and superior finish, due in all probability to the influence of Greek art.

The Jain sculptures are restricted almost entirely to the representation of the 24 hierarchs of their faith, to each of whom a symbol is attached, generally some animal, fish, or flower; in one instance a crescent, in another a thunderbolt.

The Brahmanical sculptures are almost countless, and are generally representations of the Brahmanical divinities.

Only two specimens of Muhammedan sculpture are known to exist. They were lost sight of for some time, but came to light after the Mutiny, having been buried.

Coins.

The coins now in the India Office form the nucleus of an Oriental collection, and for the history of India are invaluable. General Cunningham is of opinion that the collection should be confined to Oriental coins alone, in which he would include the Syrian, Parthian, and Sassanian series in ancient times, and the Muhammedan coinages of Ghazni and Persia in modern times; these being all intimately con-



nected with the coinages of India, many of which are simple copies of the money of their western neighbours. For the full illustration of Indian history each series should be complete. This object could be only accomplished gradually; it would no doubt be accelerated by the gifts of Indian officers, and by exchanges with other museums; and the expense, which would not be great, would be spread over a number of years.

Coins are the only *continuous* historical records which India possesses of its early history. By comparing the collections gathered at different places it will be possible to determine with some precision the extreme limits of the Greek and Indo-Scythian conquests, and to define the boundaries of the various kingdoms of ancient India.

A collection of the inscriptions that exist throughout the country on rocks, pillars, caves, and copper-plates, will illustrate the various styles of writing which have prevailed in different ages in India. Copper-plate grants might be obtained in original; of the more remarkable records on stone, casts should be taken; while for all the purposes of reference, paper impressions of the greater number would be sufficient. Inscriptions.

Lastly, there are two kinds of architectural decoration peculiar to Muhammedan buildings which deserve attention, viz., the use of glazed tiles of various colours, and of inlaid marbles or mosaics. Architectural ornament.

The glazed tiles were most probably introduced from China; they are somewhat similar to Dutch tiles, and they have withstood for many centuries the climate of India. The art is now confined to Scinde and Mooltan, but both in design and variety of colour the work of the present day is inferior to that of the past.

The mosaics of India are of two kinds, which may be called the black ground and the white ground, according to the colours of the material in which the mosaic pattern is worked. The first are found only at Delhi, they are similar to the Florentine mosaics, and are thought to have been introduced by Austin of Bordeaux, a jeweller who was much employed by Shah Jehan. The mosaics on a white ground are found in various buildings at Lahore, Delhi, and Agra, the Taj Mahal and the palace of Shah Jehan at the last place containing the most numerous and the finest specimens. In trays, tables, and fancy work the white-ground mosaics are well known in England; but the Indian black-ground mosaics are almost unknown in Europe, and as they are fast disappearing from the Delhi Palace, it is very desirable that some specimens should be secured before it is too late.

It is the desire of the Government to preserve all these remains of Indian archæology, and as far as possible to diffuse throughout Europe and India an intelligent acquaintance with them. By means of photography a very large number of objects of beauty and interest have already been revealed to those who have no opportunity of visiting the originals, and although much has yet to be done, the time is not far distant when it will be possible to make a *selection* of illustrations, accompanied by ground plans and drawings and full verbal information, in which the whole will be classified, so as to show succinctly the various styles and periods of Indian architecture. Where, as in the instance of the Taj Mahal, colour is introduced in the form of inlaid marbles or mosaics, fresco paintings, &c., photography must be supplemented by coloured drawings. To show the admirable harmony of design of many Indian structures, it is indispensable that of such there should be constructed models to scale; a species of handiwork for which the natives of India possess a special aptitude, probably unequalled in any country. Lastly, in order properly to display the minute details of architectural ornament, moulds and casts must in many cases be executed, and already, with the consent of the Committee of Council on Education, an officer with a certain number of trained subordinates has been deputed to take a plaster cast of one of the gateways of the Sanchi Tope, one of the most ancient as well as perhaps one of the most interesting relics of Indian archæology.

It was in September 1867 that the attention of the local Governments was directed by the late Governor-General to the importance of preserving, and revealing to the world, the examples of ancient art scattered throughout the country. In a recent despatch the Secretary of State suggested that, the praiseworthy exertions of individuals, many of them civil and military officers occupied by serious public duties, having to a certain extent mapped out the field of research, the time had now arrived for instituting a regular archæological survey



of India, to be carried out in a systematic manner; and he recommended that the supervision of the whole should be concentrated in one department, and not left, without control, to different chiefs under different local Governments.

In all that relates to this subject the Government are aided by the advice of many who have made it a life study, notably by General Cunningham, formerly Archæologist to the Government of India; by Mr. James Fergusson, the learned author of the recently published work on "Tree and Serpent Worship;" and by Colonel Meadows Taylor, who has specially devoted himself to a study of the pre-historic archæology of the country.

SANSKRIT  
LITERA-  
TURE.

From Bombay come the reports of Professors Bühler and Kielhorn, who in the early part of 1869 proceeded through the Presidency in search of Sanskrit MSS., one taking the Northern, the other the Southern Division. The operations of the year convinced Dr. Bühler that Gujarat is exceedingly rich in Sanskrit libraries and books, and that with patience and care a good many valuable works may be obtained. Visiting the principal seats of Sanskrit learning, he had interviews with the native scholars and possessors of libraries, who met him in the most friendly manner, showed him lists of their books, and brought those he wanted to inspect. At Balsar he held a regular Sabhá, or assembly of the learned, for the purpose of learned discussion, where he examined the pupils, proposed a few questions to the teachers, and finally addressed them on the object pursued by Europeans in studying Sanskrit, the intentions of Government in regard to the cultivation of that language, the purpose for which Sanskrit books are collected, &c. All these topics appeared to have great interest for them, as they listened eagerly and frequently asked questions demanding fuller explanations, and the Pundits were deeply impressed by seeing a foreigner able to converse in their sacred language, and acquainted with their Shastras.

The results of Dr. Bühler's operations are the catalogues, prepared on a prescribed plan, of a number of libraries, and the acquisition of a number of old books and copies; selections from the former are now being prepared for publication. They bring to light a great many Vedic MSS., rare as well as common, and a few books also, of which up to this time no copies had been obtainable.

Dr. Kielhorn expresses himself as, on the whole, satisfied with the results of his tour in the acquisition of MSS. and the preparation of lists. He thinks he may state with confidence that only few books that are not yet known to European scholars are to be found in the Southern Mahratta country. There are very few old libraries in this part of the Presidency, and most of the Sanskrit learning has, so far as he is able to judge at present, been imported from the north of India within the last two centuries. Dr. Kielhorn regrets that among the Shastris with whom he endeavoured to become acquainted were few really good scholars. The race of the old profound scholars is evidently dying out, and he looks forward with deep regret and serious apprehension to the days when the class of the old Shastris will be extinct. The philosophical literature of India comprises many difficult works, written in a method which requires not only that they should be read, but that their concise sentences should be explained by a full oral instruction. Many of these works are almost unintelligible without the help of the tradition embodied in, and kept up by, the Shastris; tradition that being merely oral is likely to die with the generation. To remedy this the native scholars propose the reinstatement by Government of the old Sanskrit schools, in which nothing but Sanskrit was studied. But the time of these schools has gone by, Dr. Kielhorn says; and from a careful examination of the grammar and logic schools at Sanglee, he is convinced that Sanskrit learning can derive only few benefits from the existence of those and similar establishments. In order to guard against its total loss, the traditional explanation of the scientific literature of India ought to be fixed in writing, and it occurs to him that part of the magnificent sum which Government has assigned to the preservation of Sanskrit literature might be expended in encouraging young native scholars to collect and publish as much of this traditional learning as they can gather from the best Shastris.



THE LOWER PROVINCES.

The territory under the control of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, Clive's great conquest, which gave stability to the position of the British in India, is by far the largest and most important of the divisions into which, for administrative purposes, British India has been parcelled out. It has an area of 240,000 square miles, and a population of 40 millions. France has an area of 207,000 square miles, and a population numbering about 38 millions.

THE LOWER PROVINCES.

Bengal proper, the centre round which the other territorial divisions are arranged in a semicircle, occupies the large tract of alluvial soil, intersected by the Ganges and Brahmapootra and their numerous effluents forming a large delta. Moorshedabad, the capital of the former rulers of Bengal, and Dacca, though it possesses a college, and though it has not lost its reputation for producing the most beautiful muslin and the finest gold and silver work, have both sunk into comparative insignificance before the present capital, Calcutta. West and south-west of this principal province lies the large tract of Orissa and the Tributary Mehals, which, ill-watered and difficult of access, suffered so terribly on the failure of its natural resources in 1866. North-west of it, bounded by the North-west Provinces on the west and on the north by Nepal, extends the rich province of Behar with its capital Patna, the great opium emporium of Bengal, where the juice collected from the surrounding country by the cultivators is brought to undergo preparation in the Government manufactories. Between Behar and Orissa is a large tract of country, with an area close on that of England, called the South-west Frontier, a name that has long lost its fitness. It is "for the most part a wild and mountainous country, clothed with forests, and inhabited chiefly by the aboriginal races of India." North-east of Bengal is Assam, which contains an area of 30,000 square miles, extending for at least 300 miles to a short distance beyond Sudiya, where exploration ends. It is bounded on the north by Bhootan and unsettled hill tribes; on the south by the Burman Empire and by the little state of Muneepoor, which though under British control can hardly be considered a part of British India, and seems as if it should form an integral part of Burmah. South of Tipperah and occupying 150 miles of the coast as far as the northern boundary of British Burmah, is the British district of Chittagong, which like the South-west Frontier abounds in hill tracts, and is chiefly inhabited by aboriginal races. Mention should not be omitted of the Garrow and Cossiah hills, which lying in the bend made by the Brahmapootra, form a parallelogram of highlands of a very remarkable formation of red and white granite, overlying similarly coloured clays and sand. The district is under Government supervision, and is inhabited by hill tribes. Fifty miles to the north-west of it on the opposite side of the river is the dependent native state of Cooch-Behar.

Having thus briefly passed in review the natural divisions of the Bengal Presidency, or as it would be more fitly called the Government of the Lower Provinces, we

Civil Divisions.

Regulation.	Non-regulation.
Bhaugulpore Division	Assam Division
Patna	Cooch Behar
Rajshaye	Chom Nagpore
Chittagong	Dacca
Presidency	Bhaugulpore
Burdwan	Chittagong
Dacca	
Orissa	

proceed to speak of its administrative distribution. The province contains eight *regulation* divisions, as given in the margin, whose names are in nearly every instance taken from the chief town of the division, which is always the headquarters of the governing staff. These eight divisions or commissionerships are each under a Commissioner, and they are subdivided into 36 districts, each of which is under an officer styled

magistrate and collector. The *non-regulation* districts, each under the management of a deputy commissioner, are 19 in number; they are grouped in six divisions, which form three commissionerships.

The total number of subdivisions in the Regulation Provinces is 76, and in the Non-regulation Provinces 22.

The staff of officers who were employed in the Lower Provinces on the 31st March 1869, in the administration of justice and in ordinary duties connected with land revenue numbered 761. This does not include the police nor the officers employed in the special departments, such as salt, customs, opium, income tax, registration, &c.

JUDICIAL. High Court; original side.

*Civil Justice.*—On the original side of the High Court there were 413 cases pending from 1867, and 944 were instituted during 1868. Of the total number

**THE LOWER PROVINCES.** 897 were disposed of, and 460 remained on the file. On the appellate side 4,180 were instituted against 4,554 in 1868, a decrease corresponding with the number of appellable cases, being 18,936 instead of 20,895; 5,063 appeals were disposed of, and 2,130 were pending at the close of the year, showing an increase of 1,434 in the first case, and a decrease of 883 in the second compared with 1867. The value of property under litigation increased from 891,000*l.* to 1,217,000*l.*

**High Court; appellate side.** The number of cases original and appellate that came before the Courts of the Mofussil other than Courts of Small Causes, was 141,684 against 148,496 in 1867, and there was a proportionate reduction of cases pending at the close of the year from 21,654 to 20,547.

**Mofussil Courts.** The total value of suits decided during the year and of those pending at the close of it was 5,360,000*l.*

**Value of suits.** The net revenue realised by stamp fees was 234,718*l.*, which was an increase of 8,430*l.* compared with 1867-68.

**Stamp fees.** The cost of the Civil Courts was 250,640*l.*, or 25,922*l.* in excess of the income from stamp fees.

**Cost of Civil Courts.** With regard to the characteristics of the litigation the statistics show that by far the largest proportion of the original suits, in fact more than 69 per cent., were for money claimed on bond or contract; boundary suits, 9 per cent., are next in the scale, and as usual particular classes of cases predominated in particular districts.

**Characteristics of litigation.** 73 per cent. of the original suits decided were in favour of plaintiffs, 26 per cent. in favour of defendants, showing that the results of the year were 1 per cent. more favourable to plaintiffs and less favourable to defendants than in 1867-68.

**Results of original suits.** 31,679 suits were instituted in the Calcutta Small Cause Court against 30,214, and the value of the property under litigation was 169,000*l.* against 164,000*l.* The average number of suits for each day was 125.

**Calcutta Court of Small Causes.** Of the number set down for hearing (32,718) 13,376 were decided in favour of plaintiffs, 1,562 in favour of defendants, 1,070 remained undecided against 1,039 in 1867-68, and the rest were otherwise disposed of.

**Mofussil Small Cause Courts.** During the year 21 judges of Courts of Small Causes held their sittings in 34 places. The total number of suits was 38,045, of which 36,362 were instituted during the year and 1,683 remained over from 1867. At the close of 1868, 35,738 had been disposed of, and 2,307 were pending. 65 per cent. of the decisions were in favour of the plaintiffs.

The cost of the Small Cause Courts was 26,477*l.*, while the net income from stamps was 22,855*l.*

**High Court.** *Criminal Justice.*—A smaller number of cases came before both the original and appellate sides of the High Court in 1868 than in 1867.

**Original side.** There were committed to and tried by the High Court in its original jurisdiction 294 persons, of whom 207 were convicted. In 1867 the numbers were 359 and 252.

**Appellate side.** 1,296 criminal appeals came before the Court, against 1,510 in 1867. 76 cases were for confirmation of the sentence of death, and of the 103 persons involved sentence was confirmed in regard to 54, 13 persons were acquitted, 33 had their sentence commuted to transportation for life.

**Courts of Session.** 1,897 cases come before the Courts of Session in their original, and 4,663 in their appellate, jurisdiction. Of the total number of persons (2,424) there were 223 sentenced to transportation or imprisonment for life and 96 received sentence of death against 105 in 1867.

**Courts of magistrates.** The most important facts connected with the cases brought before the Criminal Courts of the various magistrates of Lower Bengal are given in the margin and show a decrease of crime compared with 1867. The per-centage of persons convicted and committed to those under trial was 54. Of the total number convicted 46,500 were fined, 21,383 received various terms of imprisonment, and 2,083 persons were punished by whipping.

Cases - - -	78,263
Persons under trial	142,748
Convicted - -	74,674
Committed - -	3,906
Released - - -	59,834

**POLICE:** The police establishments in Bengal are now of five kinds. (1.) The regular district police, whose number, including all ranks, is 25,910, whose annual cost is 419,000*l.*, and whose employment is the protection of the frontier, the road and river patrols, and the salt preventive establishment. (2.) The municipal police, numbering 6,322, and maintained at an annual cost of 48,500*l.* This newly

organised force has worked well in the larger towns where there is proper supervision, but not equally so in the smaller towns and unions. (3.) The railway police who number 692. Their total cost, 11,700*l.*, is defrayed one-fourth by the Government; the balance by the railway company. They are of great use and their relations with the railway officials are satisfactory. (4.) The village police. They number 188,223 chowkeedars, who received during the year 361,785*l.* in payment of their services. This expense does not fall on Government, but is discharged by the inhabitants, zemindars, and from other local sources. A committee has been appointed to consider the unsatisfactory position of this useful but ill-paid body of men and its entire re-organisation. (5.) The special or detective police, including the establishment for the detection of opium smuggling.

The total number of police, regular and irregular, in the year 1868 was 219,737, and their total cost was about 850,000*l.*, of which about two-thirds were paid from imperial funds.

The question of separating the police force into two distinct branches, military and civil, which was under consideration last year, has been decided in the negative as uncalled for. In some divisions the work of the police is almost entirely civil; in others as in the Chittagong and the Naga hills it consists as entirely in the defence of frontier posts; in others again, though their duties are pretty equally civil and military, an absolute division of the force into two branches was not recommended, and a greater attention to drill especially is all that is considered necessary.

With regard to the arming of the force. Putting the men of the regular police and some of the town police, excluding the superior grades, at 27,500, fire-arms were provided for 9,733 men, swords for 1,957, and batons for 23,795.

The total number of criminal cases under trial in the Criminal Courts was 114,945 against 107,749 in 1867, giving an increase of 7,196 cases; but the percentage of convictions was only 51·8 on the number brought to trial against 52·4 in the previous year. 23,759 cases were brought to trial in Calcutta.

The table of heinous offences shows an increase in the number of murders from 420 to 445, and a considerable increase under most of the other heads.

In the year under review the stringent enforcement of the Arms Acts of 1857 and 1860 was relaxed in certain districts where it was reported to be unnecessary to insist on the people taking out licences to own or carry arms; but in others such as the Assam, Cooch-Bihar, and Chittagong divisions, magistrates are still required to carry out this rule, to refuse to grant licences where there is good ground for so doing, and to adopt strict measures for disarming those who attempt to carry arms without a licence; the reasons being that in some of these districts situated on the frontier, the unrestricted right of possessing and carrying arms was found to afford facilities for selling them to the hostile tribes on the border; while in others the people are so turbulent and prone to engage in affrays and riots that it is necessary to put a check on the possession of arms by them. Similar limitations were imposed on the importation of arms in large quantities.

The income of the Calcutta municipality from all sources in 1868 was 282,500*l.*, and the expenditure 265,500*l.* The number of licences taken out for trades and professions followed in the city was 24,360. At the close of the year there were 2,600 lamps lighted by gas, and 650 by oil, making an aggregate of 3,250 against 2,396 in the previous year. The registration of births and deaths though improved cannot be said to be efficient.

MUNICIPAL.  
Calcutta  
municipality.

The Calcutta Municipal Act came into operation on the 1st July 1863. The total amount received during the past five years and a half has been 1,422,200*l.*, while the expenditure has been 1,373,168*l.*

In the 24 municipal towns of the mofussil the income for the year was 57,936*l.*, and the balance from 1867 was 15,400*l.* Of the total 73,300*l.* the sum of 18,250*l.* was spent on police, 37,260*l.* on municipal works, and the balance at the close of the year was about 18,000*l.*

Mofussil  
municipalities.

The number of prisoners in custody during the year, including 18,570 remaining from 1867, was 83,405, against 89,120 in 1867, a decrease which is attributable to the influence of the famine of 1866 having passed away. The number of admissions (64,835) was 2,202 less than in 1867.

PRISONS.

The total number of deaths was 988 against 1,187 in 1867, and the percentage on the daily average number of prisoners in custody was 5·05 against 5·88, a smaller rate than has been attained in 22 years.

Mortality.

Of the 64,835 prisoners admitted during the year 604 were fairly educated, 5,277 could only read and write, and 58,954 were entirely ignorant.

Education.

THE LOWER  
PROVINCES.

The daily average of prisoners sentenced to labour in 1868 was 16,671, of whom 55·16 per cent. were employed on remunerative handicrafts; 2·53 in the Alipore Gaol Press, 15·49 as gaol servants, guards, &c., while 16·36 were unemployed.

The gross receipts from the labours of prisoners employed on manufactures was 61,200*l.* in 1868 against 56,500*l.* in 1867, and deducting charges the net profits were 22,200*l.* against 19,460*l.*, with an outlay of 7,300*l.* The work of the Alipore Gaol Press gave a net return of 47,000*l.*, and a net profit of 33,000*l.*, which, divided among the prisoners, gives an average amount of earnings per man of more than 77*l.*

The gross cost of the maintenance of the prisoners was 138,385*l.*, and the net cost 81,567*l.*, which gives an average of 4*l.* 4*s.* 10*d.* per man on a daily average of 19,227 criminal persons.

Gaols placed  
in charge of  
medical  
officers.

In order to relieve the magistrates of districts of a portion of their heavy and important duties the charge of gaols in Bengal has been recently placed under the civil medical officers, who, as a rule, have sufficient time for the duty, and are more experienced than the young judicial officers to whose charge gaols were usually committed, and are besides better fitted by education to deal with questions of gaol sanitation.

Port Blair.  
(See page  
65.)

The large number of convicts at Port Blair (7,000), and its inability to accommodate more, made it necessary for the Government of India to issue an order that for the future from no part of India should convicts be sent to the Andamans except those under sentence of transportation for life, and to suggest what has been carried out, that certain gaols should be declared places of transportation for prisoners under lighter sentences of penal servitude.

Classifica-  
tion of  
prisoners.

The Lieutenant Governor is of opinion that even with the present defective construction of the gaols in the Lower Provinces a better system of classification of prisoners is possible. The superintendent of the Alipore gaol in reporting on the same subject admitted that classification according to crime would somewhat interfere with the economical employment of prisoners, and perhaps also with their moral reformation, as, in his opinion, crime and sentence were very untrustworthy standards by which to gauge the turpitude of offenders, the murderer being frequently found the least morally depraved; but he suggested a modified system of graduated classification, rising in stages from confinement in separate cells to intermediate imprisonment, each stage to be earned by good conduct.

There being a smaller demand for articles of gaol manufacture, attention has been drawn to the success of the artisan school at Raipore, and Dr. Mouat has been directed not to lose sight of the fact that local circumstances may often indicate a more profitable means of employing prison labour, though the comprehensive scheme of prison industry sketched out by him cannot be carried out in its integrity until the central gaols are constructed.

As a proof of the change that has come over gaol discipline of late years, in 1835 the only labour in which the prisoners in the Alipore gaol could be employed yielded an annual profit of 250*l.*, while the discipline of the prison was so bad that an attempt to direct the labour of the prisoners to more useful purposes was followed by the murder of the magistrate. In 1868, 33 years afterwards, there were 2,000 prisoners in this same gaol, and the management was so judicious that there are very few breaches of discipline among them, and their gross earnings during the year were 25,000*l.*

MISCEL-  
LANEOUS.

In October 1868 it was reported to Government that the disputes between the planters and ryots in the indigo districts of Chumparan and Tirhoot were becoming serious, the ryots being apparently determined not to carry out their contracts to sow indigo, conduct that would result in heavy loss to the factories, and eventual ruin to themselves. The difficulty was met by the establishment of a small cause court in the district for the immediate settlement of suits for breach of contract; and the conduct of Mr. Bell the president, who by meeting the ryots out of court, and explaining to them their exact position as to rights and liabilities, led to the adjustment of many differences without recourse to litigation. The demands of the ryots were met by concessions from the planters, whose bearing is stated to have been most moderate and temperate.

The local officers almost unanimously reported that the cultivation of indigo had become very unpopular, and that there was not a ryot who would not abandon the cultivation if he could; and this state of things was ascribed to the insufficiency

of the remuneration which the ryots received, and to the exactions, oppression, and annoyance to which they were exposed at the hands of the factory servants. It was clear to the Government that in the altered circumstances of the present time the planters must be prepared either to close their factories or to give the ryots in some shape or other a remuneration which should make it worth their while to grow indigo, and the position was realised by the planters, who raised the rate of remuneration from 15s. to 24s. per beegah. Beyond providing prompt means of justice Government action was confined to throwing the weight of the influence of its officers on both sides to induce them to abstain from what was obviously indefensible, and to concede what was obviously right.

THE LOWER  
PROVINCES.

Government were made aware that an active movement of some kind was taking place among the Mahomedans of the Wahabee sect in several districts of the Lower Province. Enquiry led to the discovery that this movement is extensively ramified, that there are agents stationed in different and distant parts of the country, and that a jehad or religious war against the British power has for some time been preached, and collections in aid of the Hindoostani fanatics on the north-west frontier made on a regularly organised system. The investigation is still being steadily carried on by the detective department. Pending the result the leading preachers of sedition and the more active collecting agents, as well as all suspicious foreign emissaries from the north-west are detained in custody, and the final action of Government in the matter is undetermined.

The Wahabees.

In November 1868 the Secretary of State called for a report on the prevailing practice in regard to the execution of processes of British courts within the limits of the French factories in the Lower Provinces. An examination of old records and the inquiries of the local authorities, brought to light the following facts; that the French possessions in these provinces, which were restored to France by the treaty of 1814, were Chandernagore and the five *loges* or factories of Patna, Dacca, Balasore, Bassimbazar, and Jougdia; that the settlement of Chandernagore is treated as the territory of a foreign power, where the British courts have no jurisdiction, and where their processes cannot be served except through the Governor of the settlement; that the *loges* are no longer in existence, but that the site occupied by one of them in Balasore has come erroneously to be regarded as the territory of a foreign power; the Government of India in 1819 drew a distinction between territorial possessions and mere commercial factories, and held that it was never intended by the contracting parties to the convention of 1815 to confer on the French factories privileges which had not been admitted in favour of the European powers. Departure from this ruling, however, has given rise to much inconvenience, to remove which the only way seems to be to press upon the French Government an interchange of territory, by which all their possessions in this country should be consolidated at Pondicherry and Karikal.

The Secretary of State early in 1868, having called for an expression of opinion on the part of the Government of India, as to the expediency of creating a distinct judicial branch of the Civil Service, the members of which should be trained specially for the duties of the Bench, and should not look for advancement beyond the sphere of these duties, officers of experience and distinction were consulted on the subject, and their reports were under consideration at the close of the year.

Distinct  
judicial  
branch of  
Civil  
Service.

To prevent the recurrence of occasional cases of destitution brought to notice by the Secretary of State, as for example, when some conjurors, natives of India, were engaged by Europeans for service in Europe, and subsequently abandoned in the streets of London, the collector of customs has been directed to assist such persons when entering into engagements to secure a satisfactory arrangement for their return passage.

Ten Acts were passed during the year by the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor for making laws and regulations, and received the assent of the Governor-General. They possess local importance only, except perhaps Act I. of 1869, for the prevention of cruelty to animals.

Legislature.

The small native state of Cooch-Bihar, whose affairs are carried on under the supervision of a deputy commissioner, has an area of 1,287 square miles. Its revenue from all sources was 81,529*l.*, and its expenditure 68,995*l.* The Rajah, who is seven years old, is being educated at the Wards' Institute, Benares.

POLITICAL.  
Cooch-  
Bihar.

The newly acquired lands of the Bootan Dooars have been withdrawn from the jurisdiction of the High Court, and a set of rules have been framed for the guidance of local officers in the treatment of questions of settlement, revenue, and

Bootan.



THE LOWER  
PROVINCES.

rent. It was felt that such a court was unable to look at motives of policy or expediency, and was unsuited to decide questions of settlement in a newly acquired and rude country. An agent deputed by the Bootan Government will reside in British territory and represent that Government permanently, and in consideration of the poverty of the State it has been considered right that he should receive an allowance from our Government.

Outbreak in  
Keonghur.

In Keonghur, one of the states of the Tributary Mehals of Cuttack, there was an outbreak of a serious character. It was hoped that the disturbances which ensued on the accession of the young Rajah Dhunúnjay, had been terminated at the commencement of 1868 by the renouncement of rival claims and his recognition by the hill tribes; but scarcely three months later, on the 28th April, this fresh outbreak was reported, having it is supposed, originated in some impolitic action of the minister, and been fomented by the hostile Ranee. Dr. Hayes, who was acquainted with the people and had some influence over them, on entering to Keonghur, found the whole country in arms, the insurgents, 20,000 in number, had disarmed the constables and dismounted the guns, and the wild clans, Juangas and Koles, uniting with the Bhooias and other clans, increased the general confusion with their plundering parties. It was found necessary to move up 800 native troops and police, and it was not till the end of August, after considerable skirmishing, that the country was pacified and the affair quashed by the execution of four of the ringleaders and the transportation of many of their associates. Reports up to the close of the year show that with the aid of the civil officers left in charge and a small force of police, the Rajah was becoming reconciled with the disaffected tribes.

## Naga hills.

During the year 3,000 Nagas took passes to go down to the plains to trade, and not one of them committed any sort of offence; it was expected that a large number would apply for passes the following year with the same peaceful intentions. With the Kookies in the North Cachar our relations were also satisfactory.

Nothing has yet been done for the education of the Nagas, but with the aid of the Bishop of Calcutta, who is interested in the people, it is expected that missionary schools will soon be introduced into the hills.

## Looshais.

Our eastern frontier bordering on Sylhet and Cachar has since 1862 been singularly free from the incursions of the savage Looshai and Kookie tribes inhabiting the wild track of country bordered by the independent states of Tipperah on the west and Munipore on the north-east.

At the close of December 1868, however, a sudden attack was made, commencing with a descent on the Tipperah Rajah's territory by a party of Looshais, who then advanced into Sylhet, burned and plundered a village, killed several people, and disappeared as suddenly as they came. While preparations were going on for preventing the repetition of such an attack, on the morning of the 10th January, and again on the 14th, a raid was made by another party of Looshais on the tea plantations in Cachar, in which, as on the previous occasion, the buildings were sacked and burnt down, several of the coolies, men, women, and children, were killed, and some were carried off. The police at the outposts, though outnumbered, behaved well, and succeeded in driving back the savages. The outposts were then strengthened for the protection of other outlying gardens, and two regiments of Native Infantry with a few guns advanced into the country of the raiders with orders to attack none but the actual offenders; to bring operations to an end before the early rains, and on no account to do anything that would involve operations again in the next year. The expedition terminated about the end of March, having been but partially successful.

Chittagong  
hill tracts.

Several raids were made early in 1869 by hostile border tribes on villages within the limits of the Chittagong hill tracts, but as it was impossible to reach the aggressors except by a very expensive expedition, which the requirements of the case did not seem to require, they remained unpunished.

At the suggestion of the Lieutenant-Governor a fair was held at Kassalong; its complete success was marred by an outbreak of cholera which kept the Kookies away, but the few who attended were so pleased with the arrangements made that it is fair to anticipate a large attendance on the next occasion.

An attempt to induce the hillmen to abandon the present mode of cultivation by jooming in favour of ploughing failed. They could not be prevailed upon to adopt a new mode of tillage.

The collections of hill revenue amounted for the year to 2,476*l.*, the expenditure to 12,682*l.*, of which more than 8,000*l.* went to the maintenance of police.



At the conclusion of this chapter will be found an abstract from a report on the hill tracts of Chittagong by Lieutenant Lewin.

The area of the Garrow hills is about 3,300 square miles. The revenue of the district is rather more than 1,200*l.* a year.

The number of emigrants despatched to the colonies in 1868-69 was 10,274 against 5,154 in the year before; 5,014 of them went to British Guiana, the rest to Mauritius, Trinidad, Jamaica, and St. Vincent, the number that went to Mauritius being nearly four times as great as in 1867-68. The number who returned to India was 1,700.

12,509 coolies, including men, women, and children, were transported to Assam, Cachar, and Sylhet. In nearly all the plantations of these districts owing to increased care of them on the part of the planters, and to improved drainage and house accommodation, the mortality was less than in past years, and the fact that 15,000 time-expired coolies remain in the gardens of Cachar without agreements or with only civil agreements proves that they are well treated, and that their wants are attended to.

The subjoined statement shows a continuance of the same steady increase which has taken place since 1853-54 in the increase derived from the Land Revenue.

THE LOWER PROVINCES.

Garrow hills.

Emigration.

LAND REVENUE.

—	Estates.	Demand.	Including arrears.	Collections.	Remissions.	Balances.
1867-68	228,978	£ 3,800,278	£ 4,132,704	£ 3,797,735	£ 9,853	£ 401,503
1868-69	230,395	3,892,323	4,298,454	3,965,780	34,704	415,136

The number of suits instituted under the rent laws was 91,622 against 96,928 in 1867-68.

In Chittagong, under the new settlements, "jhoom" cultivation, and which has the effect of utterly exhausting the land for many years, is forbidden.

A special inquiry has been instituted by Government into the alleged encroachments by the middlemen on the "Bhumhari" tenures of the Kōls in Chota Nagpore. "Bhumhari" lands are those which are held either rent-free or at very low rents by the representatives of those who originally brought them under cultivation, corresponding therefore to "freehold" land in Great Britain, and the holder is being bound to render a certain amount of service to the zemindars.

"Bhumhari" or freehold tenures.

An important question was during the year under the consideration of the Lieutenant-Governor, in concert with the Commissioners of Divisions, the Director of Public Instruction, and certain corporate bodies. An extension of vernacular education had been held to be desirable, but the Government of India declined to listen to any proposition the effect of which would be to throw upon the State the main burden of the cost of educating the people, and after referring to the educational cesses levied from proprietors in Bombay, the North-west Provinces, Oude, the Central Provinces, and the Punjaub, it urged the necessity of raising funds in Bengal in the same manner and for similar purposes, adding that the rate thus levied should be calculated for roads also, for which the proprietors of land in Bengal now pay nothing. The conclusion at which the Government of Bengal arrived was that as the position of the proprietors of land in the Lower Provinces is so different from that of the proprietors of land in other parts of India the proposed cess could not be levied in the Lower Provinces without considerably modifying the nature of the imposition. The cess upon landholders, it is stated, can only be justified when (1st) the increased profits arising from extended cultivation and high prices actually reach the zemindars and others who are under direct engagement with Government for the payment of revenue; and (2nd) when the landholders enjoying such increased profits have derived their estates by inheritance from the original settlement-holders, and have not purchased them at the market rates as an investment for capital. As a fact, in Bengal most of the zemindars have by the creation of permanent subordinate tenure placed themselves in the position of mere annuitants on their estates, and do not share in any increase of profits; while, on the other hand, the effect of the sale laws has been to transfer very many estates at full values to recent purchasers. The local Government considered any cess for educational or other special purposes in Bengal ought to be imposed by way of general direct taxation, and not

Educational cess.

THE LOWER  
PROVINCES.

left to fall on the landholders only. As regards the rates and proceeds of taxation, Bengal was already more drawn upon than other provinces; while there could be no doubt that to impose a general tax for educational purposes would tend to check private bequests and make the system of education extremely unpopular.

PUBLIC  
WORKS.

The total expenditure on Public Works Ordinary in Bengal during 1868-69 was nearly 1,200,000*l.*, and somewhat less than 25 per cent. over the expenditure of last year. Of this amount, a sum of about 455,000*l.* was spent on communications (almost entirely roads), a little more than 225,000*l.* on Civil Buildings, somewhat more than 177,500*l.* for Military purposes, 90,000*l.* on Agricultural Works, more than 35,000*l.* on Miscellaneous Public Improvements, which in the present instance consisted almost entirely of works connected with improvements in the River Hooghly and the landing arrangements of the Port of Calcutta. The total expenditure was some 110,000*l.* short of the Budget provision. This was due to several causes, amongst which may be enumerated the negotiations with the East India Irrigation and Canal Company for the transfer of their Behar and Orissa schemes not having been concluded so early in the year as anticipated; to the questions of the retention of the cantonments of Dinapore and Hazareebaugh being still under discussion.

Imports and  
exports.

The total value of imports and exports, dutiable and free, was 51,182,095*l.* against 49,082,281*l.* in the preceding year, an increase of 2,099,813*l.* The increase was chiefly in the free export trade, which increased no less than 1,627,810*l.* Dutiable imports and dutiable exports increased to the extent of 962,683*l.* In the value of free imports there was a decrease of 490,680*l.*, to which the decrease in machinery alone contributed more than 310,000*l.*

## Imports.

	1868-69.	Increase.
	£	£
Salt - - -	650,882	85,357
Piece goods - -	9,604,610	405,920
Patent metals - -	208,293	64,313
Wines - - -	269,034	38,530
		Decrease.
Hardware and ironmongery }	904,746	796,504
Twist - - -	1,200,423	79,481

In the margin are shown the most important *dutiable articles* of import, and the extent to which they have either increased or the reverse. Of *free articles* there was a falling off in machinery, as already stated; in silver to the value of 169,000*l.*, and in coal and coke to the value of 54,000*l.* The last fact is interesting, as showing the influence of the coal discoveries.

## Exports.

There was a very large increase in the value of the *free exports* as shown in the margin, and a decrease in opium and cotton. Silk too, though 20,798 cwt. were exported against 19,637 cwt. in 1867-68, produced 1,303,595*l.* only, or 167,268*l.* less than in the previous year. Of *dutiable articles*, by far the largest increase (845,814*l.*) was in indigo, of which the quantity exported was valued at 2,209,578*l.* Rice and oil seeds fell off 194,176*l.* and 273,240*l.* respectively.

The value of the trade with America was 1,549,574*l.*, while that with Australia was rather more than half a million. The first represents an increase of 328,223*l.*; the second a decrease of 113,614*l.*

	1868-69.	Increase.
	£	£
Jute - - -	1,880,023	570,487
Hides and skins	944,268	236,023
Tea - - -	942,147	256,826
Sugar - - -	249,310	199,287
Saltpetre - - -	307,329	58,645
Silver - - -	2,171,904	1,076,667
		Decrease.
Opium - - -	6,085,697	822,940
Cotton - - -	2,401,899	422,010

The value of the trade with America was 1,549,574*l.*, while that with Australia was rather more than half a million. The first represents an increase of 328,223*l.*; the second a decrease of 113,614*l.*

## SALT.

	Tons.	£
1867-68 - - -	288,645	2,688,486
1868-69 - - -	260,740	2,400,945
Decrease - - -	27,905	287,541

The decrease in the total quantity of salt cleared during the year and in its value, is shown in the margin. The falling off would have been much greater had not the decrease in the quantity of Government salt sold been met to some extent by an increase in the clearances of private salt.

## OPIUM.

The *net* revenue from opium of 4,927,115*l.* in 1868-69, against 4,695,354*l.* in the previous year, showed an increase of 231,761*l.*, and was the largest that has ever been realised. The *gross* receipts from the sale of 47,235 chests of provision opium were six and a half millions sterling, or half a million more than the estimate, although the number of chests sold were less by 765 than was anticipated. The cause was an unexpected rise in the auction price, owing to which the chest sold for 137*l.* 13*s.* instead of 125*l.*

Opium cultivation occupied 762,989 beegahs in 1868-69, or 32,041 more than in 1867-68. The out-turn for the market of 1870 was expected to be considerably below the average, owing to late sowing and the drought.

To secure if possible an average produce of 50,000 chests, which will require a cultivation of 790,000 beegahs, it is proposed to reopen the divisions of Sectarapore

and Rohileund in the Benares agency, which were closed in 1865, and it is under consideration to re-introduce the cultivation in Chota Nagpore.

THE LOWER PROVINCES.

The sale of the opium is conducted by a private auctioneering firm, a practice that was commenced in 1842 and has continued ever since.

The net revenue arising from the excise was 59,851*l.*, greater than in 1867-68, as shown in the margin, a result that is attributed chiefly to the continued prosperous condition of the people.

1868-69 - -	£	578,646
1867-68 - -		518,795

The revenue derived from stamps other than postage service and telegraph in Bengal was 710,472*l.*, or 24,433*l.*

Stamps.

more than in 1867-68, inquiry in the matter having shown that the higher stamp duty imposed under the law of 1862, has had the effect of largely reducing the number of suits in which tenants are complainants, as against those in which the landlords are plaintiffs, and as this presses severely on the poorer party, especially in suits where the whole substance of the weaker litigant is often at stake, it is proposed that the duty in such suits shall be fixed below the amount at which it is levied in ordinary civil suits, and that discretion shall be given to the courts to permit plaintiffs to appear *in forma pauperis*.

The number of persons assessed under the certificate tax (Act IX. of 1868), which is a substitute for the licence tax, was 72,632, the net collections amounted to 139,068*l.*, and the net result minus charges to 124,704*l.* On political and other grounds, the people of the Khasi and Jynteah hills, the Garrow hills, and the Tributary Mebals of Chota Nagpore were exempted from this tax.

Certificate tax.

The new income tax Act (No. IX. of 1869), received the assent of the Governor-General on the 18th March, and was to come into operation at the commencement of 1869-70.

Income tax.

Receipts - -	£	7,072
Expenditure - -		11,477
Deficit - -		4,405

The financial results of the year are subjoined; the operations of the department were confined to the Sikkim and Bhootan divisions. In the first the Government forests have all been reserved. In Bhootan great progress has been made in the Eastern and Western Doors. The forest tracts in the Presidency of Bengal are numerous and extensive.

Forests.

Throughout the country south of the Brahmapootra, in Upper Assam also, in the Naga and Cachar hills there are forests of wide extent, for the most part unexplored. In Sylhet there are thousands of acres of forests uninhabited almost and impenetrable; in the hill tracts of Chittagong the workable portions are estimated to cover about 1,500 square miles; the india rubber or caoutchouc forests in the Durrung district in Assam cover an area of 585 miles.

The total out-turn of tea in the tea-producing districts of the Presidency—Assam, Cooch-Bihar, and Dacca, and to a much smaller extent Chittagong and Chota-Nagpore,—is stated to have been 9,491,600 lbs. or about 2,000,000 lbs. more than in 1867-68.

Tea cultivation.

Assam - -	lbs.	4,351,772
Cooch-Bihar - -		853,565
Dacca - -		4,248,504

The statistics furnished for Assam are very imperfect, but those for Cooch-Bihar and Cachar are more reliable, the latter especially. According to the figures given the Cachar plantations in the Dacca division produced 4,006,835 lbs., or nearly as much as the whole of the plantations of Assam.

	1867-68.	1868-69.
Area - -	25,469	24,376
Factories - -	115	118

Taking the perfect returns for Cachar the out-turn was more by 843,525 lbs. than in 1867-68, and that for 1869-70 is estimated to be 5,051,220 lbs., or 1,044,305 lbs. more than in the year under review.

The number of imported labourers employed on the tea gardens was 14,076, besides whom about 15,000 were working in the district from choice after the termination of their original engagements.

The quantity of tea exported from Calcutta was 11,434,000 lbs. against 8,789,344 lbs. in 1867-68, showing an increase of 2,644,658 lbs.

The most important operations of the Botanical Department are those which are directed towards the propagation of the chinchona plant. The increase during the year of all the species was 673,654, and the total number of plants, seedlings, and cuttings in the Government plantations on the 31st March 1869 was 2,232,532. On the various tea plantations the plant is also extensively cultivated, and the

Chinchona.



The number of registrations effected shows an increase of nearly 14 per cent. over those of the previous year. The large increase in the optional registrations, 88,533 against 68,150, is chiefly to be attributed to the indigo disputes in Chumparum which led to the registration of about 15,000 contracts.

1868-69 - -	218,968
1867-68 - -	187,850
Increase - -	26,118

THE LOWER PROVINCES.  
Registration.

General census of 1871.

The receipts of the department were 36,727*l.* against 33,495*l.*, and the expenditure was 28,930*l.* against 25,018*l.*

Measures are being taken to ensure the completeness of the proposed general census in 1871, partial enumerations have been set on foot which will bring to light the difficulties to be provided against; and the form to be used for the embodiment of the information will be the same for all India.

It is not within the limits of this report to enumerate the objects of archæological and architectural interest in this Presidency. The remains of former ages in the Lower Provinces are, as a rule, of no very considerable antiquity and are generally of too miscellaneous a character to allow of systematic classification scientifically or historically.

Archæology.

Thirty-three native papers, or three more than in 1867-68 are now published in the Presidency; four of them appear monthly; four daily; and 17 weekly.

Native publications.  
Sanskrit MSS.

The preparation of lists of Sanscrit MSS. known to exist in Indian libraries and the search for others at present unknown is being carried on with the aid of the Asiatic Society of Bengal.

A valuable addition to our knowledge of the non-Aryan races is contributed by Captain Lewin in a report entitled "The Hill Tracks of Chittagong and the Dwellers therein." These non-Aryans are scattered throughout the length and breadth of India; a strange people, descended from the original occupants of the country, they have been gradually ousted from the plains by successive Aryan invasions, and forced to retire to the fastnesses of the hills, where they remain hated and hated by the people of the plains, little understood by ourselves, and the cause of frontier wars innumerable.

HILL TRIBES.

The people whose history, manners and customs, and social life are so fully treated in Captain Lewin's report of some 150 pages, inhabit the hilly and mountainous country which rises from the rice swamps and level land of the maritime district of Chittagong. Thus bounded on the west, it intervenes between the independent State of Hill Tipperah and the Burman frontier; while on the north and north-east its boundaries are undefined. The whole estimated area is but 6,796 square miles.

With the history of our connexion with so small and unimportant a section of the Empire this report is hardly concerned. With the manners and customs of the inhabitants, as fairly illustrating those of the hill tribes all over India, it will be more interesting to become acquainted.

It is the custom of the people to remain in their villages until the cultivation season commences in May, and then the whole countryside moves up, every man to his patch of cultivation on some lofty hill. The mode of cultivation pursued in the hills is common to all the tribes. It is known as "tong-ya" in Burmah and Arracan, as "dhai-ya" in the Central Provinces, while here the method is usually called "joom," and the hill men pursuing it "joomahs." The *modus operandi* is as follows:—In the month of April a convenient piece of forest land is fixed upon, generally on a hill side, the luxuriant undergrowth of shrubs and creepers has to be cleared away, and the smaller trees felled; the trees of larger growth are usually denuded of their lower branches and left standing. If possible, however, the joomah fixes upon a slope thickly covered with a bamboo jungle of the species called "dolloo"; this compared with a dense tree jungle is easy to cut, and its ashes, after burning, are of greater fertilising power. Although the clearing of a patch of dense jungle is no doubt very severe labour, yet the surroundings of the labourer render his work pleasurable in comparison with the toilsome and dirty work of the cultivators of the plains. On the one hand, the hill man works in the shade of the jungle that he is cutting; he is on a lofty eminence where every breeze reaches and refreshes him; his spirits are enlivened and his labour lightened by the beautiful prospect stretching out before him; while the rich and varied scenery of the forest stirs his mind above a monotone. He is surrounded by his comrades; the scent of the wild thyme and the buzzing of the forest bee are about him; the young men and the maidens sing to their work, and the laugh and joke goes round as they sit down to their mid-day meal under the shade of some great mossy forest tree.

THE LOWER  
PROVINCES.  
HILL TRIBES.

Very different on the other hand is the moiling toil of the cultivator of the plains. He maunders along with pokes and anathemas at the tail of a pair of buffaloes, working mid-leg in mud; around him stretches an uninterrupted vista of muddy rice land; there is not a bough or a leaf to give him shelter from the blazing noon-day sun. His women are shut up in some cabin, jealously surrounded by jungle; and if he is able to afford a meagre meal during the day, he will munch it *solus*, sitting beside his muddy plough; add to this, that by his comparatively pleasurable toil, the hill man can gain two rupees for one which the wretched ryot of the plains can painfully earn, and it is not to be wondered at that the hill people have a passion for their mode of life, and regard with absolute contempt any proposal to settle down to the tame and monotonous cultivation of the dwellers in the low lands.

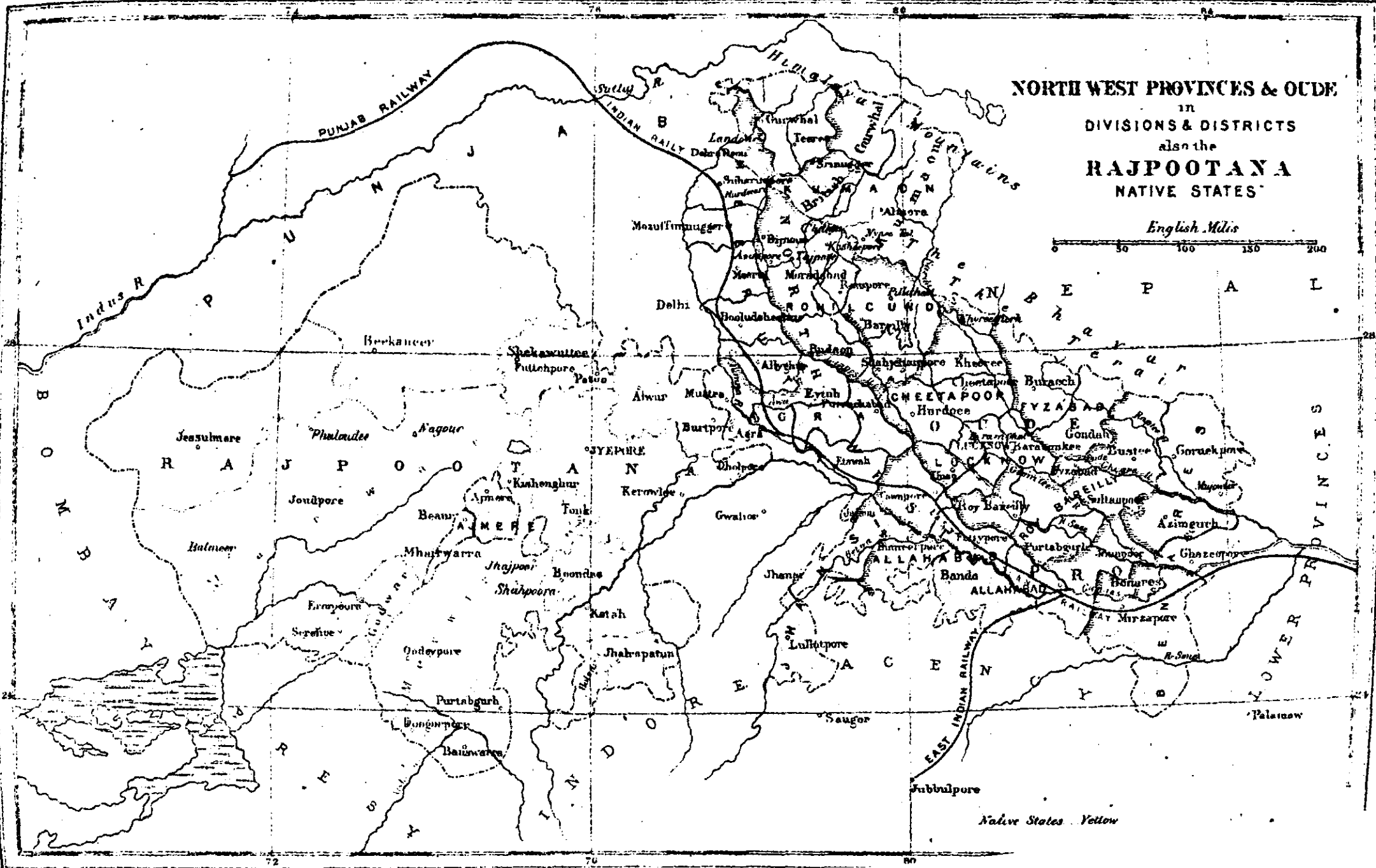
The joom land once cleared, the fallen jungle is left to dry in the sun, and in the month of May it is fired; this completes the clearing.

The village now is abandoned by everyone, and the men set to work to build a house, each in his own joom, for the crop must be carefully watched to preserve it from the wild pig and deer. The jooms of the whole village are generally close to each other; a solitary joom is very rare. During the rains mutual help and assistance in weeding the crop is given; no hoeing is done; the crop has merely to be kept clear from weeds by hand labour, and an ample return is obtained. Besides grain and cotton the hill tribes grow tobacco, which is planted principally in small valleys on the banks of the hill streams. It is rare to find a man earning his livelihood in any other way save by joom culture. Land once joomed cannot be re-cultivated for a period of eight or ten years, as in less time a sufficient growth of jungle does not spring up to give the necessary coating of fertilising ashes, without which the joom crops would yield but a poor return.

The revenue of the hill tracts consists chiefly of the tribute which is paid to Government by the chiefs of the tribes. A considerable sum of money is also obtained yearly from the tolls levied on behalf of Government on all spontaneous forest produce brought down by water or river routes to the plains. During the last two or three years, with the tranquillisation of the country, much land along the Chittagong border has been leased to men of the plains.

Our earliest dealings with the hill tribes dates from 1777, but it was not till 1860 that we interfered directly with the internal economy of the hills, when some Kookie raids on a large scale made it necessary to send an expedition to punish the offending tribe, and to secure the future tranquillity of the country by the appointment of a superintendent, or as he is now called, a deputy commissioner of the hill tracts, who is vested with full control of all matters pertaining both to revenue and justice throughout his district.

After a most complete and interesting resumé of the history, social life, &c. of the tribes, Captain Lewin concludes: "Thus, with regret, I draw towards the close of my account of the Chittagong Hill Tribes. There is much that is loveable about them. They are very simple and honest and merry; but they have no sympathy with anything above the level of their bodily wants. There are whole tracts of mind and thought and feeling which are unknown to them, and which could not be made known by any explanation. The idea that they are well enough as they are, is a seductive one—to live according to nature, as the old Stoic philosophers taught,—and if this idea could be perfected, if these people could be taught to live according to nature in its higher sense, to rise above all gross and base indulgences, mindful of those higher laws, of which only self-denial and self-command can render observance possible, I am not prepared to say but that this would be the wisest and the grandest ideal. We see in all other parts of the world that the introduction of civilisation by means of European energy brings in its train a crowd of evils, both mental and physical; yet everywhere throughout the world we force upon all the non-progressive races our intercourse and finally our laws, with one grand object—Civilisation. \* \* \* The question seems to me to be, What is the use of this God's earth? Is it not the happiness of the beings dwelling thereon? I doubt if civilisation would render our hill men happier; not that I for a moment advocate leaving them undisturbed and unassisted in their present happy barbarism. Strength of mind is better than strength of body. But if one contrasts the simplicity and freedom of wild life with the hollow enjoyments and artificial joys of civilisation (*"Tædet me harum quotidianarum formarum"*), it should not be forgotten that civilisation



**NORTH WEST PROVINCES & OUDE**  
 in  
 DIVISIONS & DISTRICTS  
 also the  
**RAJPOOTANA**  
 NATIVE STATES

English Miles  
 0 50 100 150 200

RETURN EAST INDIA (PROGRESS AND CON

*Native States Yellow*



“ has joys that are not artificial, and enjoyments that are not hollow. \* \* \*  
 “ What is wanted here is not measures, but a man. Place over them an officer  
 “ gifted with the power of rule, one tolerant of the failings of his fellow-creatures,  
 “ apt to enter into new trains of thought and to modify and adopt ideas, but  
 “ cautious in offending national prejudice. Under a guidance like this let the  
 “ people by slow degrees civilise themselves. With education open to them, and  
 “ yet moving under their own laws and customs, they will turn out, not debased  
 “ and miniature epitomes of Englishmen, but a new and noble type of God’s  
 “ creatures.”

THE LOWER  
PROVINCES.

Dr. Day’s report on the fresh-water fisheries of Orissa and the Midnapore District, which reached this country in August 1869, gives the results of his investigations carried out at the close of 1868. Commencing with the Mahanuddy, he then visited numerous minor rivers, and examined any irrigation canals, tanks, or wheels contiguous to them.

FISHERIES.

Fish supply the nitrogenous element, without which existence is said to be impossible, and which rice, the staple of the country, does not possess. Consequently, in a country where they are one of the main sources of nourishment, and where drought is but too common, the preservation of the fisheries is a matter of vital importance.

Here, as in Burmah, and in every country where the necessary precautions are not enforced, the carelessness of the people leads to the wholesale destruction of the fry. But, besides the usual agencies of nets, traps, &c., other causes in this district contribute to the decay of the fisheries. The construction of anicuts of late years has especially led to a great decrease in the number of fish. In some cases they are an insuperable obstacle to the fish passing up the river to deposit their ova; but in any case the fish pausing to rest before attempting the ascent are wholly at the mercy of the fishermen, who wait for them below the anicuts and catch baskets full of them. Crocodiles also, which are very numerous, are exceedingly destructive and are allowed to thrive by the natives, who say, “ Are not we both of the fish-destroying race, and how could we be so cruel as to slaughter them?” Dr. Day was witness to the curious fact of fish burying themselves in the mud two feet deep. When dug out they were in good condition and quite lively, but were covered with a thick whitish slime; none were found in ova. They have been found as deep as five feet below the surface.

Dr. Day’s proposals for the better preservation of the fish are:—that meshes, and the distances between the rattans in baskets, be large enough to allow the very young fish to escape; that one bay in each under-sluice be left open one day, at least, in every week, while water is running over the anicut; that night fishing and netting be prohibited within half a mile of weirs or anicuts; and that rewards be offered for the destruction of crocodiles and their eggs.

#### THE NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES.

NORTH-  
WESTERN  
PROVINCES.

The great territory known by the name of the North-Western Provinces has an area of 83,687 square miles, and a population numbering more than 30 millions of inhabitants, or about 361 persons to the square mile; that is, the Province is nearly equal in extent to England, Wales, and Ireland together, and more populous than Great Britain alone.

It was formed at the conclusion of the great Mahratta war of 1803 of territory wrested by the army under Lord Lake from Scindia, the most powerful chief of the confederacy, with the addition of the districts ceded by the Nawab of Oude in 1801, and the Province of Benares acquired in 1781.

In shape it resembles an irregular crescent, whose western extremity reaches the snow line of the Himalayas, while the eastern stops short at the base of the mountains at the frontier of Nepal. From the south-west a small strip of British territory breaks into the agglomeration of Feudatory States controlled by the Central India Agency; and away to the west, belonging to, but very distant from, the main Province, lies the little district of Ajmere in the heart of Rajpootana.

The North-West Provinces have four natural divisions: (1) the Kumaon Himalayas, where are the tea plantations and the most important of the forest tracts of the Province; (2) the plains north of the Jumna and Ganges; (3) the tracts south of the Jumna and Ganges; and (4) Ajmere. The rivers come down from the hills, and sweeping round with the bend of the crescent pursue their course through the length of the Province. The Jumna, flowing for many hundred miles



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nearly parallel to the Ganges, joins it at Allahabad; the Ganges is afterwards joined by the Goomtee and the Gogra, which have traversed Oude. The Province has many large and important towns, among which may be mentioned Delhi, Agra, and Allahabad, the capital, all on the Jumna; Lucknow on the Goomtee; Cawnpore, Benares, and Ghazepore, on the Ganges.

Of the total area (53,363,152 acres), 23,747,268 are cultivated. Of the 30 millions of inhabitants 18 millions are agriculturists; and with regard to caste 26 millions are Hindoos, and rather more than four millions Mahomedans.

The Province contains eight Commissionerships, which are divided into 36 districts. These are again divided into 440 sub-districts, these sub-districts into "hundreds," and the "hundreds" into townships. These various territorial executive districts are presided over severally and respectively by a commissioner, a "magistrate and collector," a sub-collector, and a village accountant. Supreme in the Province is the Lieutenant-Governor, who is aided by a Revenue Board in all matters relating to the revenue and the land, and in the administration of civil and criminal justice by a high court.

The small British districts of Ajmere and Mhairwarra are 225 miles west of Agra, and nearly the same distance south-west of Delhi. The area of the two districts is 2,672 square miles; the population amounts to 426,268, or 160 to the square mile; and the entire revenues are 52,764*l.*, or deducting the charges for administration (30,403*l.*) there is a net surplus of 22,361*l.*

The year under review was the first of the administration of Sir William Muir, who, on the 10th March 1868, was appointed to the Lieutenant-Governorship of the North-West Provinces.

The scarcity of the season and the measures taken by district officers and Government to anticipate the worst having been dwelt on at some length in the chapter on the Central Provinces, it will be sufficient in the nearly parallel case of the North-West Provinces to dismiss the subject more briefly. Here, as in the Central Provinces, the year opened encouragingly; the agricultural classes were well off, the granaries were stocked, and grain was cheap. Anxiety commenced with the insufficient fall of rain in June, and it deepened as month after month the dearth continued. About the middle of September, however, a great storm of rain burst over a large extent of country, and extended its welcome influence from the Benares division as far west as Furruckabad. In two days 13 inches of rain had fallen, and where it fell the relief was immediate and complete. It did not reach the western districts, and from the Meerut division, from Ajmere, in the heart of famine-stricken Rajpootana, and from parts of Bundelkund, the accounts received were worse and worse, and caused the greatest anxiety to Government.

An irrigation scheme was prepared, which was capable of employing 50,000 labourers, and a central relief committee at Allahabad raised 8,650*l.* from private sources for the present exigencies of the most afflicted districts.

Fortunately, in the middle of December rain fell, and with the beginning of 1869 the prospect grew gradually brighter until all apprehension of a general famine had passed away, and the appeal for public charity was withdrawn. Not that all anxiety was over. In the district of Lullutpore alone a daily average number of 25,000 labourers were employed on the works, and one officer wrote that it will be many months before the necessity for Government aid will cease. From first to last the energetic and self-reliant conduct of the agricultural population was most remarkable. "Working night and day at their wells;" "straining every nerve to raise water for the starving crops;" "existing wells hourly worked," &c., wrote the collectors enthusiastically of the cultivators. Nor can too great praise be given to divisional and district officers, whose devotion, zeal, and judgment have been everywhere most conspicuous.

The benefits derived from the working of the Ganges and Eastern Jumna canals cannot be over-estimated. It is reported that they were everywhere the life of the country.

While the liberal and systematic assistance of the Government was the chief agent in warding off the loss of life which has attended former disasters, and indeed marks the main difference between the recent and former calamities of the kind, the writer of the report states that two facts should not be overlooked: first, that upon the whole the country has been advancing very rapidly in prosperity and capital, and consequently in the means of resisting or tiding over the effects of drought; secondly, that it possessed a great safeguard, on former occasions unknown, in the railway, which, though it extended the area of partial scarcity, was the means of averting death and ruin from many famine-stricken tracts.

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PROVINCES.

Two lessons, moreover, the experience of the year has taught: first, that relief works to be really efficient must, in part at least, be provided *on the spot*; here, as in the Central Provinces, it was found that vast numbers will not avail themselves of any distant sphere of labour; 2nd, that it is extremely difficult to form any practical estimate of the stores of food at any time existing in a province or in the country at large.

*Criminal Justice.*—The total number of offences reported was 109,629, or 17,889 more than in 1867; of the 106,782 persons who were under trial during the year, 70,249, or about 66 per cent., were convicted. Considering that 1867 was a year of more than ordinary agricultural prosperity, and that in 1868 the scanty harvest gave rise to scarcity and want, the increase of crime is stated not to be more than might reasonably have been expected. In murders, however, the increase was remarkable and unaccountable; they rose from 279 to 326.

JUDICIAL.

The total number of persons punished by the magistrates was 67,626; 4,158 persons, or about 6 per cent., appealed from their decisions to the sessions judges, but in 26 per cent. only were the decisions disturbed.

These facts are necessarily somewhat scanty, and for the same reason, the absence of complete returns, the proceedings of the civil courts have not been touched upon.

The number of regular police at the close of 1868 was 25,033; their cost was 376,335*l.* There were besides 76,864 village and town police, whose cost (155,231*l.*) was discharged by the landholders.

Police.

There are in the Province six central, three divisional, and 31 district gaols. The total number of prisoners in confinement during the year was 78,410; the daily average was 16,767, against 16,084 in 1867.

Gaols.

The total cost of the gaols was 85,953*l.*, showing an increase of 14,253*l.*, which is largely attributable to the greater number of prisoners and the high price of food and clothing. But the gross cost is considerably reduced by the proceeds of convict labour, which in nine years has amounted to 273,667*l.* This includes the value of gaol manufactures, and of labour expended on the construction, &c. of gaol buildings. The death rate was remarkably low, having been but 1.72 per cent. of the daily average.

The controlling and inspecting agency of the Educational Department remained the same as in 1867. It consisted of:—

EDUCATION.

- |                         |                                  |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 director.             | 1 inspectress of female schools. |
| 5 inspectors.           | 31 deputy inspectors.            |
| 4 assistant inspectors. | 68 sub-deputy inspectors.        |

The number of Government schools of all kinds in 1868 were 3,691; in addition to which there were 311 aided institutions, and 4,460 schools unaided, making a total of 8,462 schools. The total number of pupils was 197,812; 124,238 attending the Government, and 73,574 the private schools. Taking the population of the North-Western Provinces at 30,110,615, these figures show the per-centage under education to be .6.

	Imperial.	Local.
	£	£
Direction - - -	3,821	—
Inspection - - -	16,280	1,202
Instruction - - -	77,174	83,135
Total - - -	97,225	84,337

The margin contains a statement of the funds devoted to education, of which it appears 88.3 per cent. goes to "Instruction," and the remainder to "Direction" and "Inspection." This is an increase of 1.6 per cent. in favour of the former.

The income realised from the school cess fund was 30,416*l.*, and it was carefully appropriated to rural education. A desire has been evinced for the establishment of a college at the seat of Government, Allahabad. It has received the encouragement of the Lieutenant-Governor, and it is hoped that it may hereafter become the nucleus of an university for the North-West Provinces. Progress in the various Government schools is slow, but steady; six were advanced from the middle to the higher class. It was thought prudent to close 49 of the poorer village circle schools (hulkabundi); it is encouraging to find that, notwithstanding this and the pressure of famine, the aggregate attendance should have advanced from 97,826 to above 100,000. The best results may be expected from these village circle schools in spreading a sound education among the agricultural class.

The attendance at the girls' schools increased from 6,864 to 7,097; but it is stated that, on the whole, progress is slow and the people are not sufficiently interested in the movement.

Female  
education.

NORTH-  
WESTERN  
PROVINCES.

There were 90 Anglo-vernacular schools under Government control, and 70 under independent management. The Lieutenant-Governor, in his tour, was struck with the eagerness of the people for an English education.

Government  
Press.

350,982 books were printed for the use of the department at the Government press; their value was 2,791*l.*; in addition to which 233,559 were sold for the sum of 3,983*l.*, as many as 100,000 being purchased by persons not connected with the department,—a proof of the popularity and cheapness of the Government publications.

## REVENUE.

The total demand on account of land revenue advanced from 4,039,777*l.* to 4,055,365*l.*, of which 4,026,035*l.* was collected within the year ending 30th September 1868.

## COTTON.

There was in the year under review a considerable falling-off in the area under cotton, and in the out-turn. While in 1867-68 nearly 1,300,000 acres were sown with cotton, only 890,000 acres were sown in 1868-69. The produce fell from 58,162,080 lbs. to 44,201,280 lbs., and even this estimate is said to be probably too favourable, as there was considerable loss not only from the drought but from severe frost that followed in December.

The crop of 1867-68 was injured by prolonged and untimely rain; in the year under review the increased deficiency was, of course, due to the directly opposite cause.

Cotton  
manufac-  
tures.

It would appear that while the upper and middle classes prefer the English manufacture, the lower classes still hold to the coarse, yet cheap and strong, country cloth.

MUNICIPAL-  
TIES.

There is scarcely a city or town of any importance in the North-Western Provinces which is not administered by a municipal committee. The number of these bodies corporate on the 31st March 1869 was 63. The income of the municipalities is derived (1.) from funds placed at their disposal by the law; (2.) from those entrusted to them by the local Government; (3.) from taxation. Of the several modes of taxation admitted by law, by far the most popular is the Octroi, or duty levied on goods imported for consumption or use. "Whether it is that indirect is considered less burdensome than direct taxation, or that the *choongee* (literally, a handful gathered from each sale or consignment), is most consonant with the habits and traditions of the people, certain it is that all over the country octroi duties are readily and cheerfully paid when other taxes are thought oppressive and intolerable."

"Not to mention the obvious advantage of training our native fellow-subjects to think and act for themselves, to canvass important projects, to interest themselves in the well-being of their own neighbourhood,—in short, to govern themselves within certain limits,—there are unquestionably benefits accruing to the State and to the country from the active co-operation of the native townsmen in municipal management. In the municipal committees we have a body, which, if it can only be brought to act with zeal and energy, is the best calculated of all others to supply the want of minute local knowledge."

## IRRIGATION.

It has already been observed that the fears, at one time entertained, of a famine passed away with the timely rains in the latter part of the cold weather. The actual distress was ameliorated by the great irrigation works of these Provinces, which enabled the people to bring to maturity crops extending over 1,425,702 acres, the greater part of which would have yielded little but for this assistance. Notwithstanding the great heat of the season, the irrigation officers, to whom great praise is due, lived in the field; and it was only by their personal supervision that the proper supply and economical use of the water could be ensured.

The returns exhibit an increase in the extent of land watered of 665,023 acres over the preceding year, 96 per cent. more than in 1860-61, the most recent year of scarcity, and 45 per cent. greater than in 1866-67, the previous maximum of irrigation.

The financial results of 1868-69 in the entire Province are a gross income of 314,716*l.*, and a gross expenditure of 102,173*l.*, leaving a net profit of 212,542*l.*, or 8.21 per cent., on the entire capital of 2,587,305*l.* expended on the various undertakings. This is very much the largest return yet received, due chiefly to the great drought, but largely also to the extension of distributaries. Experience shows that such a rise in returns is, to a great extent, of a lasting character.

For the relief of distress there were fortunately at hand some new irrigation works capable of commencement. Chief among them is the Agra Canal, which, between September and the end of March 1869, gave employment to 760,000, or a daily average of 4,292 persons.

The North-West Provinces contain the most important and the most remunerative irrigation works in India.

NORTH-  
WESTERN  
PROVINCES.

The Ganges Canal waters the land situated between the Jumna and Ganges. Commencing at Hurdwar it flows south for eighty miles. East of Delhi it divides into three branches; and finally the northern and main channel joins the Ganges again at Cawnpore, while the two lower branches are carried on to the Jumna. The work consists at present of 654 miles of main canal and 3,040 miles of distributaries.

Ganges  
canal.

	£
Income -	239,501
Expenditure -	70,482
Net -	169,019

The gross income for the year is estimated at 239,501l., or 76 per cent. more than in 1867-68.

The expenditure during the year was 70,482l., so that the net income amounted to nearly 170,000l., or about 14 per cent. on a total capital expenditure of 2,340,000l. The prospects of this canal are said to be improving rapidly.

The area irrigated by it is estimated at 1,069,081 acres; and there is a very marked improvement in the irrigating duty of the water consumed, showing how much can be done to extend the area watered when economy is strictly enforced. The average number of boats plying in the canal increased from 450 to 487.

The Eastern Jumna Canal comprises 130 miles of main channel and 603 miles of distributaries. The gross income (62,545l.) exceeded the largest hitherto derived. The year's expenditure was 15,400l., leaving a surplus of more than 47,000l., on a total capital of 191,000l.

Eastern  
Jumna canal.

274,000 acres were irrigated, against 182,544 acres in the preceding year, and 239,500 in 1866-67.

The Western Jumna Canal belongs to the Province of the Punjab.

The Agra Canal is a scheme for utilising the waters remaining in the Jumna after the supply of the Eastern and Western Canals has been withdrawn. Its length will be 140 miles when completed, commencing 12 miles below Delhi, it will end near Agra after flowing through the districts of Goorgaon, Muttra, and Agra. The scheme was approved in July 1868 and commenced in the October following, affording, as has been stated, employment to a large number of persons during the season of scarcity.

Agra canal.

There are several minor works; the Doon canals, aggregating 67 miles in length; the Rohilcund canals, 185 miles, or 32 more than in the preceding year; besides tank irrigation in Jhansie and Humeerpore.

Minor works.

The net surplus on all the irrigation works in the North-West Provinces was for the year 212,542l., or 8.21 per cent. on the capital of over two millions and a half expended to the close of 1867-68.

Of the total area under cultivation watered by these various works of irrigation (1,432,373 acres), rice occupied 111,000 acres; wheat, 589,000; and other food grains, 466,036.

	£
Imperial -	982,350
Local -	151,223
	1,133,573

The total expenditure in the Public Works Department chargeable to Imperial and local funds was 433,573l., including establishments, which cost 189,666l.

PUBLIC  
WORKS.

The local funds were mainly spent on district roads.

In the Imperial expenditure the heaviest item was "military buildings," on which were spent 402,910l.; agricultural works cost 211,430l.; communications, 134,746l.; and civil buildings, 127,729l.

Forests produced a net revenue of 24,154l., or about 2,000l. more than in 1867-68, notwithstanding a larger expenditure. Kumaon and Gurhwal, in the Himalayas, produce the most valuable stock of timber, and it is here that a large number of varieties of Australian trees have been introduced.

Forests.

The Postal Establishment on the 1st April 1869 consisted of a staff of 6,724 persons, superintended by a Postmaster-General and 15 inspecting postmasters. The mails were carried over a total distance of 8,478 miles. The expenditure and receipts are not given.

Post office.

There are two lunatic asylums in the Province, and 116 dispensaries, which afforded relief to 558,286 patients, and although this number is 35,000 more than in 1867-68, the mortality decreased.

Charitable  
institutions.

Nineteen newspapers were published during the year, with an aggregate circulation of 5,016 copies. With regard to other publications it is said that new and original works are rare, and that they are mostly reprints, compilations, or translations. The rewards offered by Government for literary effort begin to bear

Vernacular  
literature.

NORTH-  
WESTERN  
PROVINCES.

fruit, and there is every prospect that they will have the effect of stimulating sound and approved authorship.

Registration.

The total number of registrations effected was 154,713, or 22,168 more than in 1867. The fees realised nearly 30,000*l.*, or about 5,000*l.* more than in the previous year.

Public  
health.

The health of the people, owing to the dryness of the season and the absence of cholera, was remarkably good, the death-rate being only 1.08 per cent., against 1.25 in 1867.

The out-turn of tea at the two Government plantations in Kumaon was 22,857 lbs., or 1,269 lbs. more than in 1867-68. The expenditure (1,456*l.*) showed a large reduction.

FINANCE.

The principal facts connected with the receipts and expenditure of the year

	1867-68.	1868-69.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Gross receipts - - -	5,881,715	5,817,449	—	64,266
Cost of collection, &c. - -	598,245	632,934	34,689	—
Net receipts - - -	5,283,470	5,184,515	—	98,955
Payments:				
Public Works ordinary - -	746,969	898,303	251,334	—
Law and justice - - -	381,393	407,368	25,975	—
Police - - -	376,335	385,539	9,204	—
Education, Science and Art -	101,480	100,687	—	793
Administration, &c. - -	118,970	124,548	5,578	—
Public Works extraordinary -	61,538	102,651	41,113	—
Other heads - - -	181,242	195,320	14,078	—
Total expenditure besides cost of collection, &c. - - -	1,967,927	2,314,411	346,484	—
Surplus - - - - -	3,315,543	2,870,104	—	445,439

under review and of the preceding one are given in the margin. The result cannot be said to be favourable; while the gross receipts of 1868-69 were about 64,000*l.* less than in 1867-68, the cost of collection increased by 34,689*l.*; and under nearly every head of expenditure the increase is considerable. To a considerable extent the cause is to be found in the exceptional nature of the

season, which raised the price of every necessary of life and added largely to the expenditure on public works for the relief of the distressed.

Government  
press.

The money value of the work performed by the Government press was nearly 30,000*l.*, and the net profit, after deducting all expenses, was 6,081*l.*, against 5,392*l.* in 1867-68.

Rampore  
state.

The little independent State of Rampore is in the centre of the Rohilcund Division; its area is 905 square miles, and it has a population estimated at 484,961, or 535 to the square mile. The British system of administration was introduced in 1840 by the Nawab then reigning.

The receipts in 1868-69 amounted to 130,000*l.*; the expenditure to 112,285*l.*, leaving a surplus of about 27,000*l.* There is on the part of the people a loyal feeling to the reigning family, which is a good test of the general prosperity of the State.

## OUDE.

OUDE.

Oude became a British Province in 1856 during Lord Dalhousie's administration. A Chief Commissioner was placed at its head, and the system of government applied to it was the same as that introduced in 1849 into the Punjab.

Lying close to the foot of the Himalayas its northern boundary is Nepal. South, east, and west of it are the North-West Provinces. The Province is a part of the alluvial valley of the Ganges and possesses no mountains. The rivers, of which the Gogra is the largest, descend from the hills in a southerly direction and then turn eastwards. The forests come down between them to the foot of the hills and are succeeded by a belt of the unhealthy tarai or jungle stretching all along the northern frontier.

The Province is for the most part well watered and fertile. Its total area is 20,000 square miles, or about twice that of Belgium; its population of 11,231,368, of whom 10,000,000 are Hindoos, gives the large average of 566 to the square mile. In Belgium, the most populous country in Europe, the average in 1864 was only 440 to the square mile.

The land revenue is assessed at 1,255,259*l.*, of which the bulk is derived from land, 13,033 square miles in extent, held under 30 years' settlements, which will expire between the years 1895 and 1898.

The four Commissionerships are divided into 12 districts, and these again comprise 43 sub-divisions.

*Criminal Justice.*—An analysis of the figures quoted in the margin exhibits a serious increase of crime under several heads in the year 1868.

Offences reported	- 86,755
Persons under trial	- 38,170
Convicted	- 25,375

There were 355 riots reported, against 247 in 1867, though at the same time the number of persons brought to trial was smaller. 98 public servants were tried for taking bribes, against nine in 1867. The number of thefts reported was 49,011, against 38,235 in 1867, 42,773 in 1866, and 48,611 in 1865. The large increase under the last head is attributed to the high price of grain; no doubt rightly so, as in 29,775 cases, the property stolen was under 10s. in value. On the other hand there was a marked decrease in the number of prosecutions under the Stamp and Salt laws, viz., from 1,009 to 628 in the one case, and from 1,134 to 581 in the other.

A large amount of the criminal work of the Province, in round numbers one-half, is performed by Native judges.

	Per-centage of Convictions.	
	1867.	1868.
District Courts	67	62
Deputy Commissioners' Courts	70	60
Commissioners' Courts	55	55
Judicial Commissioners' Courts	94	90

The falling-off in the number of convictions, especially in the courts of the Deputy Commissioners, indicates *prima facie* that the commitments have not been so judicious, but this conclusion in the opinion of the Judicial Commissioner is not absolute, if the failure is not constant.

The number of appeals rose from 2,557 in 1867 to 3,939 in 1868, and the number of appeals modified or reversed in the Deputy Commissioners' Courts from 26 per cent. to 44 per cent. On the other hand, though the Judicial Commissioner, before whom the whole of the cases are passed in review, thought it necessary to call for 1,398 cases, or 1,000 more than in 1867, the result was that only 183 sentences out of this large number were modified and 33 reversed.

	Number.	Value.
1867	22,047	£ 306,375
1868	24,599	270,861

*Civil Justice.*—The number of civil suits increased, but the value of the property involved in them was less than in 1867. 10,156 of the cases were decided without contest; 6,976 were given in favour of the plaintiff, and 2,312 in favour of the defendant.

The total number of regular police was 7,998, against 8,226 in 1867, and the cost of their maintenance was 108,328*l.* The rural police amounted to 35,467, and were maintained by the landholders at a cost of 102,437*l.* Delinquents were apprehended in 56.79 per cent. of the cases reported, and 78.27 per cent. of the persons tried were convicted.

There are 13 gaols in the Province, of which six have been recently built, and the remaining seven are temporary structures. The average prison population was 6,046 for the three years ending in 1867, and 6,523 in 1868, an increase of 8 per cent. The expenditure was 16,458*l.*, against 20,000*l.*, the average of the preceding three years, representing a decreased cost per prisoner of from 3*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* to 2*l.* 10*s.* 4*d.* The health of prisoners was remarkably good, the death-rate being only 2.48 per cent., against 2.72 in 1867, and far higher rates in the preceding years. Gaol manufactures produced 2,208*l.*, against 1,832*l.* in 1867.

School committees have been formed for the several districts consisting of the local officers, European and Native, and such of the Talukdars and other Native gentlemen who take an interest in the schools. The director speaks in strong terms of the good results of the scheme.

The total number of schools in the Province, including 72 private schools, was 642. There were 30,683 pupils, and the expenditure of the year was 41,193*l.*, of which rather more than one-half was charged to Imperial revenues, and about one-fourth was obtained from a cess of  $\frac{1}{4}$  per cent. on the land revenue. A comparison with the figures of 1867-68 shows an increase during the year under review of 117 schools, of 27 per cent. in the number of pupils, and of 26 per cent. in the total expenditure. The total cost per pupil was 1*l.* 4*s.* 3*d.*, against 1*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.* in 1867-68, while the cost to Government was 14*s.* 3*d.*, against 16*s.* 7½*d.*

	Schools.	Pupils.	Imperial Expenditure.	Educational Cess.	Other Sources.
1867-68	525	24,305	£ 18,678	£ 6,212	£ 7,855
1868-69	642	30,683	21,778	10,578	8,836

OF DE.

The principal increase was in the village schools, whose number was raised from 381 to 483. These schools are popular, and the people show their appreciation of them by sending their children, requesting that they may be established, and by offering houses for the temporary accommodation of schools and teachers.

There were 20 vernacular town schools, against 14 in 1867-68, with a corresponding increase in the number of pupils from 1,324 to 2,152.

The Government female schools also have risen from 24, with 436 pupils in 1867-68, to 33, with 653 pupils in 1868-69.

The private schools are under Government inspection and are partially aided by Government. Their number was less by one than in 1867-68.

Scholarships, of which 92 were held during the year at a monthly charge of 48*l.*, are very useful in enabling clever and industrious boys to get a better education than would otherwise be within their reach.

FINANCE.

	1867-68.	1868-69.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Gross receipts - - -	1,426,502	1,476,183	49,681	—
Cost of collection, &c. - -	246,921	252,903	5,982	—
Net receipts - - -	1,179,581	1,223,280	43,699	—
Payments .				
Public Works - - -	215,379	215,166	—	213
Law and justice - - -	67,539	81,559	14,020	—
Police - - -	114,220	115,199	979	—
Education, Science and Art - -	18,781	22,195	3,414	—
Administration, &c. - -	45,964	46,598	634	—
Public Works extraordinary	Nil.	6,981	6,981	—
Other heads - - -	32,117	32,550	433	—
Total expenditure besides cost of collection, etc. - - -	494,000	520,248	26,248	—
Surplus - - -	685,581	703,032	17,451	—

The comparative statement of receipts and expenditure given in the margin shows a favourable result for the year under review. The Land Revenue, owing to higher rates of assessment, yielded 1,255,259*l.*, or 39,195*l.* more than in 1867-68; and increased receipts more than counterbalanced the increased expenditure under the several heads.

The receipts of the local funds were 230,380*l.*, or

about 15,000*l.* less than in 1867-68. On the other hand the expenditure (156,896*l.*) was about 11,000*l.* less also.

Local.

Wards.

Referring to the 17 estates managed by the Court of Wards the Financial Commissioner remarks on the popularity among the talukdars generally of our management of the wards' estates. They see properties deeply encumbered taken in hand, the lands improved, the tenantry contented, the estates cleared of debt, the minor carefully educated, and the plundering of interested relatives put a stop to, and the estate finally made over to the young talukdar unencumbered and with generally a sum in hand sufficient to set him up in his new position, while the best has been done to make him capable of managing it. It is now a common thing for an embarrassed talukdar to ask that his estate may be taken under Government management, for though they know we shall restrict their personal resources in the meantime, they feel that we shall extricate them eventually.

There was a very large export of grain during the year owing to the high prices prevailing in the Agra and Delhi markets in consequence of the famine in Rajpootana and the southern parts of the Punjab. No returns of the trade of the Province are however given.

Military.

The garrison of Oude comprises 4,231 British troops and 3,234 Natives; total 7,465. Their health was good.

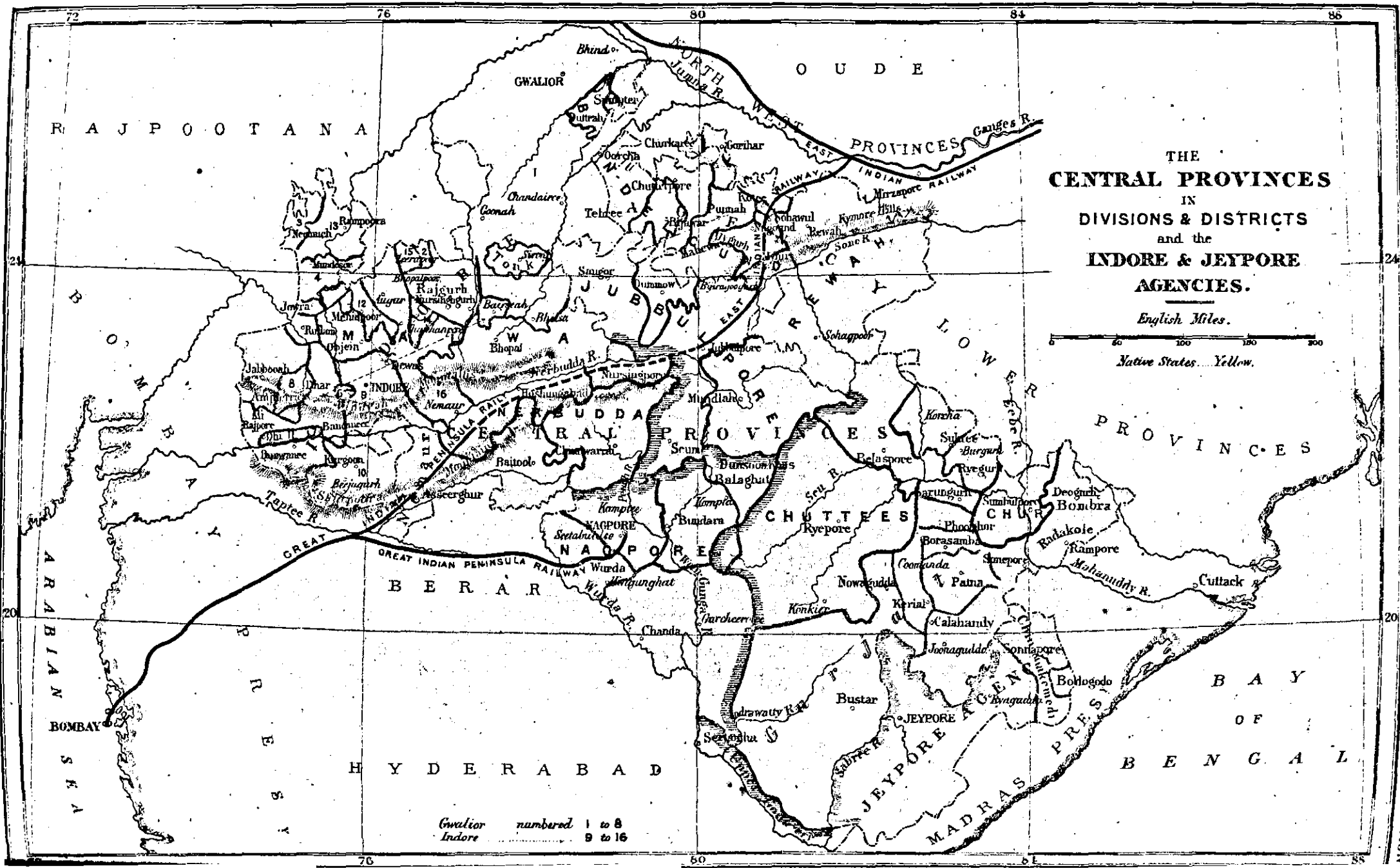
Public works.

The total expenditure on public works, including cost of establishment, was 226,125*l.*, of which 99,545*l.* was devoted to military works, 42,143*l.* to roads, and 40,800*l.* to public buildings.

The military expenditure was slightly below that of 1867-68. The barrack accommodation in Lucknow may be said to be complete. A gymnasium for the use of the troops, and workshops for the cavalry and infantry, were commenced and nearly completed during the year.

The preliminary surveys of the Sardah Canal were commenced in October 1868 and completed. This important work is intended to utilize the waters of the river Sardah, a tributary of the Gogra, and to irrigate the country that lies between the Gogra and the Ganges..





THE  
**CENTRAL PROVINCES**  
 IN  
 DIVISIONS & DISTRICTS  
 and the  
**INDORE & JEYPORE**  
 AGENCIES.

English Miles.



Native States... Yellow.

Gwalior numbered 1 to 8  
 Indore 9 to 16

RETURN EAST INDIA (PROGRESS AND CONDITION



The forests yielded a gross revenue of 13,182*l*. Deducting expenditure there remained a surplus of 4,051*l*.

A census of the people, taken on the night of the 1st February, showed that as is generally the case in India, the town population had been previously over-estimated and the rural population under-rated.

Of the total population of 11,220,747 persons, 6,543,296 belong to the agricultural class.

OUDE.  
Forests.  
Population.

#### CENTRAL PROVINCES.

CENTRAL  
PROVINCES.

The territory under the civil and political control of the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces was created a separate administration in 1861 on the union of the Province of Nagpore with the Saugor and Nerbudda territories, which were then detached from the Government of the North-Western Provinces. It is bounded on the north by Feudatory States, under the supervision of the Political Agent for Central India, viz., Bhopal, Indore, the dominion of Holkar, and Gwalior, belonging to Scindia; and an agglomeration of chieftainships included in Bundelkond. West and south-west, lie Berar and the Nizam's dominions, the Godavery and its tributary the Wurdah forming a natural boundary. On the south-east the northern tongue of the Madras Presidency intervenes between the Province and the sea, and on the east are the divisions of Chota Nagpore, and Orissa, under the jurisdiction of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

The large division thus circumscribed is rather more than three times the size of Portugal. It has an area of 111,121 square miles, of which the British administered portion comprises 82,860 square miles, and a collection of 15 Feudatory States bordering on Madras, the remaining 28,261. The population of the British portion is estimated at 9,068,103, while the Native States add some 1,100,000 more, and bring the total up to 10,168,000 persons, or less three times the population of the country to which it has been relatively compared.

The Province is divided into four commissionerships,\* 19 districts, 58 subdivisions. Speaking roughly, the Nerbudda and Jubbulpore divisions occupy the northern, and Nagpore and Chutteesgurh the southern half of the Province.

Besides the river Wurdah and Godavery already mentioned, there are the Wyngunga another tributary of the Godavery, and the Nerbudda, which rising in the centre of the Province flows north to Jubbulpore and then nearly due west, forming for some distance the boundary between British territory and the Feudatory States to the north. North of the Nerbudda outlying spurs of the Vindhya range invade the Jubbulpore division; on its south the main range of the Sautpooras runs parallel with it and breaks up the country into valleys, mountains, and tablelands. The mountains, some of them reach a height of 4,000 feet; the tablelands are among the most healthy and fertile portions of India.

Lastly and more remarkable than all the rivers of the Central Provinces, there is the Mahanuddy, which with its system of tributaries drains the eastern portion of the Province, including the important plateau of Chutteesgurh, whose area is computed at about 10,000 square miles. Flowing north from about 85 miles south of Raepore the Mahanuddy is joined near a place called Sheonarain by three affluents, the Sheonath and the Jonk, which have pursued a somewhat parallel course west and east of it, and the Husdoo which has flowed for more than 150 miles nearly due south from the uplands of Sirgoojah. From this point the course of the Mahanuddy is due east for 60 miles to Puddumpore, then south, past Sumbulpore, to its junction with the Tel, another tributary, after which it enters the district of Orissa. The area of the main basin draining the Central Provinces is 40,000 square miles, or four-fifths of the total area, which includes the neck of the delta, and the delta proper in Orissa; its mean diameter is 225 miles; and from the centre of the basin to the sea is a distance of only 200 miles; so that the form of the basin as described by Sir Richard Temple is that of an extremely round and compact body with a narrow neck and bell-shaped mouth. The size of the basin is such that but a very moderately extending rain storm is required to ensure rain falling on every square inch of territory simultaneously, while its position is one of close proximity to the sea, the source of rain clouds.

The towns are not so large or populous as those of Oude and the North-Western

CENTRAL  
PROVINCES.

The season.

Provinces. The most important are Nagpore with 85,000 inhabitants; Jubbulpore with a population of 55,000; and Saugor with one of 43,000.

The difficulties of the seasons and the means taken to alleviate them occupy the largest share in the annals of the Central Provinces for 1868-69, and in the Report of Mr. Morris, the officiating Chief Commissioner, whose narrative, quoted at some length in what follows, must be taken fairly to illustrate events which in the reports of the other afflicted Provinces will be more briefly dismissed, and the splendid manner in which the executive officers discharged the responsibilities which such circumstances create.

The year, though marked by continuous anxiety and difficulty to the people and to all interested in them, fortunately passed by without very serious calamity. That the pressure of straightened means told upon the poorer classes is evident from the statistics of almost every branch of the administration. The police returns show an increase of 17 per cent. in petty crime; the prison population increased from 13,308 to 13,695; and the traffic and attendance at fairs fell off perceptibly.

—	Attendance.	Traffic.
1867-68	£ 1,524,733	£ 427,645
1868-69	1,361,671	356,553

Large balances under assessed taxes are accounted for by the ruin or dispersal of the poorer taxpayers; and the revenue realised on salt fell off so much as to neutralise the increase from all other heads of a

revenue buoyant even under conditions so adverse.

The number of schools and pupils did not decrease, taking the Province as a whole, but in the northern portion of it, where it has always been difficult to excite a popular feeling in favour of education, the poorer pupils were largely withdrawn by their parents, who, always disinclined to resign the profits of their children's labour for the sake of giving them instruction, readily gave way to the pressure of scarcity.

The land revenue was certainly collected with surprising ease and completeness, but it must be remembered that landholders are compensated to a great extent for loss of produce by the increased price which their surviving crop realises. Thus in Chutteesgurh the price of wheat leapt from 52 seers \* per rupee in April 1868 to 14 seers per rupee in November 1868, and many cultivators must have found themselves enriched by the year of scarcity. In the fact eventual losses will arise not so much from the extent of the failure of rain as from its unequal distribution. Had it affected all alike the landholders would have been gainers instead of losers; but so capricious was the rainfall in some parts of the country that owners of totally devastated villages were tantalized by the sight of fair and even abundant harvests on the lands of their immediate neighbours. On the whole, although the revenue was realised without pressure or difficulty, there were indications in the slightly increased number of land sales and mortgages that the rise in the price of grain was no benefit to some of the more embarrassed landholders. As a rule, the landed classes are now well off in these Provinces, but there are still many who have not yet had time to shake off the burthen of ancestral debt, whilst others again are too newly established to have accumulated capital of their own.

Some of these doubtless forestalled the market by pledging their crops in advance to money lenders, and consequently reaped no benefit from the high prices which were secured after harvest time.

On the whole, however, it appears that the majority of the landed classes passed through a season of difficulty with comparative impunity, a conclusion the more acceptable because the prosperity of the proprietary body has here a peculiarly close connexion with that of the community at large. The great bulk of the population live by agricultural pursuits, and the custom still prevails throughout the country of making the village proprietor the keystone of the system of social economy. On him the greater number, if not the whole, of his tenants depend for their seed grain, and for the means of subsistence until harvest time, while the artizans and village servants depend in their turn on contributions of grain from the cultivators; so that unless the proprietors have stores or credit the whole community suffers. The main sources of their power of resistance were no doubt abundance of land, markets constantly enlarging owing to increased facilities of communication, and light land revenue settlements; but they also benefited largely by the sympathy and succour so freely extended by the State to all who needed them.

\* 9s. 2½d. per quarter.

The year began with a fair promise of prosperity. The season of 1867-68 had been on the whole favourable. The Nagpore Province was tolerably well supplied with reserves of grain; in the Chuteesgurrh or Eastern Division, which can at present only export when prices are very favourable, the accumulations were considerable, while, if they were not so large in the northern districts, formerly known as the Sangor and Nerbudda territories, the completion of railroad communication with the grain fields of Northern India, by means of the Jubbulpore branch of the East Indian Railway, had steadied the local markets and created confidence. Thus prices were everywhere moderate; in the land-locked markets of Chuteesgurrh probably as low as in any town in India at the time.

The termination of most of the revenue settlement operations and the growing prosperity of the cotton trade had directed into a fresh channel the labours of the working classes no longer needed on completed railway works, and there seemed every reason to hope for a continuance of the progress which in seven years had increased the revenues of the Central Provinces by 22½ per cent., had doubled its schools, quadrupled its dispensaries, and given it many hundred miles of roads. But then follows the story of the drought and the gradually increasing distress throughout the country. The monsoon broke early in June, and the first fall was sufficiently favourable to induce the greater part of the cultivators to commence growing. In a short time thousands of acres were sown with rice and millets, and everything was ready for another fall. But day after day went by without rain, still, bright weather at last set in, which killed all the seed that was not artificially kept alive by irrigation, and it was not till after nearly a month of drought that rain fell for the second time, and the cultivators, taking fresh heart, recommenced their sowings from the beginning. So far there were not any indications of despondency, or even of general tendency to complaint. But when the second fall proved almost as illusory as the first a feeling of real alarm spread through the country, and the large grainholders showed everywhere a disposition to lock up their granaries. This closing of the markets was severely felt, not only by the poorer classes, but by those who having money were unable to buy, and at once relief works were opened out, and the importation of grain was encouraged by the authorities. In very exceptional cases, as in Dumoh and the southern district of Chanda, they even assisted the importation of grain with the view of inducing traders to follow the lead, and thus allaying the local apprehension of insufficiency of supplies. These measures created a general feeling of relief and confidence, which did much to keep distress at a distance.

The worst accounts of all were received from Chuteesgurrh, the Eastern Division. The country has every requisite for prosperity, but it is still, comparatively speaking, newly settled, and the landed classes have not attained the strong position of their fellows in the more established portions of the Province. Then the ties of landlord to tenant and of tenant to soil are still weak. The former have often not the means to provide for the support of their dependents through difficult times, and land is still so plentiful that if it were possible to secure a tenant-right agreement, which would prevent cultivators from wandering, and attach them to the soil at a fair rent it would be eagerly welcomed by the landlord class. Thus there is a want of cohesion and solidity in the social structure which weakens the power of the people to resist the pressure of general distress, added to which the very abundance of Chuteesgurrh in ordinary seasons intensifies suffering in years of failure. Food is ordinarily almost a drug, and wages are correspondingly low. When, therefore, a time of emergency comes, and prices rise to the level prevailing in the surrounding country the whole conditions of life are changed so suddenly to the classes supported by money earnings of a more or less fixed character that the struggle seems almost impossible to them, and they hardly make an effort to bear up against their difficulties.

At the close of the rainy season, in the two main divisions of the Province, that is, in the Southern or Nagpore Division and in the Saugor and Nerbudda territories about one-third of the crop, or 1,250,000 quarters were lost. In Chuteesgurrh the failure had been more extensive.

Not till towards the end of January, and then only in the northern districts, was there a good fall of rain, which put an end to all anxiety with regard to the corn harvest in that part of the Province, except in a small district in the extreme north, where there was an interval of very severe suffering. The black soil of the Nagpore Province retained sufficient moisture to secure a wheat harvest not more than 15 per

CENTRAL  
PROVINCES.

cent. below average. In Chuteesgurh, where there was neither rain nor soil capable of doing without it, the distress was greater, and in it the chief interest centred. So apathetic were the people that at first they refused to accept work. The numbers employed on relief works are marginally shown.

December -	188
January -	1,157
February -	4,433
March -	9,220

So long as the works passed through the heart of the distressed tracts the people were willing to accept life at the cost of labour, but when it came to be a question of going 40 or 50 miles for their works, the majority preferred slow starvation life on jungle fruits. It was therefore found necessary in selecting works for execution chiefly to consider their accessibility to the suffering classes. Mr. Morris quotes the condition of the poorer classes in Chuteesgurh as an example of the dangers of cheap food; they seem, he says, scarcely to value the life which they can keep up with so little effort; the standard of their wants and wishes was so low that they dreaded the inconvenience of labouring in an unaccustomed way more than hunger. The scale of wages was fixed at  $1\frac{1}{2}$  annas (twopence farthing), 1 anna for a woman, and  $\frac{1}{2}$  anna for a child—a scale that, when it was found that they were putting by part of their pay, was reduced consistently with the necessity of making the most of the public funds. To crown the distress, cholera broke out in Chuteesgurh, a panic set in, and all who could fled. It was in the endeavour to restore order that the Deputy Commissioner, Captain Ennis Twyford, fell a victim to it.

Throughout the province the European and native communities have shown the utmost willingness to meet the distress, four of the principal native bankers and traders contributing 20% per mensem each, and, in addition, feeding more than 2,000 persons daily. Government had expended up to the end of June of last year 6,000*l.* directly for relief purposes, 5,000*l.* on relief works, and 1,000*l.* on poor houses, and had given every encouragement to the suggestions of the local administrations. To the end of July 190 new wells and 58 new tanks had been constructed, and 328 old tanks and 270 old wells repaired and enlarged, at a cost of 18,600*l.*, which was advanced to the local administrations to be repaid without interest. Government also, under the exceptional circumstances, advanced money for the purchase of seed, and to those who lost their cattle; and district officers were instructed in the collection of land revenue to exercise their discretion as to pressing their demands for prompt payment. The autumn instalments were, however, realized without difficulty, there being, as a rule, a strong feeling in favour of punctual payment of revenue; but the second failure so crippled the poorer landholders that the spring instalments had not been collected in full.

The direct loss of produce in consequence of the drought is roughly estimated at 17 million maunds (2,833,333 qrs.), valued at 3,400,000*l.*, in addition to the indirect injury to the prosperity of the country from the waste of labour, the contraction of trade, and the diminution of the population.

REVENUE.

Passing from this general review, the total imperial revenue collected from the Central Provinces was 1,074,515*l.* against 965,362*l.* collected in 1867-68. The gross increase of 109,153*l.* is merely nominal, arising from the land revenue instalments due on the 15th February 1868, bordering on the close of the official year, having been made payable within the following year. There was, in fact, a decrease owing to a failure in the salt revenue.

Land  
revenue.

Everywhere the collection of the land revenue seems to have been prompt, the landlords having, as has been stated, a wholesome dread of being in debt to Government, and a vague fear of losing the proprietary right to the land only recently conferred on them at the settlement. The gross receipts from this source were 601,121*l.* against 494,003*l.* in 1867-68. The final settlement reports for the districts of Belaspore and Raepore have been received, so that when the report was written settlement operations had been concluded in 14 districts, and there were still in the hands of the settlement officers only three, Nimar, Chanda, and Mundla, which it was hoped would be dealt with by the end of October.

Waste lands.

During the year 218,438 acres were excluded from village areas and adjudged to be State property, bringing the total area reserved up to 18,432 square miles. The cost of settlement operations was 19,817*l.*, or little more than half the cost of the preceding year.

Customs.

The Customs' department is under a special agency. The gross receipts from the salt duty fell from 165,237*l.* to 142,808*l.*, the decrease being caused by a diversion of trade, which is explained on page 46.

The duty on sugar rose from 6,806*l.* to 8,483*l.* There was a slight falling off in

abkarce from 96,406*l.* to 95,698*l.* The liquor manufactured throughout the country is from the dried blossom of the mowah (*bassa latifolia*), which forms a favourite addition to a meal of corn or maize flour with the poorer peasantry. There was an increase in the Excise on intoxicating drugs, probably due in part to the growing wealth of the community, in part to the introduction of new tastes and new facilities for luxury consequent on improved means of communication.

CENTRAL PROVINCES.

The stamp revenue increased 7 per cent., from 78,141*l.* to 83,560*l.*, principally under the head "Judicial Stamps." Stamps.

10,589*l.* were collected under the certificate tax, which recently came into operation, replacing the licence tax, which produced 1,835*l.*, and was levied on official salaries only. The certificate tax is levied on all incomes above rs. 500. Certificate tax.

The pandhari tax, an old native impost, realized 26,527*l.*, the number of persons assessed under it being 289,505. The decrease under this head is due to the transfer of the higher incomes to the certificate tax. During this year the appropriation of half the income under pandhari to local public works was sanctioned, but was frustrated by the necessity for relief operations. Pandhari tax.

The number of new suits which came before the courts was 56,779, value 367,116*l.*, against 48,159, value 300,167*l.*; an increase of about 17 per cent. The value of suits continued small (6*l.* 8*s.* being the average), and nearly 90 per cent. were for money due. The tendency of civil suits to increase had always been manifest, but no special cause can be assigned for the present great increase. Comparatively few cases remained undisposed of at the close of the year, the action of the courts taken as a whole was prompt, and from the small number of appeals the public would seem to have been satisfied with their decisions. Six small cause courts were established under Act XI. of 1865. JUDICIAL. Civil justice.

The total of reported offences, cognizable and non-cognizable, was 35,768; in 1867 it was 31,740; in 1866, 35,156. The total number of persons brought before the court was 45,462. Flogging as a punishment is believed to be very efficacious and deterrent in cases of petty crime, care being taken that in every case it is warranted by the nature of the offence and suitable to the condition of the offender. The results of the year are on the whole considered satisfactory. In a season of famine and distress crime increased but little; organized crime on a large scale is well kept under; the courts work with increasing regularity and precision, and are closely supervised by the judicial commissioner. Criminal justice.

The force at the close of 1868 numbered 8,682 men of all ranks; its cost was 150,000*l.*, of which 137,467*l.* was derived from imperial and 12,449*l.* from local funds. The bearing of the police towards the people was on the whole well spoken of. The results of the year are satisfactory, indicating an improvement in discipline and behaviour. Police.

The construction of gaols steadily progressed during the year. The total number of prisoners in custody was 13,695 against 13,038 in 1867. The number of juvenile offenders is still large; they are kept as much as possible apart from the other prisoners. The expenditure was 24,083*l.*, slightly less than in the previous year, giving an average of 6*l.* 14*s.* for each convict, or, after deducting the amount defrayed by his own labour, of about 4*l.* One hour a day is devoted to the education of adults. The School of Industry at Jubbulpore continued to work well, the manufactures still maintaining their high reputation. Tents have been sent to all parts of India, and even to Bushire and Muscat. A large commission was in progress from a London carpet merchant, and an order had been received for a carpet for Her Majesty the Queen. The improved health of the prisoners was most satisfactory. Gaols.

The second year of the working of the Act for the registration of assurances maintained the success which marked its introduction, showing that the people seem fully alive to the advantage of publicly recording their agreements. The number of instruments registered was 17,798, an increase of 34 per cent.; of this number 11,279 were optionally registered, and 6,519 compulsorily. The financial results were also satisfactory, the receipts amounting to 43,790*l.*, the expenditure to 3,487*l.*, leaving a considerable balance in favour of the department. Registrations.

The public works of the Province are conducted in 17 divisions, which are grouped under four circles of superintendence. The total allotment amounted to 545,000*l.*, and the net expenditure to 526,926*l.* The works were pushed with a vigour exceeding that of any previous year. Military buildings and communication in particular made rapid strides; but irrigation was not on a basis sufficiently sound to warrant the expenditure of the sum set apart for its prosecution. PUBLIC WORKS.

CENTRAL  
PROVINCES.Military  
buildings.  
Irrigation.

The sum expended on military works was 164,076*l.*, exceeding the estimate by 4,000*l.* The stations at which they are contemplated or in progress are Jubbulpore, Saugor, Kamptee, Nagpore, and Khundwah.

It has been stated that irrigation in the Central Provinces has not been put on a sufficiently sound basis to warrant a large outlay of capital. The considerations that induce this hesitation are weighty, and the chief of them may be briefly explained. Drought in this province is most rare, and such a season as that of 1868 cannot be recalled. This being so, the mass of the landholders, with regard to the monsoon months at least, are content with things as they are, and object to paying for canal water when "God has been very good to their country, and never fails to send water in the monsoon months." Rice growers certainly are safer the other way, but their lands are confined to particular localities, and those not the easiest to convey water to. The feeling in favour of spring irrigation for the hard-grained cereals is more unanimous, and points, in the opinion of the district officers, to the groundwork on which irrigation projects should be based with any hope of success. The desire of the Administration is to lay before Government a scheme for a perennial canal flowing from a reservoir, as well as a monsoon canal utilizing the floods of the rivers of the country. The Kanhan project, for the south-eastern portion of the Nagpore district, will illustrate the one, the Pench Anicut project, irrigating the plains north of Kamptee, the other; and the value of the different systems will then be contrasted and discussed. The one was completed during the year; the Kanhan scheme was shortly to be ready for submission.

Communica-  
tions.

No new roads were commenced during 1868-69, but good progress was made in those already begun. The most important is the Great Northern Road, from Nagpore to Jubbulpore, 160 miles in length, which is the only piece of road that breaks the great line of postal communication between Calcutta and London. Connected with it is a military transport train, established by Sir William Mansfield, which effects the passage from Nagpore to Jubbulpore in five days, and during the season conveyed 5,000 soldiers and their families without a single accident. The eastern road from Nagpore to Raepore and the roads north and south of Saugor gave employment to crowds of starving inhabitants.

Godavery  
navigation.

The net expenditure on the Godavery works, not including cost of establishment, was 97,700*l.* The passage of the first barrier is now effected by the short canal known as the "minor project," and the anicut was approaching completion. The second barrier works progressed steadily in spite of many drawbacks, the chief of them being the difficulty of obtaining labour, owing to the unhealthiness of the district; and surveys for the third barrier project, as well as a road from Chanda to Diwulmerree, had been completed.

Miscella-  
neous and  
municipal  
works.

These are constructed from local funds, and under local superintendence, assisted where possible by the advice of Public Works officers, and in some cases under the immediate control of a district engineer. They consist of such works as city tanks, public gardens, sanitary improvements, and other undertakings beneficial to the municipalities, and in which Government aid is not generally called for.

## EDUCATION.

Every civil officer uses his influence both with the rural and town population to promote the cause of education, which thus becomes in some degree the fashion, so that even the feudatories following the general example are induced to set up schools after the Government model, and apply for trained masters. Besides the district officers each deputy commissioner is aided by an educational officer, who acts solely under his orders; and the Inspector General of Education for the province, with a staff of circle inspectors, maintains one uniform system of tuition and classification in each school according to its grade, provides the necessary masters' report on the state of all the schools, and is entrusted with the finance of the department. Every school has its own committee of management, formed for the most part of influential native residents, whose suggestions meet with ready attention from the circle inspector or district officer, and who, exercising within defined limits a joint authority with the town or village schoolmaster, prevent him from exercising his duties irrespective of the views and wishes of the native community, whose children he instructs. On this broad basis it is hoped that in a few years there may be in the Central Provinces a really national system of primary education. Committees and masters are guided by a manual of instructions, and by rules, which together with the prescribed curriculum are found in every Government school in the prevailing vernacular.

The results of the year show an improvement under every head. The number of schools of all classes were 1,694, an increase of 49, or nearly 3 per cent., over

1867-68; the scholars increased nearly 8 per cent., from 67,490 to 72,835; the expenditure from imperial funds was 21,738*l.*, or 17·7 per cent. more than in 1867-68, and that from local funds was 27,838*l.*, an increase of 4·2 per cent. The average daily attendance was 44,480, or only ·8 per cent. more than in the previous year. This, as well as the comparatively small increase in the number of scholars, was in consequence of the exceptional character of the season. There is now one school for every 67 square miles, and one person in every 125 under instruction.

CENTRAL PROVINCES.

The prevailing languages taught are Hindi, Marathi, and Oorya—the vernacular dialects of the north, south, and east. Of the total number of 72,835 pupils, 65,728 are Hindoos, and 4,511 are Mahomedans, and the ratio of pupils to the population of the two races are 1 to 52, and 1 to 104 respectively.

Languages taught.

Education among the hitherto degraded non-Aryan classes is growing, and the consent of the students at one normal school to sit side by side with the despised Chumar is a cheering instance of the liberalising influence of popular as opposed to class education. Nor are physical and technical training neglected; there are gymnasia at several schools, and the engineering school, which it is proposed to open at Nagpore, will, it is hoped, supply competent overseers, who will be especially useful in mining operations and the construction of a branch railway, should the coal at Chanda prove valuable.

Education of the non-Aryan classes. Physical and technical education.

The high class schools are four in number, at Jubbulpore, Nagpore, Saugor, and one at Chanda, which was established during the year under review; the number of pupils attending them increased from 801 in 1867-68 to 1,010 in 1868-69.

High class schools.

These schools, Government and aided, increased during the year from 766 to 1,051, and the number of pupils from 37,471 to 52,159.

Lower class schools for boys.

The same class of schools for girls increased by two, and the number of pupils by 340, from 4,340 to 4,680, a result notably due to the improvement of the Government schools.

Lower class schools for girls.

Mention should not be omitted of the male normal schools, with 137 pupils; of the three normal schools for women, of whom it should be remarked that the majority are widows and Brahmins; of the museum, visited by 91,566 persons, 11,352 of them native women; of the native libraries, which receive grants not in money, but in books.

The gross receipts of the Central Provinces rose from 965,362*l.* to 1,074,515*l.*, and there was an increase of 111,899*l.* in the net receipts, which has been explained to be merely nominal; but a largely increased expenditure, chiefly under the head of public works, which cost nearly half as much again as in 1867-68, raised the deficit from 48,813*l.* to 111,141*l.*

FINANCIAL.

	1867-68.	1868-69.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Gross receipts - - - - -	965,362	1,074,515	109,153	—
Cost of collection, &c. - - -	812,806	310,060	—	2,746
Net receipts - - - - -	652,556	764,455	111,899	—
Expenditure:				
Public Works ordinary - - -	355,006	526,926	171,920	—
Police - - - - -	141,296	137,467	—	3,829
Law and Justice - - - - -	87,025	94,742	7,717	—
Administration, &c. - - - -	43,930	45,264	1,334	—
Education, Science, and Art	21,346	24,554	3,208	—
Other heads - - - - -	52,766	46,643	—	6,123
Total expenditure in addition to cost of collection - - - - -	701,369	875,596	—	—
Deficit - - - - -	48,813	111,141	—	—

and there was an increase of 111,899*l.* in the net receipts, which has been explained to be merely nominal; but a largely increased expenditure, chiefly under the head of public works, which cost nearly half as much again as in 1867-68, raised the deficit from 48,813*l.* to 111,141*l.*

Distinct from these receipts from imperial sources and this expenditure for imperial ends, are the receipts and ex-

penditure of the municipalities, which amounted in the year under review to 174,786*l.* and nearly 170,000*l.* respectively.

The chief Government treasuries are the branches of the Bank of Bengal at Nagpore and Jubbulpore.

Paper currency is largely employed in the adjustment of the annual exterior trade with Bombay and Berar, and in a minor degree it is used as a local medium of exchange.

There was an outbreak among the Khonds in the Patna feudatoryships, produced by the tyranny of Lal Bishnath Singh, their landlord, and the inability of his brother, the Rajah, to protect them. This and the progress of boundary settlements between the Central Provinces and certain Native States are the only two subjects touched under the head "political."

POLITICAL.

The number of Imperial post offices was 103, eight having been opened during

Post office.



CENTRAL PROVINCES.	the year; and their number will increase as the district offices gradually rise in importance and become ready for transfer to the Imperial department.
Electric telegraph.	A new line for opening direct communication with Bombay, and intermediately with the important cotton districts in Berar, was the most-noticeable undertaking of the telegraph department during the year.
Military.	The military force at the close of 1868 was in all 8,727, of whom 3,385 were Europeans. They garrisoned six cantonments and four out-posts, and they were furnished in about equal proportions from the Bengal and Madras armies; Bombay furnishing four companies for the fortress of Assergurh.
Forests.	The gross receipts from sale of timber were 35,000 <i>l.</i> , a slight increase over the previous year, but the expenditure was much heavier, leaving a balance of 3,227 <i>l.</i> The State reserves are administered by the Special Forest Department. Progress was made in their survey and demarcation; most of the forest ranges of the north and west are now completely defined by masonry pillars, and their boundaries cleared of undergrowth for protection against annual fires; but extensive tracts, more particularly in the east and south, still remain unexplored. The experimental teak plantations suffered severally from the dryness of the season. The yield and working of the forests did not answer expectation. The unreserved forest wastes are worked by the district civil officers, by whom they are leased out for the year in blocks to the highest bidder for the collection of forest produce, including fire-wood, small timber, gum, fruits, and the like.
WASTE LANDS.	The area of waste lands unappropriated at the commencement of the year was 9,639,120 acres, of which nearly 30,000 were sold during the year, at an average price of 4 <i>s.</i> per acre.
FAIRS.	Eighty fairs were held during the year, and were attended by 1,361,671 persons. The value of the property brought for sale was 600,000 <i>l.</i> , of which more than half, to the value of 356,000 <i>l.</i> , was sold. Of this same, English piece goods fetched 66,456 <i>l.</i> ; country manufactures and raw produce, 157,444 <i>l.</i> All these figures show a falling off, due to the season and the outbreak of cholera.
Hospitals, &c.	There are 79 charitable institutions in the Central Provinces, the majority of them (66) dispensaries. The number of patients treated increased from 167,881 in 1867 to 206,400, or by 23 per cent.
Tree cul- ture.	The year was a very unfavourable one for tree culture. The number of nurseries are 127, under the management of the local authorities, 33 in the charge of the Public Works Department. The two bodies expended 5,000 <i>l.</i> and 3,000 <i>l.</i> respectively. The landholders in many districts continue to interest themselves in the matter.
TRADE.	The returns of the trade of the Central Provinces are obtained by securing the registration of all traffic crossing the frontier in and out of the provinces; that crossing the river Courdab on the frontier, between the provinces and the Berars, requiring a larger establishment for the purpose than elsewhere, on account of the number of fords to be watched. The most important exterior traffic is, however, carried by the railway, which intersects the frontier at three points, and the opening of the line to Jubbulpore has made that town the trade entrepôt for a wide extent of country, more particularly for salt and sugar. Much is being done to meet the increasing necessity for a complete set of metalled roads to connect it with the markets dependent on it for supplies. The drought that prevailed during the year was the cause of an important change in the flow of the salt traffic towards the northern districts of the Central Provinces. Usually salt for the Saugor and Nerbudda territories is brought by pack-bullocks from the native states of Rajpootana; paying duty on crossing the line inwards at Saugor, it has been passed on to Jubbulpore, thence to be distributed over the country. But the grievous famine in Rajpootana in the year under review, the scarcity of water and forage, gave a check to the usual course of trade; the imports from that direction were reduced by 100,000 maunds, and there was a loss to the revenue in Customs' duty of nearly 30,000 <i>l.</i> The opportunity was not neglected by the Jubbulpore traders, and the deputy commissioner of that district writes:—"A very large increase is shown in the salt trade; this must be set down entirely to the railway, which has brought in such a large quantity of the Lahoree rock salt that the Sambhuree (Rajpootana) salt has become a drug in the market; for no one will buy it at the rate of 4 seers per rupee, when pure rock salt is procurable at 6 seers per rupee. Many of the large merchants in the place have been speculating on this, and inform me that they expect the Lahoree rock salt will quite supersede any other here if the supply continues good,—for it is very pure, and the opening of the



“ railway to Umballah reduces the cost of carriage so much that, coming as it does from the Jhehun salt range to the heart of Central India, it can still be sold one-third cheaper than the salt brought from the Sambhur lake in Rajpootana.”

A similar diversion has taken place in the sugar traffic between Bombay and Malwa; but not from the same cause, the sole reason being the imposition, in September 1868, of the usual transit duty of a rupee a maund on sugar passing in that direction through Khundwa. The duty being more than the difference in the cost of carriage by cart, the sugar traffic, and with it much of the traffic in other articles, has been diverted from the railway to the road, and while the additional Customs' revenue amounted to 327L., the railway company have lost the carriage of 2,610 tons.

With regard to the resources of the country, the only noticeable feature is the improved prospects of the Chanda coalfield. Boring operations have shown the existence of a seam of coal 28 feet thick, which is calculated to underlie an area of two square miles in extent, between the city of Chanda and the Wurdah river.

The following figures give the value of the principal articles of import and export for the year:—

	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
Cotton	116,252	653,517
Sugar	163,372	96,357
Salt	515,558	39,799
Grain	251,849	252,419
English piece goods	968,331	728,798
Metals and hardware	728,160	196,617
Miscellaneous European goods	896,208	374,652
Country cloth	43,594	347,562

Cotton shows a large increase in exports over the previous year. The largest proportion still continues to be sent from the Nagpore country, and is commercially designated “hingunghat.” The prices for the past season's consignments of this article were for:—

Middling fair	-	-	10 <sup>5</sup> / <sub>8</sub> d.
Fair	-	-	11d.
Good fair to good	-	-	11 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub> d.

The average price on the aggregate exports was 6<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>d., a higher rate than has prevailed since 1865-66, when it was 9d. The sugar import trade fell from 326,702 maunds to 190,651, owing partly to the diversion of traffic already noticed, and partly to diminished production in the North-Western Provinces. The salt import trade maintained its average of 30,000 tons. The exports of oilseeds increased from 16,000 lbs. to 58,000 lbs. Railway materials and military stores are the main cause of the high figures under the head of metal and hardware.

The aggregate trade of imports and exports crossing the outer frontier of the Central Provinces was as follows:—

	Tons.	Value.
		£
Imports	133,357	6,801,927
Exports	92,669	6,216,327
Total	226,026	13,018,254

	Tons.	Value.
		£
Imports	120,990	4,031,842
Exports	88,099	2,763,421
Total	209,089	6,795,263

The figures in the margin, which exclude Government stores and railway material, show that the actual trade of the year was about equal to the average of the past three years, and nearly double that of the year 1863-64.

The Chief Commissioner has drawn up a review of the agricultural operations during the year which is accompanied by agricultural statistics.

AGRICULTURE.

The total area of the Province is 50,865,135 acres, of which 21,032,695 acres

CENTRAL  
PROVINCES.

are barren, and 29,832,440 are cultivable. About one-half of the whole cultivable area is under the plough. Food grains it appears occupy 79 per cent. of the land, cotton 5 per cent., oilseeds 7 per cent., and other seeds the remaining 9 per cent. The average rice crop is about 574 lbs. per acre; but in the year under review the drought caused a decrease of some 46 per cent., and the average for the province was about 308 lbs. only. Taking all the food grains, the loss may be roughly stated at about 30 per cent. The out-turn of cotton was as high as in an average good year.

The total produce of food grains for the entire Province was in 1866-67 nearly 58 millions of maunds; in 1867-68, when heavy rains slightly injured the wheat, it was about 52½ millions, and in 1868-69 rather less than 39 millions.

Experiments were made, with varying success, with hingunghat and other kinds of cotton; with potatoes, rice, sugar-cane from Otaheite, indigo, &c.

Much cannot be said for the success of the experimental sheep and cattle breeding.

The report concludes with a brief account of the different district public gardens which with one exception, are all under the management of the local committees.

Godavery  
navigation.

It may be well, in conclusion, to give a brief account of the Godavery Navigation Works, prefacing it with the hardly necessary remark that they are quite distinct from the irrigation works which are being carried out by the Madras Government in the Delta.

Godavery  
works.

The object of the navigation works is the removal of certain impediments to the river traffic between the cotton producing districts and the sea. These impediments are three in number, and consist of long parallel ranges of rocks,—outcrops in fact which by the action of water have been denuded of the soil that once covered them; they are termed “barriers”; two of them are encountered in the Godavery itself, the third in its affluent the Wurdah.

The Godavery rising in Khandeish, west of Nassick, a station on the G. I. P. Railway, and about 50 miles from the sea is hopelessly unnavigable until its junction with the Wurdah river at Seroncha after a course of some 500 miles E.S.E. through the Nizam's dominions. The Wurdah forms the boundary between the Central Provinces and Berar, and flowing in a south-easterly direction through a very rich cotton growing country receives on either bank the streams that drain some of our best cotton lands,—the Wunna on which Hingunghat is situated,—further south and nearly opposite Chanda, the Pyingunga which for some distance forms the southern boundary of Berar, and flows past Edulabad, a place hardly less celebrated for its cotton than Hingunghat itself; further south again on its left bank the Wurdah is joined by the Wyngunga, and at the same spot the “third barrier,”—the first on the journey down the river but the third from the sea-board—is met. This barrier is the most formidable of the three, being 35 miles in length. The reach from the foot of the third barrier to the head of the second, about 25 miles south of the junction of the Wurdah and Godavery, is 75 miles in length. But it will be sufficient to give the distances in a tabulated form. From Poolgaon station where the railway crosses the Wurdah,—the furthest point to which it can be expected to carry navigation inland—to the sea, is 494 miles, and the distance is divided as follows:—

	Miles.
From Poolgaon to head of 3rd barrier	150
The length of barrier	35
From foot of 3rd barrier to head of 2nd barrier	75
Length of second barrier	14
From foot of 2nd barrier to head of 1st barrier	68
Length of 1st barrier	20
From foot of 1st barrier to Dhowlaishwarum	98
From Dhowlaishwarum to Coconada by Canal	34
Total	494

The works were commenced in January 1861. Their object will be accomplished by carrying the traffic round the barriers by means of canals; each barrier is indeed a sort of natural *anicut*, throwing back the river and assisting the formation of a head-water for a canal. The first barrier is now circumvented, but the two most formidable ones have yet to be taken in hand. The completion of the work would render the river navigable from the sea to Chanda during the rainy months.

## PUNJAB.

The territories under the Government of the Punjab and its dependencies, exclusive of independent States, comprise:—(1), the Cis- and Trans-Sutlej States, which were originally placed under a chief commissioner in 1845, after the close of the first Sikh war; (2), the Punjab proper, annexed in 1849, after the second Sikh war; and (3), the Delhi territories, transferred from the North-Western Provinces to the Punjab Administration in 1858, after the great rebellion. The province is bounded on the north and north-east by the Himalaya mountains; on the east by the river Jumna; on the south by the district of Muttra in the North-Western Provinces, the States of Rajpootana, and the river Sutlej; and on the west by the Suliman mountains and Afghanistan. Measured in a direction from north-west to south-east, *i.e.* from the Peshawur valley to the borders of the Muttra district, the distance is about 650 miles; and from south-west to north-east, *i.e.* from the borders of Sind, near Kasmúr to the Báralácha pass in Lahaul, the distance is about the same.

PUNJAB.

Of the total area of British possessions in the province, amounting to 102,000 square miles, or slightly less than half the size of France, 31,513 square miles are cultivated, 25,333 are culturable, and 45,155 are unculturable. There is an area of unappropriated waste land at the disposal of Government, amounting to about 13,000 square miles, not including the extensive grazing lands of the Jhelum district.

The total length of water communication is returned as 2,900 miles. Roads, metalled and unmetalled, aggregate 19,052 miles in length; and there were during the year under review 356 miles of railway open to the public. The Punjab Railway connects Mooltan with Amritsur; the Delhi Railway connects Amritsur with the northern terminus of the East Indian Railway at Delhi; a third railway is about to be commenced connecting Lahore with Peshawur, and two others are under consideration, one to connect Mooltan with Kotri on the Indus, the other to connect Delhi with the Bombay and Baroda Railway at or near Baroda.

The area of Native States in political relation with the Punjab Government may be estimated at 200,000 square miles. So that the British possessions and Feudatory States of the Punjab taken together have an area nearly half as large again as that of France.

The mountains and elevated tracts of the province consist of, first, that portion of the Western Himalayan which bounds the Punjab; next, the subordinate group of hills at the foot of the Himalaya, including the Siválik; next, the Salt Range; then the Suliman or Solomon's mountains, on the Afghan side of the Punjab; and, lastly, the hills of the Delhi and Gurgaon districts, offshoots of the Aravalli range, on the opposite side of the province. The great mountain barrier to the north of our Indian Empire, known by the name of the Himalaya, consists not of one but of a series of vast ranges; the Himalaya proper includes only those mountains below the Indus and the Brahmapootra; north of the two rivers, towards Tibet and Central Asia, and parallel with the Himalaya, is the Karakoram range. The main range of the Western Himalaya terminates north of the vast amphitheatre of Kashmir at the great peak of Dayarmur, which rises to a height of 26,629 feet from sea level, and looks down on the Indus about 15 miles distant.

The *Salt* range, from which the Punjab and a large portion of the rest of India derives its salt supply, has an extreme elevation varying from 2,000 to 5,000 feet. From Pindadun Khan, on the Jhelum, it crosses the province of Jhelum to Kalabagh on the Indus, and on the other side of the river one spur goes north to join the hills of the Bunnoo and Kohát districts, while another, running south, terminates in the offshoots of the Suliman range.

The "five waters," from which the Punjab takes its name, are the Sutlej, the Beas, the Ravi, the Chenáb, and the Jhelum. These five streams descend from the mountains, and after dividing the plain into several fertile "doabs," unite and join the Indus near the south-western extremity of the Province. The Indus issues from the extreme west of the Himalaya after a north-westerly course of some 750 miles. In the upper parts of its course it is quite unnavigable, but between a point above Kalabagh just mentioned, and Sukkur in Sind, a flotilla of Government steamers ply, in addition to a large number of native craft. The famous fords of Attock, by which nearly every invading army has entered India, are about 60 miles higher up the stream than Kalabagh, on the high road to Peshawur and Afghanistan, and just below the junction of the Cabul river with the Indus. The plains of the Punjab

## PUNJAB.

are vast expanses of alluvial clay and loam, worn away and washed down from the rocks of the mountain ranges to the north. They are intersected by the great rivers of the Punjab, which form the natural divisions of the country. The long and narrow strip between the Sulima range and the Indus is the Derajat; the country lying between the Indus and the Jhelum rivers is the Sind Sagur Doab; that between the Jhelum and the Chenáb, the Tcteh Doab; that between the Chenáb and Rávi, the Reechna Doab; that between the Rávi and Beás, the Bári Doab; and that between the Beás and the Sutlej, the Jullundhur Doab; the country between the Sutlej and the Jumna is not properly part of the Punjab, and includes in the northern parts the Cis-Sutlej States, and in the lower the Delhi territory. Of all these tracts the Jullundhur Doab, though the smallest, is the most fertile.

The forest tracts of the Punjab are chiefly in the interior of the Himalaya, but it is only in localities overlooking rivers, into which the logs when cut are thrown, to be carried by the stream to the plains, that they can be turned to practical account.

The average rainfall of the Province during 1868 was about 21 inches, or  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches less than in 1867. The mean temperature was  $75^{\circ}$  or about  $1^{\circ}$  higher than in the previous year.

## NATIVE STATES.

The Native States in feudal subordination to the Punjab Government are 34 in number, of which three only, Bhawalpore, Chamba, and Pataodi, are under the management of British officers.

## Bhawalpore.

Bhawalpore comprises an area of 22,000 square miles of the north-western portion of the great desert of Rajpootana, of which only a narrow strip of eight miles average width is culturable along the northern frontier, which through its entire length of 280 miles is bounded and fertilised by the Sutlej, the Chenáb, and the Indus.

The State continues to prosper. The revenues of the year ending October 1868, were 144,317*l.*, or 30,000*l.* more than in the previous year, and the expenditure was 121,000*l.* During the year all transit duties were abolished; 75 miles of a new irrigation canal (the *Fordwáh*) were opened out, and with other works of a similar nature, afforded employment to a large number of famine labourers from Bikanír. New towns are rapidly springing up on the banks of the *Fordwáh*, and in one, Minchinábád, named after the British Resident Major Minchin, 370 shops and 110 houses were completed in less than a year. There is no rain cultivation; the country is fertile only where the inundations of the rivers or the construction of canals renews the face of the desert.

The population of the fertile portion of the territory is estimated at 354,500, and about 10,000 inhabit the isolated forts and villages in the desert. The Nawab, a minor, 10 years of age, is receiving a careful education.

## Chamba.

Chamba is a mountainous tract to the north of the Kangra district, locked in on almost every side by lofty ranges. Its area is estimated at 3,216 square miles, and its population at 120,000 persons. The income of the year was 17,377*l.*, the expenditure 14,200*l.*, leaving a surplus of 3,176*l.*

## Kashmír.

The Maharajah of Kashmír has continued to pursue an enlightened policy in the development of commercial intercourse with Eastern Turkistan. The obstruction and opposition on the part of the Kashmír officials, formerly complained of by Doctor Cayley, the British Resident at Leh, have ceased; in consequence of the reduction of duties the trade with Yárkand has considerably increased, while at the close of the year the Maharajah announced a further reduction of transit duties in the case of merchants proceeding by the Changchinmo route from five to four per cent. ad valorem.

In September 1868, Mr. Shaw, a tea-planter of the Kangra district, and Mr. Hayward, an officer deputed by the Royal Geographical Society, proceeded from Leh to the territories of Yakúb Kushbegi, the ruler of Káshgar, Yárkand, and Khotan. The former took with him a large consignment of tea and other merchandise. They journeyed by the Changchinmo route to Shahdulla, a fort on the southern confines of the Kushbegi's country, and were received with courtesy by the officials, but were not allowed to have any intercourse with each other. After some delay they were escorted separately to Yárkand, where they remained in honourable confinement in separate houses until February, when they were taken to Káshgar, and there remained for upwards of a month, and had each of them several separate interviews with the Kushbegi, or, as he is styled in Káshgar, the Atálik Ghazi. Neither at Yárkand nor at Káshgar were they allowed to leave their houses, except

when visiting the palace. In April they were allowed to return to Yárkand, staying for a short time *en route* at Yanghissár, a town between Káshgar and Yárkand, and were finally allowed to leave Yárkand for British territory on the 30th May. Both these gentlemen speak highly of the vigorous rule of the Atálik Ghazi and of the prospects of an opening for trade with British India; there is plenty of wealth in the country, and a large demand for tea and articles of European trade, which are at present almost exclusively supplied from Russia. They report that there is a route between Leh and Yárkand by the Changchinmo and the valleys of the Kárákash and Yárkand rivers, perfectly practicable for camels, well supplied with wood and water, and with no great physical difficulties of any kind.

By solar observation and triangulation, Mr. Hayward fixed the positions of Káshgar, Yanghissár, Yárkand, and Shadula; he discovered the sources of the Yárkand and Karakash rivers, and established the fact that the Kuenluen and Karakorum are distinct ranges, and lastly he prepared a valuable map of the country between Leh and Káshgar, and a detailed account of the new routes to Yárkand.

The long standing difference in this State between the Rajah and his brothers was set at rest by the decision of Her Majesty's Government (communicated to the Government of India in a despatch dated 12th February 1869) that the Rajah Rumbheer Sing should remain in full possession of the sovereignty of the entire State, and that his brothers should receive in money or in a life tenure of lands the full value of the shares assigned to them in their father's will. Dealing justly with both parties, this decision upholds Lord Canning's assurances to the Rajah after his faithful services during the mutiny, while it only annuls the will of the father so far as that will involved the danger of an eventual division and dismemberment of the raj.

Kuppoor-  
thulla.

The year under review was a most important one in the history of Afghanistan. It saw the complete triumph of Amir Shir Ali over his brother and rival Azim Khan, the termination of the long reign of confusion and rival factions that ensued on the death of Dost Mahomed, and the establishment on a firmer footing of the friendship and alliance which had existed previously between the British Government and the Amir.

Afghanistan.

Amir Shir Ali, after his victory over Azim Khan at Panj Shahr, in August 1868, addressed friendly letters to the then Viceroy, Sir John Lawrence, expressing a desire to proceed, if need be, to Calcutta to visit him, and intimating that assistance in money and arms would be thankfully received. His overtures were favourably received. The meeting between Sir John Lawrence and the Amir was postponed, owing to the advance of Azim Khan and Abdul Rahman Khan with a large army from the north, but a donation of 60,000*l.* arrived at an opportune moment and materially assisted the fortune of the impending battle by enabling the Amir to issue the arrears of pay due to his men, and by causing numerous desertions from the enemy. On the 4th January 1869, the army of Azim Khan was completely overthrown. He and Abdul Rahman fled to British territory, but finally declining to accept the asylum offered them made their way to Persia, where Azim Khan died in October 1869.

Meanwhile Sir John Lawrence addressed a letter to Amir Shir Ali to the effect that it was the earnest desire of the Government of India to see his authority established on a basis of solidity and permanency, and to cement the bonds of friendship and alliance which ought to exist between the British power and His Highness as an independent ruler. To the donation of 60,000*l.* which had been already placed at his unreserved disposal, would be added a second sum of the same amount, as a further proof of the desire of the British Government, which feared no aggression, and which wished for no conquest, to see a strong, a just, and a merciful government established by His Highness at Cabul and throughout Afghanistan. For this the Government of India looked for no other return than abiding confidence, sincerity, and good-will.

The policy which His Excellency had advisedly pursued with regard to the affairs of Afghanistan was one on which he had entered with anxious deliberation, and which had commanded the assent and approval of Her Majesty, and as long as His Highness continued by his actions to evince a real desire for the alliance of the British Government he had nothing to apprehend in the way of a change of policy or of our interfering in the internal affairs and administration of his kingdom.

It would remain for the head of the administration to consider, in each succeeding year, what further proofs might be given of our desire to see his power consoli-

PUNJAB.

dated, and what amount of practical assistance in the shape of money or materials of war, might periodically be made over to His Highness as a testimony of our good-will, and to the furtherance of his legitimate authority.

After entering Cabul in triumph, the Amir again expressed his desire for an interview with the Viceroy, which this time no obstacle occurred to prevent. The Amir entered British territory on the 3rd March, accompanied by his son Abdulla. Leaving the bulk of his followers at Peshawur, he himself proceeded to Lahore, where he was entertained for five days by the Lieutenant-Governor. On the 26th March he reached Umballa, and on the following morning the Viceroy arrived by train from Calcutta. The Amir was received in public durbar, and after a week of reviews and other entertainments he departed the way he came, and left British territory on the 22nd April.

FRONTIER  
TRIBES.

The tribes inhabiting the British frontier from Hazára on the north to Sind on the south-west, belong to two distinct races; from Hazára to Dera Ismail Khan the hill tribes are the *Pathán* or Pushtu-speaking race, southward they are *Bilooch*. Both are warlike, revengeful, and predatory, but in some important respects they differ widely. While the Pathán is essentially a republican, having little reverence for the person of his chief, the Bilooch respects and obeys the head of his clan; while the Pathán is bigoted and priest-ridden, the Bilooch pays scant respect to the Syad or the Maulavi (Moulvee). The conduct of political relations with the Pathán tribes is consequently far less easy than with the Bilooches. To conciliate a Bilooch chief is, in most cases, to conciliate the whole clan; but the Pathán chief is generally the head of a dominant faction only, and friendship with his clan may be enmity with the rest, whilst priestly influence may be at work to thwart, perhaps in a few hours, the conciliatory policy of years.

The Bilooch portion of the border was quiet during the year, but the Pathán frontier was the scene of several serious outrages. It will be sufficient to mention the most important one.

Agror  
outrage.

The Hazára troubles commenced with an attack made on the morning of the 30th July 1868 upon a police post in Oghi, a village in the fief of Agror, a border tract on the north of the Hazára district, immediately below the lofty range of hills known as the Black Mountain. The party was repulsed, and a small force was moved up from Abbottabad. The disorder, however, became general along the upper portion of the Agror valley, and the adjacent glens. The little force was continually harassed, and it was found necessary to despatch a considerable force, completely equipped, to quell the disturbance. The force left Oghi on the 3rd October, marched up the slopes of the Black Mountain, occupied the Machai Peak, 10,200 feet above sea level, and having secured the submission of all rebellious tribes returned to British territory on the 22nd idem.

Bazoti and  
Utman Khail  
tribes.

The Orakzai group, inhabiting the hills forming the northern frontier of the Kohat district, include some 25 tribes, and can muster in all about 27,000 fighting men. The Bazoti and Utman Khail, small sections of them, muster only 500 and 800 fighting men respectively, but they are particularly difficult to deal with, because they have little or no trade to lose by a blockade, and because of their inaccessibility. Their conduct has for years been unsatisfactory.

An outrage committed on the 12th February, following on a previous one in which Capt. Ruxton, while attempting to pursue the enemy into their fastnesses, was killed, with nine men, led to prompt measures. A raid was admirably carried out by Lieut.-Colonel Keyes, while a demonstration was made simultaneously from the Peshawur side. The Oblan pass was surprised; the village of Gára, belonging to Syed Reza, the origin of all the mischief, was stormed and destroyed, the villagers having fired on our troops, and it was proved to the enemy that we were able if necessary to penetrate their most inaccessible fastnesses. The measure had its effect, and was followed by the complete submission of the offending tribes.

Civil divi-  
sions.

The Punjab is divided for administrative purposes into ten divisions, with an average area of 10,200 square miles,—into 32 districts with an average of 3,188 square miles, which are again subdivided into 132 tahsils, with an average area of 772 square miles. There are 451 magistrates of all grades, and 15,638 police to a population of upwards of 17½ millions. There are 34,462 villages at an average distance of 14 miles from the nearest court. The revenue derived from the land in 1868-69 was 1,894,741*l.*, and the gross revenue of the Province was 3,434,015*l.*

Population.

The total population was returned as 17,596,752 persons, of whom 1,141,848 are Sikhs, 6,094,759 Hindus, and 9,331,367 Mahomedans. The agricultural are to the non-agricultural classes as 9 to 8.

In the presence of the exhaustive Parliamentary Blue Book, which has lately been laid on the table of the House, it will not be necessary to notice more than briefly "The Punjab Tenancy Act" which has given rise to so much diversity of opinion.

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—  
LEGISLA-  
TIVE.

It is an Act for "defining and amending the law relating to certain matters connected with the tenancy of land in the Punjab," on which the Law and Practice of the Punjab were more or less uncertain.

Punjab Te-  
nancy Act.

This province was annexed in 1848, and for some years after, in determining the land settlements, the principles observed in the North-West Provinces were applied to it. Tenants who had occupied continuously for 12 years without a lease were usually declared to have a right of occupancy, and their rents were generally fixed for a term of settlement, extending from 10 to 30 years. In the Jhelum division the system was adopted of confronting the parties, and so determining the nature as well as the length of occupancy that entitled a cultivator to privileges.

In 1863 Mr. Edward Prinsep, who had been appointed Commissioner for the purpose of revising settlements, the terms of which were expiring, challenged the correctness of the records of former settlements, and expressed his strong conviction that during the Sikh times very few tenants had right of occupancy, as the landlord, it was admitted, had in those times the right of evicting any tenant.

The result of Mr. Prinsep's proceedings in three districts was that out of 60,000 tenants formerly recorded as having rights of occupancy, 46,000 were (provisionally) reduced to the state of tenants at will.

The *vexata questio* thus raised was for nearly four years canvassed in every possible light. To those who took the proprietors' view, and stated that no right of occupancy existed in Sikh times, that the action of Government was unjust to the proprietors, and that it was its duty even at that late hour to rectify its error, it was answered by Sir John Lawrence, and those who supported him, that the right of evicting was rarely exercised; that it was just to protect the tenants from arbitrary eviction, whose lands had increased in value owing not to outlay of capital on the part of the proprietors, but to the liberal policy of the Government; that in doing so, the British Government was merely exercising a power which it inherited from its predecessor, the Sikh government; that whether the action of the Government was right or wrong, it would be the height of injustice to disallow rights which had been recognised for 20 years, and suddenly to place the tenants in a position in which they would be at the mercy of their landlords under circumstances very advantageous to the latter.

These views were in October 1867 embodied in a draft bill which for a year more was the subject of correspondence and debates, filling a bulky folio volume. It was considered by four different committees, and discussed three times in the Legislative Council, and was finally, in a somewhat amended form, passed by the Government of India on the 21st October, 1868; but it was not for yet another year that the matter was really set at rest by a dispatch from the Secretary of State of the 28th October, 1869, replying to one from the Government of India, which transmitted a memorial from certain of the chiefs, landholders, and gentry of the Punjab petitioning against the Act. The Secretary of State in Council declared in that dispatch that the Act would not be disallowed by Her Majesty's Government, but requested that the operation of it should be watched by the Government of India, with the closest care, and that measures should be devised for affording every possible facility to all classes whose rights were affected, to prove cheaply and easily any errors which the first settlement might have involved.

It is matter of congratulation to learn on the highest and most impartial authority that events have justified the expectations of those who were convinced of the justice of the measure, and that the Act is working most satisfactorily.

At the close of the year 1868 there were 526 tribunals in the Punjab (exclusive of settlement officers' courts) for the disposal of criminal, civil, and revenue cases, or about one tribunal to 33,000 persons. Of the judges 230 were Europeans, and 329 natives; 458 were stipendiary, and 101 were non-stipendiary.

Judicial  
Tribunals.

Of the above courts, 43 exercised appellate as well as original powers; 10 were courts of session, while the chief court was the final appellate authority in civil and criminal cases, and acted as a court of original criminal jurisdiction in cases where European British subjects were charged with serious offences; and the Financial Commissioners exercised final appellate jurisdiction in civil suits regarding land in districts where a settlement of the land revenue was in progress.



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*Criminal Justice.*—The number of criminal cases coming under judicial cognizance was 54,469, or 10 per cent. more than in 1867; 40 per cent. were tried by European, and 60 per cent. by native agency. Of the cases under trial during the year all were disposed of within the year but 549 cases, or 1 per cent.

It appears from the reports of the year that although judicial business enormously increased, it was promptly disposed of,—in Sessions Courts far more promptly than in 1867,—whilst the *quality* is steadily improving. This result is attributed to the excellent supervision maintained by the judges of the chief court, who, by the care and dispatch with which they dispose of their own heavy files, afford a good example to subordinate courts.

*Civil Justice.*—The number of civil suits amounted to 159,550, or 14,922 more than the number instituted in 1867, and this notwithstanding the enhanced rate of stamp duty on plaints. The increase occurred chiefly in suits for recovery of money due on contract, which rose from 90,697 in 1867 to 105,506 in 1868, and is partly attributed to the operation of the new law of limitation which came into force in the Punjab on 1st January 1869. Allowing for these exceptional causes of increase, it may nevertheless be said that the enhanced stamp duties had *not* the effect of unduly repressing resort to courts of justice, in matters connected with the ordinary transactions of life. Of 164,635 cases on the file (including those pending from the previous year) 151,827 were disposed of. This result is satisfactory, but fears are expressed that pressure of judicial work is beginning to interfere with the important executive functions of the officers employed. Since 1862, when the existing administrative establishments of the province were fixed, the annual number of judicial cases has increased from 99,852 civil suits and 34,600 criminal cases to 151,827 civil suits and 52,760 criminal suits, while at the same time procedure has been elaborated, and executive business has enormously increased.

The number of appeals decreased considerably, in 1868 their number was 12,340 or 15 per cent. less than in 1867, and about 35 per cent. less than in 1866. This is attributed partly to enhanced rates of stamp duty and process fees, and partly to the operation of the Punjab Appeals Act of 1868, which restricted the license to appeal by ruling that where two courts concurred in a matter of fact, no second appeal should be allowed.

Registration.

The Registration Act was introduced into the Punjab on the 1st January 1868, and the total number of deeds registered during the year was 128,488.

Gaols.

A new Gaol at Dera Gházi Khan was added during the year, making the total number in the province 27. The total number of prisoners was 38,656, or 6,000 more than in 1867; the daily average was 10,883, or about 900 more. The mortality for the year was the smallest ever known. Calculated on the total prison population it was 0·36 per cent., or on the daily average number it was 1·20. In 1867 the rate of mortality was more than double. The cost of each prisoner was 6*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* in 1868, against 5*l.* 9*s.* 2*d.* in 1867.

Police.

The police force of the province amounted during the year to 20,493 men and 618 officers, of whom 74 were European and 544 native. There was thus one policeman to 854 persons, and to a little less than five square miles. The total cost was 300,550*l.*, of which 253,432*l.* was defrayed from imperial revenues, and 45,603*l.* from municipal funds, and the cost per head of population was about 3½*d.* When it is considered that in England there is one policeman to 889 persons, and in Ireland one to 420 persons; that in England the annual cost of the police falls at the rate of upwards of 2*s.* per head of population, and in Ireland at a still higher figure; and further that the police in the Punjab are employed on duties the cost of which is in England not charged to police estimates, such as escorting treasure, furnishing personal guards to officers on tour, &c., while on the north-west frontier they perform the duties of militia, it must be admitted that the strength and cost of the police in the Punjab are anything but extravagant.

Crime.

There was in this province, as in others where scarcity prevailed, a large increase of crime. The number of offences of every kind reported was 70,880, or nearly 8,000 more than in 1867. The bulk of the increase occurred in offences against property, and it is to be regretted that the cases of murder rose from 287 to 332. Of these murders 163 were committed in the six Trans-Indus districts, and as many as 80 in the Peshawur district alone. The peculiar circumstances which render frontier districts specially rife in crimes of assassination have before been noticed; an armed population within and without the border, full of fierce enmities and factions; a code of honour which regards murder in revenge for injury a righteous act; a border close at hand for flight; a people more inclined to sympathise with



the criminal than to assist the officers of justice; added to which the police force has, within the last few years, been reduced, on financial considerations. Under these circumstances the Lieutenant-Governor has submitted a scheme for improving the police arrangements of the Peshawur district, by which, if it is approved by the Government of India, the influential tribes of the border will be enlisted on the side of order, as a supplemental militia force.

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Of the 70,880 offences of every kind admitted to have occurred, 48,627 were brought to trial, and in 36,125 cases convictions were obtained; and out of 122,056 persons arrested, 71,072 were convicted.

The troops of the Bengal army quartered in the Punjab mustered on the 31st March 1869, 16,592 British and 20,405 native soldiers, making a total of 36,771 men, or about 8,000 more than in 1867-68. The largest force is quartered at Peshawur, where there were 1,978 British, and 3,550 native troops.

MILITARY.

In addition to these troops, which are under the orders of the Commander-in-Chief, there is the Punjab Frontier Force, numbering 12,489 men of all ranks, with 20 guns, which is under the control of the Lieutenant-Governor of the Province.

The imperial revenues of the province realised the gross sum of 3,434,015*l.*, or about 25,000*l.* less than in 1867-68; and the surplus, after deducting "cost of collection" &c. and "expenditure,"

FINANCE:

	1867-68.	1868-69.	Increase.	Decrease.
Gross receipts:—	£	£	£	£
Land Revenue	1,928,182	1,894,741	—	33,441
Salt	792,538	820,475	27,937	—
Stamps	171,285	199,807	28,522	—
Public Works, Miscellaneous	168,036	143,375	—	24,661
Other Heads	399,634	375,617	—	24,017
Total	£3,459,675	£3,434,015	Decrease.	£25,660
Charges against income	£427,715	£461,502	—	—
Net Receipts	£3,031,960	£2,973,513	Decrease.	£58,447
Expenditure:—	£	£	£	
Public Works, Ordinary	862,777	878,857	16,080	—
Police	302,689	314,560	11,871	—
Law and Justice	190,454	237,371	46,917	—
Administration	112,165	132,387	20,222	—
Other Heads	214,689	357,434	142,745	—
Total Expenditure excluding charges.	£1,682,774	£1,920,609	Increase.	£237,835
Surplus	£1,349,186	£1,051,904	Decrease.	£297,282

was 1,051,904*l.*, a sum less by 297,282*l.* than in the previous year. The more important items of receipt and expenditure are given in the margin, and it remains to notice some others in which, comparing them with the figures of the previous year, there was a considerable difference. Forests yielded 34,448*l.*, or 6,400*l.* more than in 1867-68, owing to larger sales of timber and fuel. The receipts under the head of law and justice (88,037*l.*), exhibit an increase of 23,200*l.*, an in-

crease chiefly due to the fees realised under the Registration Act, which was extended to the Punjab on the 1st January 1868. On the other hand the receipts of the Customs Department fell from 94,208*l.* to 58,098*l.*, owing, as might have been expected in a season of scarcity, to a great decrease in the export duty on sugar; and the Certificate Tax of 1868 produced 26,224*l.*, but little more than half the amount realised under the Licence Tax of 1867.

It will be seen that the expenditure of the province shows a considerable increase. In addition to the figures in the margin it should be mentioned that the political charges of the year, amounting to 81,748*l.*, include an extraordinary charge of about 70,000*l.* in connexion with the Amir of Cabul. Public Works Extraordinary cost 61,526*l.*, or 50,000*l.* more than in 1867-68. The sum of 64,102*l.* was allotted to Education, Science, and Art.

The Engineering Staff of the Public Works Department consisted of one chief engineer, three superintending engineers, 25 executive engineers, and 41 assistant-engineers; and the Staff of the Irrigation Department comprised one chief engineer, three superintending, 23 executive, and 32 assistant-engineers. The Railway and Forest Departments are distinct.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Military works consumed nearly 390,000*l.* of the total expenditure; 187,640*l.* were spent on roads, &c.; 75,000*l.* on irrigation works, and 53,223*l.* on civil buildings.

With regard to the first item, "Military Works," several works have been executed at outposts on the frontier, and considerable progress was made in providing accommodation for European troops, and in improving the fort of Delhi.

The most important metalled road is the trunk line from Delhi to Lahore, and thence on to Peshawur; and of the unmetalled roads the more important are those

PUNJAB.

in the hills, in which good progress was made. Large parties of British soldiers continue to be employed in road work where it is possible, and with the happiest results.

The project for remodelling the Bári Doab Canal was commenced on the 1st August 1868, the preliminary surveys and estimates connected with the first 37 miles of the Sirhind Canal were completed, and actual work commenced in September 1869; and the Western Jumna Canal was kept in repair and improved. These three are the chief works of irrigation in the Punjab; the others are enumerated in the accompanying tabulated statement, which gives the

Bári Doab Canal	-	78,066
Upper Sutlej Canals	-	5,188
Lower Sutlej Canals	-	12,199
Indus Canals	-	5,194
Western Jumna Canal	-	121,368
Delhi and Gurgaon Works	-	170
Total	-	£ 222,200

canal income for the year under review.

Agricultural.

Owing to the scanty rainfall there was a decrease of 475,920 acres in spring cultivation, and of 1,619,041 acres in the autumn crop. From the same cause there was a great loss of cattle during the year, amounting to about 450,000. There are about 150,000 camels in the province.

In connexion with this subject mention should not be omitted of the rhea or china grass, a plant which has been introduced into the province from Assam, and thrives luxuriantly in the Kangra district. It possesses a valuable fibre for which there is an unlimited demand in England, but owing to the want of suitable machinery for detaching the fibre from the stem the development of this important trade is delayed. A reward of 5,000*l.* has been offered by the Secretary of State to the inventor whose ingenuity most completely supplies the want.

Mines and Quarries.

The principal metallic products of the Punjab are iron, copper, antimony, lead, and gold. The iron ores are produced along its north-eastern mountain frontier, in the low hills of the Sulemán range, and to some extent in the salt range; they are mostly magnetic oxides of singular purity. The selling price of native manufactured iron varies from 10*s.* to 16*s.* per maund of 80 lbs. Gold occurs only in sand washed down by the rivers, and the amount realised is insignificant.

Salt.

The principal beds of rock salt are found in the southern slopes of the salt range in beds of from 150 to 200 feet in thickness. The mines are of two kinds; one where the salt rock is approached by galleries and excavations; the other where, as at Kalabagh, the salt is at the surface, and is quarried rather than mined. The expense of excavation is borne by the Government, and the salt is sold to traders at the mines for six shillings per maund. The total out-turn during 1868-69 was 1,307,378 maunds, valued at 376,580*l.*; in the previous year the out-turn was 1,176,237, valued at 352,871*l.* To prevent smuggling the salt is excavated at five places only, though it exists in large quantities elsewhere in the salt range. Other varieties of salt exist in the Punjab, as saltpetre, alum, &c. One called *Kalar* or *Reh* deserves notice. It is an efflorescent sulphate of soda, so prevalent in some parts of the country as to destroy cultivation; it has not yet been utilised, nor have the efforts which have been made from time to time to discover a cheap method of neutralising its evil effects on the soil been successful. Borax is not produced in the Punjab, but is imported from Thibet and Ladakh.

Trade.

The value of the imports and exports of the province during the year is estimated at 5,268,522*l.* The most bulky import was grain, of which 1,025,145 maunds entered the province; then came sugar (815,017 maunds). Cotton and cotton cloths were imported to the extent of 40,000 and 47,000 maunds. The largest export was sugar (1,044,151 maunds).

Trade with Central Asia.

A large increase of trade has followed the Maharajah's reduction of the exorbitant duties levied on goods passing between Yárkand and British territory, to an uniform duty of five per cent. *ad valorem*. The value of the merchandise passing through the north of Leh has increased in one year from 30,000*l.* to 50,000*l.*; and the trade which has hitherto been in the hands of the agents of the Kashmir government and petty traders is now embarked in by several merchants of substance from the Punjab.

The two largest commercial towns of the Punjab are Delhi and Umritsur. The imports and exports of the former (excluding railway traffic) are valued at three and a quarter millions, and those of the latter at more than a million and a half sterling. Umballa comes next with a trade estimated at rather more than a million and a quarter.

Education.

There were in the Punjab, in 1868-69, 1,805 Government educational institutions; 817 grant-in-aid institutions; and 5,139 unaided indigenous schools. The average attendance was 141,665, or one student to 123 persons, and an increase of 10,796.

The average annual cost of educating each pupil varied from 10*l.* in Government colleges to 3*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.* in schools of the lower class. In the Lahore Mission College the cost of each pupil was about 48*l.*

PUNJAB.

The strenuous efforts of those interested to found an University for Northern India have resulted in the establishment of the "Lahore University College," with a governing body or senate presided over by the Lieutenant Governor. In its support the Government will grant an equivalent to the income from subscriptions and endowments, up to 2,100*l.* per annum, and has expressed its readiness to reconsider its present refusal to confer upon it the coveted title of "University," and the power to confer degrees.

Lahore  
University  
College.

Besides this "University College" there is a College at Lahore and one at Delhi, in both of which the progress is reported to be satisfactory, and at Lahore there is also a medical school.

Of female education it is said that although there has been a falling off in the aggregate number of female schools and scholars, the prospects of female education have greatly improved, and it may be considered that all prejudices are now in a fair way of being overcome, and that female education has been placed upon a sound basis with every prospect of future satisfactory development.

There is a central museum at Lahore, to which large collections were added during the year. A committee has been appointed to explore the country round Peshawur, with a view of collecting the remains of ancient sculpture and carvings, both ornamental and representative of mythic scenes.

Scientific.

The building was visited during the year by 33,800 persons.

At the Government Book Depot 74,324 books valued at 2,355*l.* were sold at cost price; 26,993 were given as prizes. In the Educational Press 53,335 vernacular books were printed, a translation of the "Student's Hume," and the preparation of a School History of India are in progress.

Literary.

At the close of the year there were two English and 13 vernacular papers.

The institutions for affording medical relief were during the year, one hospital attached to the Medical School at Lahore; 92 dispensaries; asylums for the insane at Lahore and Delhi, and for lepers in various towns; and in addition to these there is a scheme whereby the native practitioners of the country are utilised and medical relief is carried into the interior of districts. The idea originated with Lieut.-Colonel Mercer who observed that a large proportion of the population was almost entirely without medical relief in times of sickness. These *hakims*, though mostly being ignorant and practising an erroneous system of medicine, have often a good knowledge of herbs and possess the confidence of the people. They are paid by a voluntary cess.

Hospitals.

The experience of the Punjab was very much that of the other provinces of India where the drought was severe, and as elsewhere Government were on the alert, issuing instructions to the district officers, organising a system of relief operations, and in every way carrying out the merciful policy which the late scarcity has completely developed, nor were private individuals wanting in generosity.

The famine.

In March 1869 rain fell plentifully all over the province, and fear of famine was at an end, but to the south of the Sutlej great distress continued to prevail to the close of the year.

Great praise is bestowed on the Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners of divisions and districts, who were prudent and energetic, and spared no efforts. The total expenditure incurred on famine relief was 40,627*l.*

#### FEUDATORY STATES.

FEUDATORY  
STATES.

"The last vestiges of the Royal House of Delhi, from which for our own convenience we have long been content to accept a vicarious authority, have been swept away. The last pretender to the representation of the Peishwa has disappeared. The Crown of England stands forth the unquestioned ruler and paramount power in all India, and is for the first time brought face to face with its feudatories. There is a reality in the suzerainty of the Sovereign of England which has never existed before, and which is not only felt but eagerly acknowledged by the chiefs."

Written at the conclusion of the great Mutiny, this despatch of Lord Canning's clearly explained the change which that momentous event had brought about, and resolved the question of the position of the feudatory chiefs of India who had hitherto acknowledged the nominal sovereignty of the Emperor of the Moguls or of the Mahratta Peishwa. Their allegiance was, in fact, thenceforth transferred to the

FEUDATORY  
STATES.

Queen of England; and the same despatch decreed what Hindoo law had never absolutely ordained, that adoption to a *raj* should always be recognised by the paramount power, subject to the two conditions of loyalty to the Crown, and fidelity to all engagements to the British Government. The sunnud or patent confirming this decree was issued on the 11th March 1862, and a similar patent was given to Mahomedan princes.

To 153 feudatories is this right of adoption guaranteed. Leaving out Mysore, which during the Maharajah's minority, is administered by the British Government, and Berar, which is administered for the Nizam, these nobles govern a population and area larger than those of France and Belgium. Their troops far outnumber our Sepoy army; their ordnance is equal in number to ours; their wealth is enormous, and their revenues are personal. From 44 millions of people covering 579,277 square miles they draw a revenue of 12½ millions sterling every year, irrespective of the very large incomes of the nobles, who are in their turn feudatory to them. The 12 wealthiest princes alone enjoy an annual revenue of seven millions sterling derived from 26½ millions of people; of these 12, the Nizam of Hyderabad has an income of 2,150,000*l.*; and the Maharajah Sindhia one of 1,110,910*l.*, the remainder drawing incomes varying from 240,000*l.* to 600,000*l.*

The tributes and contributions from Native States in 1867-68 amounted to 689,286*l.* If against this is set the cost of the political agencies, &c., amounting to 241,801*l.*, and the allowances and assignments under treaties and engagements amounting to 1,873,072*l.*, and raising the total to 2,114,872*l.*, it will be seen that the direct cost of the Feudatory States to the Government of India is a million and a half sterling.

Rajpootana  
Agency.

The territory or collection of independent Native States known by the name of Rajpootana resembles a large square set up cornerwise, of which the northern angle approaches the Sutlej; the southern is formed by Guzerat and Sindhia's territory on the west and east, while the eastern corner abuts on Agra, and the western rests on Sindh. It has an area of 123,000 square miles, and a population estimated at 10 millions. It contains 18 principalities, of which 15 are Rajpoot; two are Jat, Bhurtpore, and Dholepore; and one is Mahomedan, Tonk; and the revenue derived from the entire territory is estimated roughly at 3,340,000*l.*

Rajpootana is divided by natural features into four great sections:—(1) The desert regions to the north and west of the Aravulli, comprising more than half of the entire territory within the agency, and comprehending Marwar, Bikaneer, Jessulmere, and Shekhawuttee; (2) the hill division, including the greater part of Meywar and Banswarra, Doongurpore, Pertabgurb, and Serohi; (3) the south-eastern division of Haraoti, including Boondee, Kotah, and Jhallawar; and (4) Eastern and Central Rajpootana, extending from Ulwur to Kerowlee.

The 18 principalities are supervised by the Governor-General's agent, with a staff of political agents and assistants, amounting in all to 20 officers. Their united salaries and the other purely executive charges of the agency amount to nearly 37,000*l.*

The chiefs exercise supreme civil and criminal jurisdiction within the limits of their respective States. They are restrained by no check save the moral influence and fear of the British Government. Disputes among themselves are adjudicated by the Courts of Vakeels, consisting of one upper court and four lower courts, at which when British interests are concerned, or at the request of the members, or in cases of importance, the agent of the Governor-General or one of his subordinate officers takes his seat as president, and has a casting vote.

The famine which desolated Rajpootana more completely than any other part of India, and the general backwardness of this cluster of independent Native States, owing partly to misrule, partly to the very unsatisfactory relations of the chiefs with their thakoors or nobles, are the two facts that stand out prominently in reviewing the events of the year.

The famine will be felt for many years to come. It surpassed in severity even that of 1813, which was the most calamitous in Rajpootana of which there is record, for whereas then grain failed, there was plenty of grass, and the herds were saved; but in 1869 the scarcity of grain, severe though it was, was trifling compared with that of forage. It is believed that three-fourths of the cattle have died or been sold out of the country, and the most calamitous mortality among the people was only averted by the facilities which the railway lines afforded for the transit of grain. The famine, though general throughout Rajpootana, was most severely felt in Marwar. Here scarcity of grain is common, and the people find relief by

emigrating to the neighbouring States, returning with the approach of the rainy season; but on the present occasion their usual refuge failed them; their neighbours were afflicted equally with themselves. Malwa is more than ever given up to opium, and dispersing in various directions streams of emigrants poured northwards to Delhi and the Punjaub, westwards to Guzerat, while from the south-eastern portions of the country multitudes passed into the Central Provinces, numbers of them dying by the way. "Some are left to be devoured by dogs, and others are buried a few inches below the surface of the ground, and always in nullah beds, that the remains may be swept down by rain to the sacred rivers."

"It is difficult to estimate the number who emigrated. The northern portion of Marwar is deserted. In the more fertile portions the towns are still inhabited, but the villages are as villages of the dead; only a few women and one or two old men being left to look after the houses." "There is no doubt that the population of the country will be permanently diminished by one-fourth. Many will settle in the countries to which they have emigrated, and the misrule and want of good government which has prevailed for the last few years in Marwar will deter others from coming back." The failure of the grass obliged the people to take with them the greater number of their cattle. Of 2½ million head of cattle in Marwar, nine-tenths, it is estimated, were taken away by the departing emigrants. The one-tenth that remained may be said to have died off, while an almost equal mortality appears to have followed the herds. Looking to the future the prospect was gloomy. "The cattle left in the country are not sufficient to plough one-tenth part of the land usually sown in the Khureef. The cattle with the returning emigrants will not arrive till the new grass is sprouted, too late for the season's sowings, excepting of vetches and inferior grains, the produce from which will not compensate for the drain on the stocks caused by the demand for seed and the extra number of mouths; moreover, there is little hope of import of grain from neighbouring countries, and each State must depend on the stock she herself holds."

It is pleasing to learn that the chiefs have, as a rule, done all in their power to relieve the sufferings of the people by the remission of taxes, and by the removal of the prohibitive restrictions on grain which, from an erroneous conception of their duty to their subjects, they at first imposed when scarcity showed itself. In this enlightened policy the lead was taken by the Maharajah of Jeypore, who has shown himself to be the most advanced in the cause of progress of all his countrymen. His firm support has overcome the opposition of the conservative thakoors and State officials to the recently established "Council." This body, which aids His Highness in both a consultive and executive capacity, has of course not been in existence long enough to become perfect, but it has already displayed a marked superiority over the former Government, and both in devising and carrying out reforms, and in the despatch of business has gained the praise of the Political Agent. Indeed the progress of the State of Jeypore, during the past three or four years particularly, is the subject of special remark on his part.

As in the other States of Rajpootana famine here also pressed heavily. In the most favoured localities the yield was about one-quarter of the average, while in others it was even less. The Maharajah's generosity during the crisis was not confined to the removal of the transit duties on grain, though as it was entirely opposed to long established custom, this measure deserves the largest share of praise; famine works were instituted by the Durbar; consideration was paid to the helpless poor and the aged and infirm. The charity shown by individuals was also most praiseworthy. The Maharajah's relief measures received the thanks of Government, and the reward of an increase to his salute from 17 to 19 guns.

As with the other States it is difficult to ascertain the revenue of Jeypore. The net receipts for the year are stated to be 400,000*l.*, but the average income is valued at 500,000*l.*

There are 294 schools of all kinds, and in the one female school that as yet exists the number of pupils rose from 35 to 160 during the year, an increase that is encouraging when it is considered that the prejudice in the minds of the people against female education is still strong.

Among public works in progress perhaps the most noticeable is the public garden which is being created by the Maharajah, and which he declares shall be second to none in India. It will be divided into botanical and zoological sections, and will be furnished with an aviary, band stand, fountains, &c.

FEUDATORY  
STATES.

As a further proof of the advanced views of the Maharajah a Social Science Congress was inaugurated in March 1869 in the presence of His Highness, and was opened with an address from Dr. Valentine, the Vice-President, who has the credit of suggesting this as well as many other useful projects for the social and moral advancement of the people. Briefly stated, the objects of the society are the advancement and diffusion of sanitary science, the improvements of agriculture and the agricultural classes, the spread of education, the formation of classes for the study of the higher branches of mental and physical science, a regular fortnightly meeting for lecture and conversazione, the interchange of reports and information with other societies of a like nature, and the publication of newspapers. The Political Agent says of the society that, though it may not accomplish all its intentions, the encouragement and cordial support which it has already met with from the chiefs of the State will go far to strengthen the Maharajah's hands in carrying out measures for the good of the people which, without their co-operation, would be surrounded by almost inconceivable difficulties, while it will at the same time teach the thakoors the important lesson that it is only by so co-operating and personally engaging in the work they can ever possibly expect to have reforms carried out within their own communities.

Bhurtpore.

In the year under the review the Maharajah of Bhurtpore, whose State has been 16 years under British management, attained his majority, and was invested with the direct government of the country. The young chief has received a far more liberal education than has hitherto been accorded to youths of his rank and position. He has travelled a great deal, his ideas and opinions are advanced, and his knowledge of foreign countries is extensive. He is active in his habits, an excellent horseman, and fond of out-door exercise, and, from constantly accompanying the Political Agent when out in camp, he is well acquainted with every portion of the State and with the wants and conditions of the people over whom he is now called upon to rule.

In a Report that professes to be simply historical some interesting suggestions thrown out by Captain Walter, the Political Agent, may yet perhaps find a place, bearing as they do upon the most important question of the raising the influence of the aristocracy of India. He says, "I do not think that we have yet thoroughly fathomed the great duty that we owe to our feudatories. The path of civilisation is making rapid progress over almost every part of British India; the sons of some of the poorest natives of the country receive, as a rule, a more liberal education than those of the aristocracy. If this continues much longer it is not difficult, however much we may desire to uphold and perpetuate the dynasties of our Native allies, to foretell what the final result will be. To ensure to the sons of the aristocracy of the country a liberal and enlightened education we must, first of all, establish an *Eton* in India. We require a college on an extensive scale, with ample accommodation for a large number of pupils, and the followers, few in number, who would accompany them. A complete staff of thoroughly educated English gentlemen, not mere bookworms, but men fond of field sports and out-door exercise, would be necessary, and with these should be associated the *elite* of the native gentlemen belonging to the educational department. The holidays should be spent in constant travel all over the continent of India, with an occasional visit to their own homes.

"Many will say that such a scheme is impossible. I admit that it is surrounded with difficulties, but I do not think that they are insuperable. If we desire to raise the chiefs of India to the standard which they must attain to in order to keep pace with the ever-advancing spirit of the age, if we wish to make clear to them that our only object is to perpetuate their dynasties and make them worthy feudatories of the Crown of England, we must place within their reach greater facilities for bestowing on their sons a better education than they can now possibly obtain. Then and not till then can we hope to see the Native princes of India occupy the position they ought to hold as the promoters of peace, prosperity, and progress among their own people, and the hearty supporters of British authority and power."

Central  
India  
Agency.

The Central India Agency consists of three great divisions. (1) The north-eastern, comprising Rewah and Bundelkund; (2) the northern, consisting entirely of the territories of Scindia and his feudatories, and comprising the northern and central districts of Gwalior; and (3) the south-western, or Malwa, comprising Scindia's Malwa districts, the extensive territories of Holkar and Bhopal, some

smaller States, several feudatories of Scindia and Holkar, and a vast number of mediatised chiefs. FEUDATORY STATES.

Speaking approximately, the area of these three divisions is 83,600 square miles, the population amounts to 7,670,000, and the revenue to 2,612,000*l.*

In the entire Agency there are 71 States, of which four are principal, 23 secondary, and 44 petty. Only seven chiefs have supreme jurisdiction within their States. In all the other States the supreme jurisdiction rests with the political officers, who also decide all heinous cases in the petty chiefships.

Here, as in Rajpootana, there is an agent for the Governor-General, with a staff of political agents and assistants, amounting in all to 18 officers, whose salaries and the purely executive charges of the agency amount to 33,931*l.* Deducting the salaries of three superintendents paid by Native States, the total charge to the British Government is a little more than 33,000*l.*

The State of Bhopal stands pre-eminent among the Native Principalities of India for fidelity to the British Government and for advancement in the cause of civilisation and good government; so that it was a source of real regret when Her Highness the Secunder Begum, who had held the reins of power for more than 20 years, died on the 30th October 1868. Bhopal.

The notification which was issued by the Governor-General in Council on the receipt of the intelligence fully expresses the appreciation entertained by the Supreme Government of her fidelity and her many virtues. After recording the profound regret with which the intelligence of her demise was received, the notification continues:—"Her Highness had conducted the administration of this Principality since the year 1847, when she was first appointed Regent, with ability and success until the day of her decease. In the early years of her rule she improved the system by which the revenue of the State is collected, abolished monopolies, regulated the mint, reorganised the police, and gradually increased the public revenue, while she effectually diminished the public debt. In later times, by her support of male and female education, by her superintendence of works intended to supply her capital with pure and wholesome water, by the construction of serais and roads, and by other improvements, she gave convincing indications of real and abiding interest in the progress of her people and in the prosperity of her country.

"Her relations with the representative of the British Government at her capital had been for a long time established on a sound and satisfactory basis, and she was on terms of friendship with the rulers of neighbouring States.

"But it was by her firm conduct during the great Mutiny that she established a more direct title to the acknowledgments of the Head of the Administration.

"Her unswerving fidelity, her skill in the management of affairs at an important crisis, the bold front which she presented to the enemies of the British power, and the vigilance with which she watched over the preservation of Englishmen, were acknowledged by Lord Canning in open Durbar, in terms of deserving praise and commendation; and the gratitude of the British Government was further evinced by a grant of territory, which its owner had justly forfeited for open rebellion, by a recognition of the right of succession according to the custom of the Principality and the Mahomedan law, and by the bestowal of one of those titles which the Sovereign of Great Britain, as the fountain of honour, has instituted to reward good services performed in India either by the natives of the country, or by the British servants of the Crown."

His Excellency took this opportunity of appealing to the example left by the late Begum as a proof that women in Oriental nations are fully capable of conducting public affairs with discretion and with dignity. He expressed his earnest hope that the administration of Bhopal might be carried on on the same sound principles by her daughter and successor the Begum Shah Jehan, and that the chiefs and rulers of the Native States would endeavour to imitate the example which the deceased had set before them, of hearty co-operation with the British authorities, of zeal and fidelity to the interests of the paramount power, and of that conscientious and earnest discharge of administrative functions which never failed ultimately to conduce both to the welfare of the community and to the honour and stability of the prince.

The Political Agent, Major Osborne, gives an account of her illness and last moments. Feeling she could not last much longer, she spoke as follows:—"I wish the Government to be informed that I have always been thoroughly loyal to



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STATES.

“ Her Majesty’s Government; my loyalty having been acknowledged by the Government has given me more pleasure than the presentation of millions of money. Her Majesty will find every true descendant of mine will be thoroughly faithful and loyal to her throne; and as I am now about to die, I should wish Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria to be informed that one of my last wishes on earth was for the welfare of herself, her family, and her throne.” To Major Osborne she said that he had always been a true and faithful friend to her, and she trusted that he would be an equally good friend to her daughter and her family.

Her Highness the Shah Jehan was installed Begum on the 16th December. The late Begum had a year and a half before her death entrusted to her some portion of the administration of the State, and there is every reason to believe that the daughter will follow in the steps of the mother.

## Ali Rajpore.

Ali Rajpore is a small independent State on the high road between Malwa and Guzerat, having for its southern boundary the Nerbudda river. It has been found necessary, owing to the total unfitness of the chief, Gungades, to rule, and the consequent confusion that reigned throughout the country, to take the administration from him and place it in the hands of a native superintendent acting under the orders of the Bheel agent. From all quarters and sources there was but one cry, that there was not even a semblance of justice obtainable in the State; murders were frequent, and went unpunished, the country was a refuge for lawless and turbulent wild tribes, and consequently a troublesome neighbour; and the State was very much in debt.

The revenues of Ali Rajpore are capable of great expansion; at present sapped and mortgaged and farmed, they may not exceed 5,000*l.* a year. The brother of the deposed chief will be associated with the superintendent, and thus trained for the duties which will ultimately be his as chief of the State.

## MYSORE.

## MYSORE.

On the fall of the usurper Tippoo in 1799 at Seringapatam and the partition of his territories, the province of Mysore was restored to the family of its former Hindoo rulers in the person of the late Maharajah, then a child. During his minority the government was carried on by a commission of British officers, and from 1811 to 1832 by the Maharajah himself, under whose rule, however, the country was so mismanaged, that it was found necessary to revert to the old system. The late Maharajah’s young son by adoption was recognised by the British Government on his father’s death, and he is now receiving careful education under Colonel Malle-son, which it is hoped will fit him for the high position that it is the wish of the Supreme Power he should occupy as ruler of this large and important province.

Mysore, forming part of the great table-land of peninsular India, is bounded on the north by Khandeish, and on every other side by districts of the Madras presidency. Its length is 250 miles from north to south, its extreme breadth 238 miles, and it has an area smaller than that of Bavaria, 27,000 square miles. Its population numbers four millions.

The chief authority of the province is the Chief Commissioner, who has also under his administration the little province of Coorg, 2,400 square miles.

Mysore and Coorg are the great coffee producing districts of India, and there is also a considerable trade in silk, which has of late been affected by the disease in the silkworm.

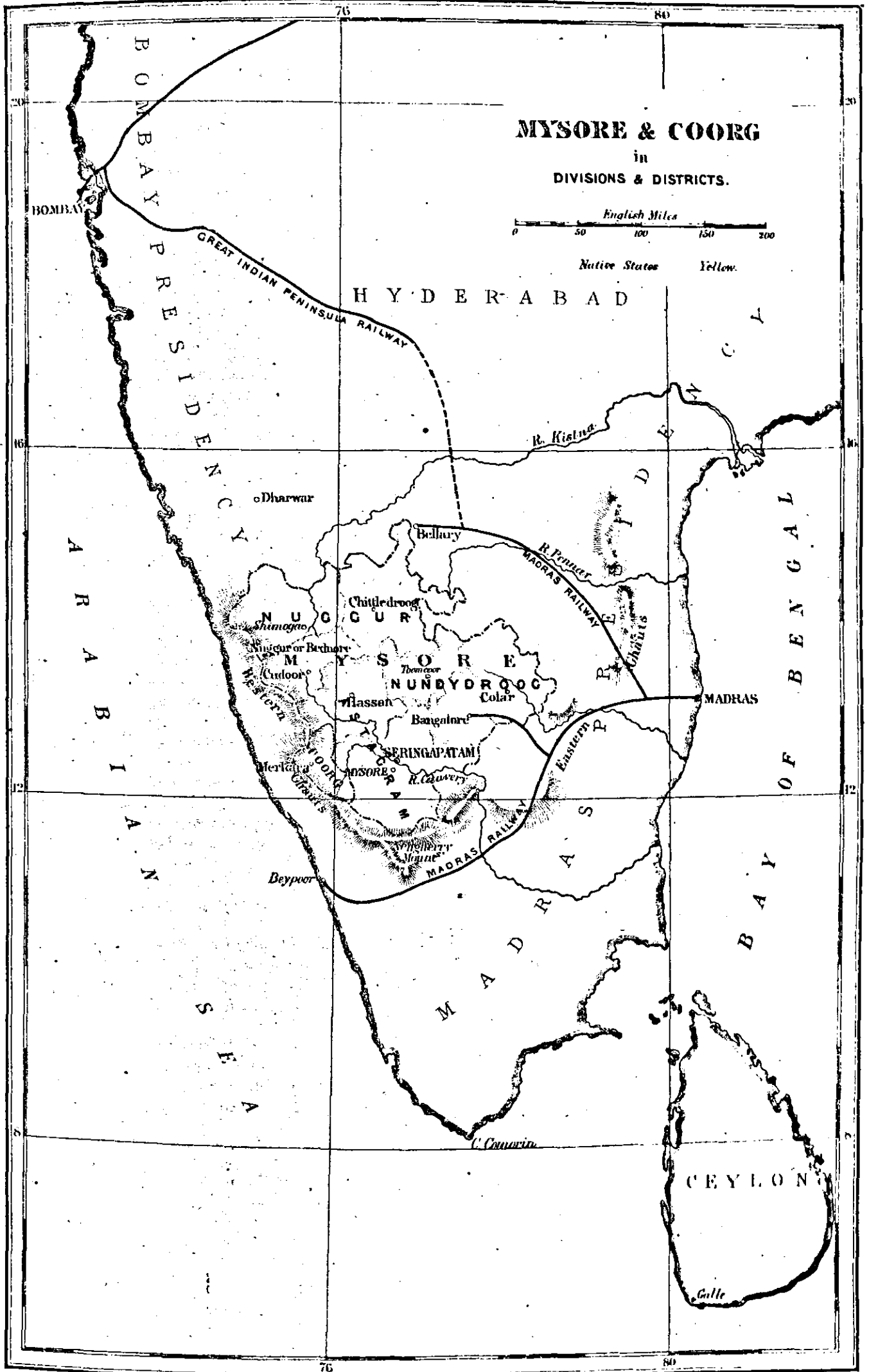
## JUDICIAL.

The apparent return to a more favourable series of seasons, proved by a material fall in the prices of the necessaries of life, greatly diminished crime throughout the Province. The dearth which affected other parts of India happily did not visit Mysore, and although the agriculturists threw up much land, owing to the selling rates of grain not being remunerative, the mass of the population was in comparatively easy circumstances. Hence, while criminal offences diminished, civil litigation increased.

*Criminal Justice.*—The total number of cases decided in the year was 13,529, and 35,762 persons were dealt with, against 39,910 in 1867. The increased proportion of acquittals to convictions is attributed to the inefficiency of the police and to the greater care with which evidence is sifted in trials. It seems to be agreed that the state of the police is unsatisfactory, and that their regular organisation and European superintendence is indispensable.

*Civil Justice.*—The civil suits filed rose from 13,455 in 1867 to 14,702; while their aggregate value was less, owing to the tendency of the new Stamp Act to





check the institution of large claims, which are now preferred by two classes only —the rich, who can well afford the stamp duty, and the poor, who can sue in *forma pauperis*. The popularity of the Court of Small Causes at Bangalore is evidenced by the large number of cases decided in it. MYSORE.

There are eight gaols in Mysore, including the central gaol at Bangalore, which receives special mention for its excellent management. The average number of prisoners in all the gaols fell from 2,814 in 1867 to 2,349 in the year under review, and their cost was 17,096*l.*, or more than 5,000*l.* less than in 1867, giving a net cost for each prisoner of 7*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.*; there was an increased return from manufactures, and an improvement of discipline. Gaols.

The returns of the Registration Department for 1868 show a falling off, which seems to be attributable to the famine of 1866 having occasioned much transfer of property and swelled the returns of 1867. Registration.

The total demand for the year 1868-69 was 1,165,300*l.* The balance outstanding at the close of the year was 4 per cent. only of the whole. It compares favourably with the outstandings of the two previous years, which were 14½ and 8 per cent.; and is an indication of the facility with which the revenue can be collected, in spite of a late harvest. The land yielded 735,318*l.*, or 24,500*l.* less than in the exceptionally favourable year 1867-68. This decline resulted principally from a cause which has already been noticed, the relinquishment of lands which had been cultivated when higher prices prevailed; the ryot, with the timidity common to his class, preferring to reduce his holding rather than risk the consequences of a state of the market which left him a small margin of profit. REVENUE.

The coffee plantations of the Province are situated almost wholly in the Shimoga, Kadoor, and Hassan districts. They are 21,538 in number, and cover 107,971 acres; 263 plantations belong to Europeans, the remainder to natives, the average size of the former being 121½ acres, of the latter 3½ acres per garden. Coffee.

Coffee exported during the year amounted to 5,220 tons, and yielded an excise duty of 10,440*l.* These figures are somewhat smaller than those of 1867-68, owing partly to the ravages of the "borer" insect, partly to the inclement season in the Hassan district.

Assessed taxes realised 34,596*l.*, and were levied on 129,390 houses, 28,196 shops, 38,921 looms, and 3,410 oil mills. The total number of houses, exclusive of those situated in municipal limits, is 964,207, of which 834,817 belong to agriculturists and other classes who are exempted from payment of house tax. Assessed Taxes.

Customs, or Sayer, realised 82,576*l.*, or 2,500*l.* more than in 1867-68.

The Province possesses 309 schools, attended by 15,129 scholars, showing an increase of 199 to the number of schools of all kinds during the year, and of 8,194 to the number of scholars. The increase was chiefly in the hóbli or subtalook schools, which are designed for the benefit of the rural population and the masses generally. It is estimated that up to the present time at least 200,000 youths (excluding girls), who were of an age to attend school, were left without instruction of any sort. The necessity of devising some measure for extending education to the rural population has been met by a scheme which has already more than realised expectations. Scattered over the country, in more or less abundance, were indigenous schools, which provided all the available instruction for the numerous classes of traders, ryots, and minor officials, who lived out of the principal towns. The teachers, though generally illiterate, and possessing few claims to the office of teaching other than that acquired by hereditary succession to it, were regarded with respect by the people among whom they and their forefathers had lived, and it was certain that any popular scheme of education in which these men should have been set aside would have encountered a formidable resistance which would have been fatal to its success. In forming the hóbli schools, therefore, it was deemed essential to select masters for them among the teachers of indigenous schools, and to train them for the work in normal schools, of which there will be one in each division. The character of each man joining the normal school, and his popularity in his own neighbourhood was carefully ascertained, and those unfavourably reported on were rejected, leaving no less than 354 men to be trained as schoolmasters. Customs. EDUCATION.

The total amount available for public works was 170,500*l.*; the actual outlay was 153,926*l.*, or 16,580*l.* less than the grant. The lapse occurred chiefly in the execution of agricultural repairs, and is attributable mainly to the new official year, ending 31st March, being extremely ill-adapted to Southern India, both in regard to the payment of instalments of revenue and to the execution of agricultural works. PUBLIC WORKS.

**MYSORE.** The Fusli year is stated to be that which the experience of ages points to as the demarcation between the hot weather and the rains, and the recent change is said to have caused much dissatisfaction among the agricultural community.

**Political.** The death of the Maharajah necessitated an inquiry into his affairs with a view to the reduction of the palace establishments, the liquidation of all outstanding claims, and the making an inventory of the property. Of 9,700 persons found to be attached to the Maharajah, about one-third were retained, the greater part of the remainder receiving liberal gratuities or pensions. The budget of the palace expenditure has been reduced from 130,000*l.* to no less than 82,500*l.*, and the whole of the debts have been paid off.

**FINANCE.** Though the receipts of the year fell short by 32,000*l.* of the previous year's receipts, which were the largest on record, they were 23,742*l.* more than was anticipated. The total amount realised was 1,087,827*l.*, of which by far the largest item (775,367*l.*) was derived from the land.

**Expenditure.** The administrative or ordinary charges of the year amounted to 1,041,294*l.*; the settlement of the Maharajah's debts added 125,619*l.*, bringing the total expenditure to 1,166,913*l.* The largest items of expenditure were under the following heads:—

	£
Land revenue, customs, &c.	99,076
Administration	140,813
Law and justice	108,195
Allowances, &c., under treaties and engagements	257,115
Mysore local forces	111,832
The outlay on education was	16,146

The cash balance in Her Majesty's Treasury on the 31st March 1869 was 696,042*l.*

**Revenue and Survey.** The Survey Department had been five years at work in the Province, and the progress made up to October 1868 consisted in the final settlement of six talooks, comprising an area of nearly two million acres. The extent of land measured in the year was 789,780 acres, as compared with 743,041 acres in the previous year.

**POPULATION.** The population of the Province slightly exceeded four millions, of whom 95 per cent. were Hindoos. The year's increase amounted to 1.7 per cent., and the ratio of population to area over the whole Province was 155 $\frac{2}{3}$  per square mile.

**AGRI-CULTURE.** The season was, on the whole, highly favourable for agriculture. Though the later rains failed somewhat, the out-turn of crops was larger than had occurred during many previous years, and the immediate effect was a considerable fall in the prices of grain all through the country. The extent of land cultivated with the various products is estimated at 3,353,799 acres, of which 2,198,476 are taken up by *rági*, and other food grains, 836,632 by rice, and 108,741 by coffee. The area sown with cotton, 20,111 acres, shows a falling off. The mulberry is cultivated on 1,700 acres; but the manufacture of silk, which is said to have been introduced by Tippoo Sultan, has been seriously affected by the peculiar disease from which the worms have suffered for two years past. In the Bangalore district the out-turn of silk has fallen from 4,000 maunds to 600 maunds (of 80 lbs.).

**HORTI-CULTURE.** Two exhibitions were held during the year with the object of introducing improved methods of flower and fruit culture, and the accounts received are most satisfactory, several of the principal native gardeners going to the expense of purchasing European seed.

**TRADE.** The estimated aggregate value of the export and import trade of the Province is as follows:—

	Exports.	Imports.
	£	£
1868-69	1,680,113	2,268,538
1867-68	1,388,635	1,630,100
Increase	291,477	638,438

The most valuable export is areca nut, of which 5,069 tons left the country estimated to be worth 300,000*l.*; food grains of various kinds were exported to the extent of 100,000 tons; 45 tons of silk were valued at 86,000*l.*, piece goods at 80,450*l.*; but the imports of this last article were far larger, amounting to no less than 2,449,514 pieces, representing a value of 1,266,508*l.*

**Government Press.** The value of the work done at the Government press was 3,441*l.*, or 738*l.* in excess of that of the previous year.

## PORT BLAIR.

PORT BLAIR.

The Annual Report on the Convict Settlement of Port Blair in the Andaman Islands, shows a satisfactory degree of progress. The total number of convicts on the 31st December 1868 was 7,230, or 264 more than at the close of the previous year. The free population, including the civil, military, and police establishments, numbered about 1,400, bringing the entire population of the settlement up to 8,630.

The ticket-of-leave system introduced during the year has been found to work admirably. Six hundred men have availed themselves of the privilege, which is only extended to life prisoners of good conduct after 12 years service. The result is, that Government is relieved from further charge for their support, and the free community gains in cheapened prices, owing to larger competition in the production of poultry and other articles of general use.

The formation of a convict corps of artificers has been undertaken. Contrary to general experience, it is found here that the convicts, under the stimulus of comparatively trifling gratuities, fully equal in energy and in some cases far surpass their free brethren; and it is hoped that Government will be in time absolutely independent of all hired labour.

Clearance of jungle was vigorously carried on during the year, mainly with the view to secure ample space round each station for sanitary purposes, and the total area was raised from 822 to 2,114 acres. A marked improvement in the health of the prisoners has followed, the mortality having been reduced from 10·16 to 3·9 per cent. The sanitary object accomplished, it was Colonel Man's intention in the following year to clear the jungle from the land in the interior, which he hoped would be found suitable for rice cultivation.

## HYDERABAD ASSIGNED DISTRICTS.

HYDERABAD  
ASSIGNED  
DISTRICTS.

The province of Berar, otherwise called the Hyderabad Assigned Districts, is held in trust for the Nizam of Hyderabad by the British Government, who hand over to him whatever surplus remains from the revenues after defraying all expenditure, including the cost of the force maintained for his support. The cession of the province in perpetuity took place in 1853 in consequence of the payments due to the British Government for keeping up the Hyderabad Contingent having fallen greatly into arrears.

The province is divided into East and West Berar. The eastern division comprises the districts of Oomrawtee, Ellichpore, and Woon; while the western contains those of Akolah, Boodanah and Bassim, the last having been formed, on the 1st April, 1868, out of some pergunnahs detached from East Berar. Grouped under the districts are 19 talooks, 10 in East and 9 in West Berar.

The area of the province is 17,000 square miles; its inhabitants number 2½ millions or 132 to the square mile. In size and population, therefore, it resembles Denmark. The revenue derived from the land in the year under review was close on 450,000*l.*

*Civil Justice.*—The number of civil suits filed was 16,867, against 12,241 in 1867. This increase, amounting to 38 per cent., was chiefly due to the three Small Cause Courts, two of which were opened during the year at Ellichpore and Khamgaon. The returns show that with the enormous increase of trade in Berar there is a corresponding increase in litigation, although by persuading the people to draw up written agreements and the registration of deeds, much has been done to render resort to the courts unnecessary. The high stamp fees have had little appreciable influence on the number of suits filed. The value of the property involved was 187,951*l.*; more than 73 per cent. of the suits were decided in favour of the plaintiff, only 5·27 in favour of the defendant; while 18 per cent. were compromised.

*Criminal Justice.*—The register of crime shows an increase both of heinous and petty offences, but not more than may be naturally accounted for by a year of unusual hardship to the poorer classes. The large increase in thefts will find an explanation in the same circumstance. With regard to statistics, the number of offences for 1868 cognizable and not cognizable by the police was 8,456, as compared with 6,584 for 1867, an increase which to a large extent is apparent rather than real.

The action of the courts may be summed up by saying that in 6,346 cases brought before 60 courts of varying degrees of jurisdiction, conviction ensued in 70 cases out of every 100, 7,480 persons being punished. Of this number 66 per

HYDERABAD  
ASSIGNED  
DISTRICTS.  
Police.

cent. were let off with simple fine; and of those imprisoned 87 per cent. were sentenced to short terms not exceeding six months.

Berar has proved a difficult charge for police on account of the large floating population attracted by railway works and a flourishing cotton trade, and the peculiar inaptitude of the inhabitants to protect their own property.

The police force consists of an inspector general, six European superintendents of districts, and two assistant superintendents, 16 inspectors, 94 chief constables, 314 head constables, 2,088 constables (foot), 40 camel sowars;—total force, 2,552. The total cost for 1868-69 was 46,854*l.* as compared with 43,734*l.* for 1867-68.

Dismissals and resignations were less frequent than during the previous year, but even the reduced ratio, if continued, will change the whole force in little more than five years. The cause is said to lie in the low rate of pay and the numerical deficiency of the force, which has caused the complaint of overwork.

A want of detective ability has been the general remark of the district officers, but police schools are now established in each district, where practical instruction is given. The men attending them have made considerable progress in their duties, and a still farther advance in efficiency may confidently be expected.

Gaols.

There is great need of suitable gaol buildings, as the gaol accommodation is generally defective. The two central gaols in course of construction at Akolah and Oomrawuttee cannot as yet be reported quite finished.

The number of persons imprisoned during the year was 1,990, nine-tenths of which number represent first convictions. The average daily number under confinement increased from 879 in 1867 to 966 in 1868, while the average cost per head in these two years has decreased from 8*l.* 3*s.* to 7*l.* 2*s.* The actual cost to the State, after deducting the value of prison labour, was 4*l.* 8*s.* per prisoner.

The total expenditure amounted to 6,921*l.*, against 7,299*l.* in 1867.

Revenue.  
Land Tax.

The advance in this branch has been most marked and satisfactory.

The land revenue realised amounted to 447,557*l.*, leaving a sum of 2,030*l.* uncollected when the year closed. There was thus an increase of revenue realised over the preceding year to the extent of 10,684*l.* At the same time in no single instance was there resort to distraint.

The provincial area under cultivation was extended, on the whole, 95,636 acres. Thus the comparison between the two years stands—for 1867-68, 4,851,551; for 1868-69, 4,947,187.

The proportion of cultivated to waste is shown as 100 to 119 acres, or 45.57 per cent. on the total area, and exhibits a revenue demand averaging 1*s.* 9*d.* per acre.

At the same time there are marked indications of the improving condition of the cultivators. The mortgaging of standing crops is falling fast into disuse, and most of the smaller cultivators can now reserve from each harvest enough to keep them in food and seed until the next season.

In spite of a very scanty and singularly capricious rain-fall the crops did not suffer to the extent anticipated, while in some places the out-turn was not unusually deficient.

Survey and  
settlement.

The survey assessment has progressed favourably; and if the establishments be maintained at the strength sanctioned by Government last year it is estimated that the whole of the province, with the exception of the forest tracts of Mailghat, will be brought under survey and settlement by 1874.

Customs.  
Salt.

Under this head the sum of 31,180*l.* is exhibited as realised during the year under report. The amount of duty derived from salt, the only taxed staple, is made up almost entirely of the realisations of the Berar customs line, which amounted to 30,280*l.*; this, with a supplemental sum of 899*l.* 15*s.* from the district cordons, makes the aggregate sum of 31,180*l.*

The salt trade of the province is confined exclusively to the Kokan or Bombay coast produce, and it appears that 7,689 tons of salt entered Berar at Mukapoor on the G. I. P. Railway, and were distributed from the various railway stations. Budneira in Berar continued to be the principal centre of distribution.

	1867-68.	1868-69.
Land Revenue - - -	£ 435,498	£ 449,588
Customs, salt, &c. - -	16,169	31,179
Abkarree - - - - -	87,176	86,488
Stamps - - - - -	34,798	45,626
Forests - - - - -	5,390	8,463
Miscellaneous - - -	3,377	1,689
£	582,347	628,046

It will be sufficient to show the other provincial revenues in a tabulated form of comparison between the years 1867-68 and 1868-69.

The local funds not included in the provincial revenues above aggregated 149,810*l.* for the present year against 135,712*l.* in 1867-68.

Thus the actual realised income for 1868-69 under all heads of receipts reached 772,856*l.*, showing an increase of 54,797*l.* over the income of 1867-68.

HYDERABAD  
ASSIGNED  
DISTRICTS.  
Education.

To show that progress has been going on in this department it will be enough to record the facts that there has been an increase during the year,—

- (1.) Of the schools from 224 to 335, or nearly 50 per cent.
- (2.) Of the pupils from 9,327 to 12,207, or nearly 31 per cent.

Strength has been brought to bear upon lower-class education by opening 103 additional village schools. And something has been done to provide girls schools, which have risen from 15 to 23. But in dealing with them the greatest caution and tact is required for success.

The attendance at the different descriptions of schools is shown by the accompanying table.

	No. of Schools.	Average No. of Pupils.	Average Daily Attendance.	Average Daily Attendance for each School.
High Schools	2	188	146	73
Middle-Class Schools	44	3,495	2,763	63
Lower do.	266	7,920	6,450	24
Female do.	23	585	426	19
Total	335	12,188	9,785	—

The ratio of Mahomedans to Hindoos was 1 to 5.

Excluding female schools, there are 18 schools to every 1,000 square miles, and 10.06 pupils to every 4,000 males, or one pupil in every 99 males.

The total expenditure reached 22,779*l.*, of which sum 19,405*l.* was defrayed by general re-

venues, and the remaining 3,374*l.* was borne by local funds.

The inspecting staff is now at its full strength, there being a European inspector for each of the two divisions, and six deputy inspectors, one for each district; whereas, in the preceding year there were only four deputy inspectors and one inspector.

Public works.

Fair progress has been made at Akolah in the building of rest-houses for troops travelling by rail. Two large barracks for single men are nearly completed, and the barrack for married men, with out-offices, is finished and ready for occupation.

Military.

The gaol at Akolah has been completed; at Oomrawuttee the progress has been somewhat retarded.

Civil build-ings.

The Akolah and Mallaigaon road has been completed, thus opening out for cart traffic a connection between the railway at Akolah and the old Nagpore dak line at Mulkapore. A series of minor roads at Bassim and Ellichpore have been finished.

Roads.

The Act for the regulation of Municipal Committees was declared applicable to the Hyderabad Assigned Districts in January 1868. Municipal committees have not been organised until within the last few months; they have now been formed at Ellichpore, Oomrawuttee, and Yeotmahl in East Berar, and at Akolah, Khamgaon, and Bassim in West Berar, and public works have in some instances been set on foot.

Municipal government.

The income at the disposal of the local district committees and municipalities amounted to 61,597*l.*, and the total disbursements to 49,997*l.*

Branch lines of the Government telegraph wire were, during the year under review, extended to Akote and Khamgaon, and have proved very profitable.

Electric telegraph.

An interior postal communication has been opened with villages of growing importance by means of rural messengers. It is said to have succeeded very satisfactorily.

The entire income of the administration, inclusive of local funds, amounted to 804,900*l.*, and the charges to 708,700*l.*

Finance.

It may be noticed that the year 1868-69 produced the largest revenue yet obtained, and that the growth of the revenue is in a considerably higher ratio than the increase of the charge. In 1861 the receipts were 393,841*l.*, and the disbursements 344,162*l.*, while in 1868-69 the receipts were 645,163*l.*, and the disbursements 562,264*l.* Relatively to the previous year, the revenue increased by 9½ per cent., and the charge by 4.7 per cent.

The progress of the annual charges on account of the Hyderabad contingent is shown as follows:—For 1867-68, 293,053*l.*; for 1868-69, 289,985*l.*

Hyderabad contingent.

The public works expenditure fell short of the estimate by 21,757*l.*, and of the expenditure during the preceding year by 12,919*l.*

Public works.

An available surplus to the end of 1866-67 was declared to the extent of ten lakhs; and this sum was paid over to the Nizam in August of this year.

HYDERABAD  
ASSIGNED  
DISTRICTS.

The only troops located in the Assigned Districts are those of the Hyderabad contingent. The three stations are Ellichpore, Akolah, and Oomrawuttee.

Military.  
Archæology.

During the last year something has been done in the pioneering way for the benefit of real archæologists; and there is every reason to believe that some valuable discoveries will follow upon research. Some of the architectural remains are very striking, all are curious; and as most of them can be assigned to known epochs and styles, they will enable competent explorers to trace more surely the line of the history of this province during the centuries immediately preceding the Mahomedan conquest.

## Cotton.

The result of the year's experience on this subject is of no small value; and considering that the rainfall hardly exceeded one-half the average fall for the provinces, may be said to be, on the whole, eminently satisfactory. The indigenous plant weathered the season in safety, but the exotic plants from America and Dharwar failed completely. The quality of the cotton produced was inferior, but the total exports for the province by rail and road amounted to 233,000 bales, showing an increase of 32,300 bales over the exports of the preceding year. At the same time 11,261 more acres have been brought under cotton cultivation during 1868-69; and taking the cultivated area of the Berars at 4,947,187 acres, cotton monopolises nearly 25 per cent. of the whole. The out-turn per acre compared with the average out-turn in America, is still small, not exceeding 100 lbs. in the best lands. But it is hoped that the experiments now being conducted with manure and irrigation may lead to a large increase in the cotton supply from the Berars.

## Dispensaries.

Three new dispensaries have been opened during the year, and there are now ten places at which dispensaries are working. The management of these institutions has been placed almost entirely in the hands of the district local committees, whose influence and interest is thus directly enlisted in their behalf.

Trade  
statistics.

	Goods.	
	Tons weight.	Value.
Exports -	121,527	£5,263,322
Imports -	101,681	5,498,151

For the registration of trade statistics 24 outposts in East and 9 in West Berar are maintained. The returns for the year 1868-69 are given in the margin.

## MADRAS.

## MADRAS.

Next to the island of Bombay Fort St. George was the earliest acquired of the three factories which formed the nucleus of the present Empire of the British in India, and it was here that their great struggle with the French was fought out. For some time it continued to be the most important of the three presidency towns, until the battle of Plassey gave the English the rich province of Bengal and a safer position in that quarter than could be maintained at Madras.

Its area is 124,250 square miles, or about 13,000 square miles less than that of Prussia, while it has a population of about 27 millions, Prussia having about 23 millions.

There are 21 districts, the Neilgherry Hills having been formed a separate district during the year.

LEGISLA-  
TION.

Four Acts were passed during the year by the Council for framing Laws and Regulations, and received the assent of the Governor-General. Two of them only need be noticed.

Act I. of 1868 created a separate Commissioner for the Neilgherry Hills, the reason for the change being that the arrangement under which, in all matters relating to revenue and administration, the district was a talook or subdivision of the Coimbatore Collectorate, had not been found to work satisfactorily. At the same time, the judicial business, which was extremely light, not warranting the continuance of a separate court, was transferred to the adjoining Zillah of Coimbatore.

Act II. is one "to enable landholders in certain localities to levy tolls upon roads and bridges constructed by them at their own expense, and also on roads and bridges constructed at the expense of the State, the repair and maintenance of which may be undertaken by such landholders." Its design is to enable planters in Wynaad (Malabar) and other planting districts to acquire the character of bodies corporate, and to reimburse themselves for the expenses specified.



Other Bills were passed by the Council, but had not received the assent of the Governor-General. The "Inam Title Deeds Bill" defined clearly the meaning of certain words used in the title deeds required to be furnished to the holders of inam or rent-free lands, under the rules sanctioned by Government in 1859, for the adjudication and settlement of inam lands in the Presidency. The terms of the title deeds appear in many cases to convey a more extensive right than was intended or could legally be given, encroaching on the rights of other persons in the lands from which the inams are drawn, where the inam-holders do not possess the proprietary right to the soil, but only the right of receiving certain rents or taxes. The assent of the Governor-General to the Bill was withheld pending the passing by the Imperial Parliament of a Declaratory Act, in respect of the validity of the title deeds themselves. This Act was passed in the last Session, and gave the title deeds which had been issued by the Governor in Council of Madras the same force as if they had been issued by the Secretary of State.

MADRAS.  
Inam Title Deeds Bill.

The "Canal Tolls Bill" prescribes "rules for regulating the navigation of rivers, canals, and other inland waters, for the management of ferries, and for the levying of tolls and licence fees;" and its primary object is to regulate the use of the canals in the Godavery and Kistna districts, which, it is believed, are managed in an unsatisfactory manner.

Canal Tolls Bill.

The "Salt Excise Bill" levies a duty on salt manufactured in such districts of the Presidency as the Government think proper.

Salt Excise Bill.

*Civil Justice.*—On the original side of the High Court 158 cases were pending at the commencement of the year, and 627 suits were instituted during the year, making a total of 785. Of this number 577 were disposed of in various ways, and 208 remained pending on the 31st December 1868.

JUDICIAL.  
High Court, original jurisdiction.

20,134 suits were instituted during the year, being 5.94 per cent. in excess of the previous year, and 2,208 were pending from 1867. The number disposed of was 20,386 out of 20,699 set down for hearing within the year; 52.9 per cent. were decided in favour of the plaintiff, 37.59 per cent. were compromised, and the rest otherwise disposed of. The receipts were 9,038*l.*, the expenditure 7,581*l.*, leaving a balance of 1,459*l.* The value of the property in litigation was 67,439*l.*, against 69,786*l.* in 1867, showing an increase in the number of small claims.

Madras Court of Small Causes.

In the various divisional and district Courts the number of suits on the files was 225,973; 163,647 being instituted during the year, 60,393 pending from 1867; 168,647 were disposed of, leaving 57,326 undisposed of. By far the largest number of suits, 86.45 per cent., were for debts, wages, &c. The suits newly instituted in 1868 were 1 for 150 of the population; 54.66 per cent. of the suits were disposed of in favour of plaintiffs; 92.28 per cent. of the whole were decided by Native judges, only 6.01 per cent. by Europeans.

Mofussil Courts.

The business of the appellate side of the High Court can best be shown in the following statement; and it need only be added that there was an increase of

High Court, Appellate Jurisdiction.

	Undisposed of in 1867.	Filed during 1868.	Total.	Disposed of.	Undisposed of.
Regular appeals	67	133	200	112	88
Special "	274	636	910	632	278

18 regular and 25 special appeals in the number filed, and that the number disposed of, 67.02 per cent. of the whole, shows an increase of 33 regular and 84 special

appeals as compared with 1867. It is satisfactory to find that the decrees of the Lower Courts were confirmed in 80.65 per cent. of the appeals, and that only in 46 cases or 6.18 per cent. were they reversed.

5,600 appeals were pending from 1867, to which 5,725 were added during 1868. Of the total number, (11,325,) 5,668 were disposed of, and 5,657 remained pending at the close of the year. These figures show an increase of 473 in the number of appeals instituted, and a decrease of 1,090 in the number disposed of as compared with 1867.

Mofussil Courts, Appellate Jurisdiction.

Including all the Courts the right of appeal was exercised in 6,494, or 21.15 per cent. of the number in which appeal was possible.

*Criminal Justice.*—Rules were issued during the year by which a more immediate supervision is exercised by the High Court over all the subordinate Courts, and by the superior magistracy over the proceedings of the subordinate magistracy in the investigation of grave crime.

40 criminal petitions were pending at the commencement of the year, and 268 were filed during the year. At the year's close, 29 were undisposed of. 107

High Court, Appellate Jurisdiction.



MADRAS.	references were made to the High Court for confirmation of the sentence of death. Out of the 104 cases disposed of, sentence was confirmed in 96, or 89·7 per cent.
Offences of all kinds.	131,330 offences of all kinds were committed in 1868, against 132,386 in 1867; 64·9 per cent. of offences committed were brought to trial, and 77·7 per cent. of cases brought to trial resulted in conviction. Nearly one-half of the offences committed, or 49·6 per cent., escaped punishment, a result, however which is better than the average in England and Wales, where it appears from the Report for 1865 that "In nearly three out of every four of the offences committed no person " is convicted."
	The increase in the number of offences against the person was considerable, from 21,493 to 27,716, out of which 288 were murders, against 222 in 1867.
	Within the limits of this Report it is impossible to give a complete analysis of the criminal statistics. Suffice is to say, that while the total number of offences in the year under review is less, the number of persons proceeded against is greater. The decrease in the number of persons convicted, from 67·3 in 1867 to 64·9 in 1868, is in the minor cases; one in 141 of the whole population was proceeded against in 1868, one in 142 in 1867, and one in 128 in 1866.
POLICE.	The strength of the Madras police on 31st March 1869, including staff and all ranks, was 24,574, or 4·8 per cent. below strength. This deficiency is owing to the difficulty of finding good recruits, the rates of pay being less attractive than the wages of labour.
Difficulty of obtaining recruits.	
Cost.	The total cost of the force, excluding State services, was about 400,000 <i>l.</i> , being 15 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> per man and 3½ <i>d.</i> per head of the population. Of this sum, 29,253 <i>l.</i> was contributed by the municipalities.
	Police watching produced a large increase to the customs revenue.
Health.	The death rate continues to decrease, being 10·7 per 1,000, against 12·5 in 1867, and 20 per 1,000 in 1866.
Conduct.	An increased number of men were fined, and the punishment is stated to be an unsatisfactory one, especially when there is a complaint that the men have not enough to live upon.
	No recruit is now taken who cannot read and write. Of the whole force 65·2 per cent. can do so.
Efficiency.	Of 61,687 offences committed during the year, in the detection of which the police were concerned, 32,073, or 51·9 per cent., were prosecuted to conviction, a proportion that will bear comparison with that of the Metropolitan police in dealing with crime generally.
GAOLS.	28,537 persons were inmates of the gaols during the year. The number of admissions was 13,750; the daily average strength was 10,152, or seven less than during 1867-68.
Health.	The health of the prisoners continued good. The deaths in hospital were 357, or 3·51 per cent. of the daily average strength, being a slight improvement upon the rate of the previous year, and less than one-third of the rates of 1866-67, and the three preceding years.
Grain diet.	Of grain diet there are three scales in force, rice alone, dry grain alone, and mixed grain, and in the revision of the gaol dietary now being made, attention will be paid to the fact that the mortality was greatest in those gaols where rice alone was consumed, and least in those in which mixed grain was given.
Conduct.	The offences committed in gaol numbered 6,825, and were none of them very serious. The prisoners punished were 7,017, or one-fourth nearly of the inmates during the year.
Education.	The proportion of prisoners able to read and write was 14·40 per cent.; 80·31 were entirely ignorant.
Extra-mural labour.	The out-door labour of convicts continued to be employed in the construction of gaols, roads, and other public works, and was occasionally lent to municipalities and to private individuals.
Intra-mural labour.	Manufactures of various kinds are carried on in 22 gaols. The net sum realised from them rose from 900 <i>l.</i> in 1867-68 to 2,597 <i>l.</i> in 1868-69.
Expenditure.	The total expenditure, exclusive of guards and buildings, was 74,164 <i>l.</i>
Remission of sentences and convict service.	The scheme, recently introduced, for the remission of sentences and for the employment of convict servants, is reported to have worked well; and the conduct of the warders, work overseers, &c., selected from the prisoners, was most satisfactory.
Subsidiary gaols.	The labours of the Subsidiary Gaol Committee were brought to a close during the year, after a full investigation of the requirements of all districts. Their pro-

posals embrace the construction of 244 new buildings, and the improvement of 80 now in existence, at an estimated cost of, in round numbers, 255,000*l.*, of which 120,000*l.* will be spent on cutcherries (offices), and 135,000*l.* on subsidiary gaols. A special grant for these works was sanctioned in October 1868, and 35,000*l.* were spent on them within the official year.

MADRAS.

The number of registrations effected in 1868-69 was nearly 10 per cent. larger than in 1867-68, being 119,301 against 108,931. Their value was 5,624,792*l.* against 4,702,143*l.*, or an increase of 19.6 per cent.

Registration of assurances.

The total receipts for the year were 6,365,293*l.*, or 161,315*l.* less than in 1867-68. The decrease was chiefly in land revenue, to a smaller extent under Abkarry and the licence tax. The receipts under customs, salt, and stamps showed an increase.

REVENUE. Receipts.

The season in the Presidency was decidedly superior to that of 1867-68, and was on the whole not unfavourable, thanks to the ample rains of the south-west monsoon, which were sufficient to carry the crops through the subsequent drought in October and November. The year commencing promisingly, a larger area was laid under cultivation than in 1867-68; 16,518,877 acres, that is to say, which were assessed at 3,198,611*l.*, an increase of 202,696 acres in the one case, and of 24,782*l.* in the other; but the failure of the north-east monsoon disappointed first expectation, and produced a falling off in the collections, which amounted to 4,058,757*l.*, or 180,948*l.* less than in 1867-8. There was a gross increase of 80,542*l.* in six districts, and a gross decrease of 261,490*l.* in the remaining 14. More than half of the decrease occurred in the districts of Madras and North and South Arcot, where the pressure was most severely felt, following as it did upon two bad seasons. The amount collected by coercive processes was very small, a sign of the increasing prosperity of the agricultural class in general.

The season.

Land revenue.

Prices which commenced to decline in 1867-68, are now lower than they have been since 1863-64.

Prices.

The charges for collection amounted to 673,383*l.*, or 10.6 per cent. on the revenue, an increase of one per cent., that is stated to be more apparent than real.

Charges.

The Abkarry revenue amounted to 490,843*l.*, or 15,898*l.* less than in 1867-68. Under the present system smuggling is carried on to a great extent in Madras, and there was a great falling off in Ganjam, owing to the leading merchants engaging not to outbid each other, on condition of sharing the profits of the Abkarry lease. A new system is consequently under consideration for Madras, and in Ganjam the excise system was experimentally introduced in March 1869.

Abkarry.

Incomes between 20*l.* and 50*l.* were under a new Act exempted from this tax; consequently the amount collected was 56,508*l.*, or 24,206*l.* less than in the preceding year.

Licence tax

The revenue under this head rose from 237,194*l.* to 261,046*l.* In the port of Madras the increase was 14,452*l.*, and in ports of Malabar, 4,315*l.*, or no less than 50 per cent.

Sea custom

The declared value of imports and exports continued to increase, and the amount of duty was the highest on record.

Imports and exports.

The value of the cotton wool exported was 2,139,982*l.*, or 900,000*l.* more than in 1867-68; indigo exports rose from 431,500*l.* to 610,355*l.*; coffee from 805,433*l.* to 1,066,522*l.*; seeds from 342,673*l.* to 506,659*l.*; in no article was there an important decrease.

	1867-68.	1868-69.	Increase.
Imports	5,092,757	5,140,061	57,305
Exports	5,800,923	7,675,099	1,874,176

The increase under imports was chiefly in the articles of twist, cotton

piece-goods, and rice; there was a large decrease in the value of railway stores imported.

In 1857-58 the imports of merchandise were valued at 2,468,545*l.* and the exports at 4,036,516; so that in the 12 years ending with that under review the first have more than doubled, while the exports have increased by more than seven-eighths.

The area under cotton cultivation decreased by 160,652 acres. It was 1,466,372 in 1867-68; 1,305,720 in 1868-69. Nevertheless the quantity exported, 89,181,858 lbs., was greater than it has ever been except in 1865-66.

Cotton.

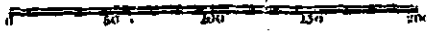
Food grains show an increase both in exports and imports, and exports are still a million hundredweights in excess of imports.

Food grains.

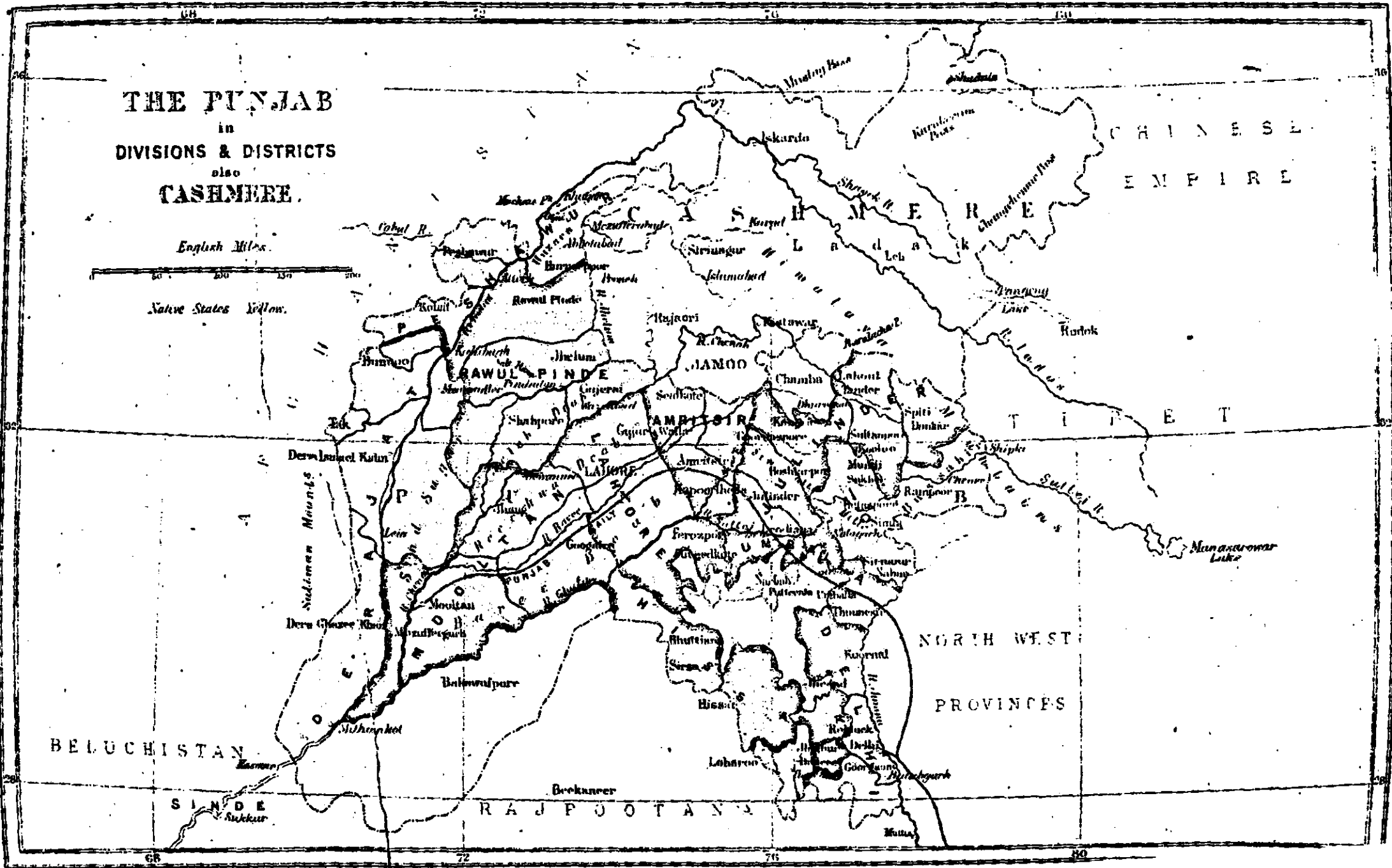
MADRAS. Bullion.	Bullion imports, which were low in the two previous years, in the year under review rose from 1,129,000 <i>l.</i> to 2,256,000 <i>l.</i> and exceeded by 1,887,813 <i>l.</i> the exports, which dropped from 1,000,000 <i>l.</i> to 368,000 <i>l.</i>
Salt.	The collections from the sale of salt amounted to 1,107,041 <i>l.</i> , or 13,240 <i>l.</i> more than in 1867-68. The Government price for salt is 3 <i>s.</i> 4½ <i>d.</i> per maund of 80 lbs. The total quantity sold was 6,925,832 maunds, a slight increase over 1867-68.
Revenue settlement and survey.	Of the revenue settlements and the revenue survey, it need only be said that they were steadily carried on, and that the expenditure under these two heads was 22,800 <i>l.</i> and 67,950 <i>l.</i> respectively.
Inam commission.	Pending the passing of the Declaratory Act spoken of, though a large number of cases were settled during the year by the Commission, no fresh title deeds were issued.
Forests.	The forests produced a small net balance of 5,000 <i>l.</i> after paying the expenses of the department, and allowing for a decrease in the value of timber in stock on 31st March 1869. A large portion of timber was supplied to the Public Works Department. It is hoped that a large number of blue gum trees ( <i>Eucalyptus globulus</i> ) planted out on the Neilgherries will in a few years take the place of teak, for which these hills are at present dependent on the plains. Several new trees that have been introduced from England and Australia are doing well. Attention is being paid to the indigenous flora, and a "Flora Sylvatica" of all the timber trees of Southern India is in course of preparation. Jungle conservancy is also receiving attention, and in Bellary the people are being induced by the example of Government to aid in planting a district which is almost destitute of trees.
Cinchona.	The copious and continual rain on the Neilgherries made the past year a favourable one for planting cinchona, but owing to the small demands for plants on the part of planters, who now use seed, the average monthly increase by propagation has fallen from 48,267 in 1867-68 to 19,703. The red and grey barks continue to grow more luxuriously than the other species; the <i>C. succirubra</i> is found to thrive best at an elevation of from 5,000 to 6,000 feet. The Lanceolate-leaved officinalis, one of the seven distinct varieties raised from the seeds of the three species of crown barks received in 1863, has yielded the very large proportion of 11.40 per cent. of alkaloid and 9.75 per cent. of quinine. The addition of the <i>C. Pitayoensis</i> during the year completes the naturalization on the Neilgherries of all the valuable species of cinchona which have been discovered. Careful investigations continue to be made of the various questions affecting the success of cinchona cultivation, in the hope of ultimately placing within easy reach of all the use of this valuable medicine and febrifuge.
Experimental cultivation.	The experimental cultivation continues of Hingunghat and New Orleans cotton, besides many other useful plants, cereals, &c. Carolina rice especially promises to be an important addition to the products of the country.
Pisciculture.	At the instance of the Collector of South Canara, the conservation of the river fisheries has become a subject of interest. Already a prohibition against catching fish by poisoning the waters has been productive of good results.
District exhibitions. Cattle disease.	A cattle show at Addanki in Nellore and an agricultural show at Nellore were most successful. The successful treatment of the cattle disease has won the ryots to such confidence in the necessary measures, and to such an appreciation of the good effects of segregation, that the introduction of the Cattle Diseases Act has been pronounced unnecessary.
The Neilgherries.	The formation of a separate commissionership for the Neilgherry Hills has been noticed. The new district contains about 1,000 square miles and a population of 38,142; 19,891 of whom belong to Hill tribes, whilst 2,616 are Europeans. The area under plantation is 13,372 acres, and the district is the chief seat of cinchona cultivation.
PUBLIC WORKS. Imperial funds, grant and outlay.	The imperial grant for public works in the Presidency in 1868-69 was 781,000 <i>l.</i> , the expenditure was 808,765 <i>l.</i> The total excess of expenditure (27,000 <i>l.</i> ) is much more than accounted for by the expenditure (55,036 <i>l.</i> ) on famine relief works; of which 34,950 <i>l.</i> was spent on communications, and 14,201 <i>l.</i> on agricultural repairs.
Local funds, grant and outlay.	The expenditure in 1867-68 was 835,000 <i>l.</i> The year under review, therefore, shows a net decrease of about 26,000 <i>l.</i> in the imperial expenditure, notwithstanding an increased expenditure in the construction of barracks and gaols. The grant from local funds was 283,185 <i>l.</i> , whilst the outlay was 207,915 <i>l.</i> , nearly 80,000 <i>l.</i> less than the grant for the year, but 59,500 <i>l.</i> more than the expenditure in 1867-68.

**THE PUNJAB**  
in  
**DIVISIONS & DISTRICTS**  
also  
**CASHMERE.**

English Miles.



Native States Yellow.



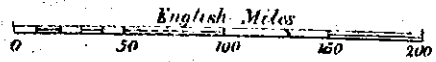
RETURN EAST INDIA (PROGRESS AND CONDITIO

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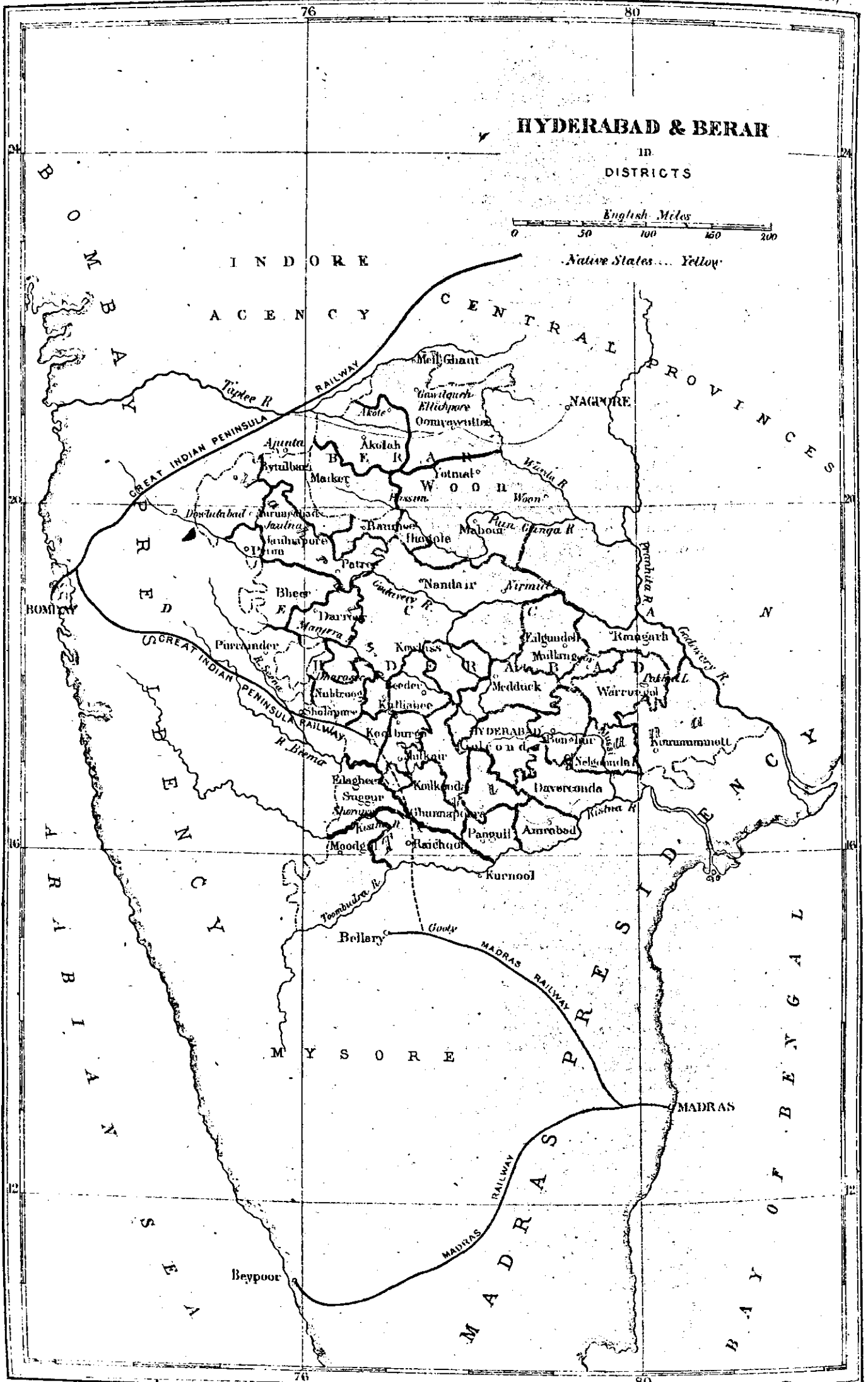
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# HYDERABAD & BERAR

IN DISTRICTS



Native States... Yellow



The expenditure under this head (110,000*l.*) was chiefly devoted to the better housing and comfort of the European troops, and the largest outlay was incurred at Bangalore. Of the 39,000*l.* spent here, 21,500*l.* went to the new barracks and buildings on the race course, which have cost 126,000*l.*, and are now approaching completion. Various buildings, a bakery, a canteen, recreation grounds, and a project for supplying the station with water from the Ulsoor tank, consumed the remainder.

MADRAS.  
—  
Military.

The most important item of the 14,300*l.* spent at Bellary was 3,000*l.* that went towards carrying out a plan for improving the defective water supply of the cantonment by drawing the rainfall through an excavated channel from a range of hills in the neighbourhood; 2,000*l.* was expended in the construction of a new native infantry hospital. At the Presidency 13,257*l.* were expended.

The Lawrence Asylum, for boys and girls, at Lovedale in the Neilgheries, which had cost 48,000*l.* up to the end of 1867-68, had a further sum of 20,315*l.* expended on it during 1868-69, and is now sufficiently advanced to be partially occupied.

Of the total outlay on civil buildings (133,806*l.*), no less than 89,758*l.* were spent on central, district, and subsidiary gaols. This high rate of expenditure is part of a scheme for providing suitable buildings for the confinement of convicts, to the lack of which is attributed the high rate of mortality which had for some years prevailed in the gaols of this Presidency.

Civil build-  
ings.

The central gaols are six in number, viz., at Rajahmundry, Cannanore, Salem, Vellore, Trichinopoly, and Coimbatore. The estimated cost of the works which are being carried out in connection with them is close on 140,000*l.*; of this sum 40,400*l.* was expended during the year, making a total to the close of the year of 98,150*l.*

Central  
gaols.

13,917*l.* were spent in district gaols; and on subsidiary gaols, with the cutcherries to which they are usually attached, was spent the sum of 35,437*l.*

District  
gaols.

On civil buildings other than gaols the outlay was 44,047*l.*, of which 10,496*l.* were expended on lunatic asylums, 2,509*l.* on new wards to the Leper Hospital at Madras.

Other civil  
buildings.

The expenditure from imperial funds during the year on works of irrigation, including the cost of maintenance and repairs, was 236,316*l.*, a sum considerably within the budget grant. It will be sufficient to name the most important of them.

IRRIGATION.

Extensive works are being carried out on the Godavery and Kistna, having for their object the improvement of the navigation of the two rivers, and the construction of channels of irrigation for the surrounding country; a canal 90 miles long connecting the two deltas has been constructed, and is nearly complete.

Godavery  
and Kistna.

The Madras water supply project is an important scheme for conducting water from some miles distant to the neighbourhood of the city, and there storing it in a tank whose capacity is to be increased from 38 to 102 millions of cubic yards. The tank besides supplying the city will be the means of extending cultivation. The sanctioned estimate cost of the scheme is 61,175*l.*, but the actual cost will, it is thought, be nearly double that amount. The expenditure of the year was 27,910*l.*, bringing the total up to 62,588*l.*

Madras  
water supply.

A large project, estimated to cost 83,160*l.*, for still further utilizing the waters of the river Tambrapoorney, which traverses the Tinnevely district from west to east, was vigorously commenced during the year under review. Besides extending irrigation it is part of the scheme to supply Tuticorin with fresh water. Such confidence had the people interested in the works in their value that they subscribed 3,884*l.* to hasten their commencement.

Tinnevely  
irrigation.

In nearly every district works of more or less importance are in progress, but they need not be enumerated.

Of the various improvements still occupying the attention of Government perhaps the most interesting is one for turning the waters of the Perryaur, which now flow west, into the Vigay, a river of the Madura district which has its outlet in the Bay of Bengal. The well-watered country on the west can well spare this diversion of one of its streams to the less favoured east.

Perryaur  
project.

The imperial expenditure on communications was chiefly devoted to the improvement of the great northern road from Madras to Calcutta, to the Ghaut roads in Coimbatore, Malabar, and the Wynaad, and to the opening out of the hill tracts in Ganjam. The total outlay on new works was 121,745*l.*, and the largest expenditure 22,000*l.* took place in Wynaad.

COMMUNI-  
CATIONS.

MADRAS.  
—  
Imperial  
roads.

In the year under review a question was definitely settled which has been under discussion for many years. It was decided that the expenditure from Imperial funds should be restricted to the three following classes of roads:—(i.) Main lines of communication; (ii.) Ghaut and exceptional roads; and (iii.) Salt roads. The main lines of communication are 25 in number, and their total length is believed to be 4,000 miles. The Ghaut and exceptional roads extend 650 miles; and the salt roads are nearly 500 miles in length. It is estimated that the cost of maintaining these roads when complete, which at present they are far from being, would be 120,000*l.*, or less than 3 per cent. on the land revenue. From Imperial funds will also be contributed half the cost of bridges over irrigation channels on district roads. The considerable funds raised from the road cess, recently imposed, are being devoted to the utmost extent to completing a network of minor communications among which the railway feeders are receiving the first attention. The outlay from the District Road Fund reached the sum of 151,709*l.*

Repairs.

From imperial funds 235,105*l.* were spent in keeping in repair 856 military buildings, 393 civil buildings, 1,456 tanks, 75 anicuts, 6,286 miles of road or canal, and numerous bridges and other works.

Irrigation  
and Canal  
Company.

The progress made in the works of the Irrigation and Canal Company is stated to have been one half less than might have been reasonably expected, though much greater than in 1867-68.

The number of labourers employed was very much below that of the year 1864-65, before the stoppage of the work, being 9,968 against 16,707. This may be partly accounted for by the completion of the greater part of the earth-works.

The present estimates for the completion of the various works, providing for construction only, are more than double the original ones.

		£
Present estimates	-	1,015,552
Original estimates	-	493,348
		<hr/>
Increase	-	£522,204

The expenditure during the year was 155,847*l.*, leaving a cash balance of 43,994*l.* at the year's close, and bringing the total expended in India, including cost of the permanent establishment as well as construction, up to 1,157,167*l.*

The expenditure was thus divided—

		£
Construction	-	822,057
Control and executive	-	260,743
Stores, plant, and miscellaneous	-	74,366
		<hr/>
		£1,157,166

So that according to the estimate rather less than 200,000*l.* are still to be spent on construction.

MARINE.

The prosecutions reported last year had the effect of reducing the infractions of the Native Passenger Vessels Act of 1859 to nil. 104,407 persons were carried in 1868 in vessels licensed under the Act, against 89,923 in 1867, of whom 89,794 passed to and from Ceylon.

Five wrecks were reported, only three of which occurred on the Madras coast.

The reliefs by sea between Madras, and Calcutta, and Burmah were heavy, amounting to 12,862 officers, men, women, and children. The entire cost of the four vessels employed was 27,104*l.*, or slightly more than 2*l.* 2*s.* for each person.

Coconada.

While this port is fast rising in importance, and three new vessels were launched during the year, it is reported that the silting up of the southern portion of the bay continues to extend, and that the channel leading into Coringa river is daily becoming more intricate and shallow.

Madras.

Great inconvenience was caused to local commerce by a French barque drifting on to the pier and making a gap of about 250 feet, in which she sank. The reconstruction of the pier is estimated to cost 28,742*l.*, and is progressing as rapidly as the difficulty caused by the débris of the piles and the wreck will permit. This catastrophe, together with the scarcity of boats, the extortionate rates of the boatmen, and their disinclination to bring up their sons to their own trade, has revived the project of a breakwater for Madras. A committee convened by Government



have recommended the construction of a breakwater 1,200 yards distant from the shore and parallel to it, at a cost of MADRAS.

The traffic through the Paumben Channel continues, 2,222 vessels having passed through during the year. Convict labour, though in insufficient quantity, is employed on cutting away the inner angle of the reef channel, commenced nine years ago, and on deepening the channel from 12 to 14 feet. Paumben.

The trade of this port increases, and 117,194 bales of cotton were shipped in 1868-69. Taticorin.

Protective works have been found necessary to resist the encroachment of the sea at Cochin on the Malabar coast. Cochin.

West of Madura and Tinnevely, its western coast washed by the waters of the Arabian Sea, lies the independent native state of Travancore. Its extreme length from Cape Comorin to the native state of Cochin and the Coimbatore district, which form its northern boundary, is 190 miles; it has an area of about 4,700 square miles, and it is traversed throughout its entire length by the western Ghats. TRAVAN-  
CORE.

The population numbers 1,500,000 or about 320 to the square mile.

It is interesting to note the marked progress of this State under the Maharajah and his able minister Sir T. Madava, K.C.S.I. whose Government is in most particulars framed upon the model of British rule.

The Report received is for the year 1043, or the calendar year ending 14th August 1868. If the number of civil suits pending at the year's close was greater the number of suits disposed of was more than proportionately great, and for the clearance of the arrears three additional judges had been appointed. The cases of serious crime were small, and if the petty cases were more numerous it is accounted for by the greater material wealth of the people offering greater temptations to offences against property. In both civil and criminal justice the appeals were few, and the reversals of first decisions small in proportion.

In gaols the mortality was only 3 per cent. on an average daily strength of 521.

The registration of assurances based on the British Act came into operation in December 1867, and in eight months the number of registrations reached 17,334, involving property of an estimated value of 668,000*l.*

The receipts for the year were 518,894*l.*, and the expenditure 448,123*l.*, leaving a surplus of 70,000*l.*, despite a slight falling off in the land revenue, and increasing the balance to be carried to next years account to 402,583*l.*

The chief heads of increase are customs, salt, coffee and cardamum.

The consumption of salt which for the year under review was about 26 lbs. per head of the population has not been injuriously affected by the rise in the Government selling price dating from the convention with the British Government in 1865.

Coffee is subject to an export duty of 2*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. Its cultivation is extending and at the close of the year it was estimated that about 14,000 acres of coffee land had been taken up by European planters. Cardamum is a product which it would be difficult to tax except as a monopoly.

The Educational Institutions in Travancore are numerous, improving, and generously supported by the State. The standard of studies at the high school is that prescribed for the first examination in Arts in the University of Madras. In the districts there are 15 English and 20 vernacular schools, whilst at the capital, Trivandrum, there are besides the high school just mentioned a vernacular and a normal school, two girls' schools, English and vernacular, and classes for the study of medicine, in the two languages. All show progress, the girls' school "promising well," and the normal schools "doing good service." Owing to the absence of the Chief Engineer public works alone seem to have been at a stand still during the year. They are now being pushed forward vigorously.

The small native State of Cochin lies to the north of Travancore between it and the Malabar district. It has an area of about 400 square miles. COCHIN.

Nearly as satisfactory as in Travancore is the progress of this little State in every branch of administration.

Three regulations were passed by the Rajah all relating to judicial procedure. The first abolished the old Sessions Court, conferred greater powers on the Criminal Courts, and created a Court of Appeals where sentences were made final, excepting those involving death or imprisonment for life, which require confirmation by the Rajah with the advice of the British Resident. The changes are said to be sound in principle and as far as experience goes work beneficially.



MADRAS.

The second regulation is a Limitation Law founded on the British Indian Act; the third legalizes the employment of counsel for the defence, a right formerly denied under an old local law.

The receipts for the year amounted to 110,545*l.*, or 2,574*l.* more than in 1866-67, and the disbursements to 105,816*l.*, leaving a surplus of 4,729*l.* to be added to the previous balance of 52,155*l.* 59,632*l.*, or more than half of the receipts arose from land revenue; of the expenditure the largest item was 20,000*l.*, the subsidiary to the British Government, and 19,142*l.* was spent on public works.

Narakal, the port and harbour of refuge, was visited by 14 vessels only, against 37 in 1866-67.

CARNATIC.

The payments to Carnatic stipendiaries amounted to 53,452*l.*, against 64,303*l.*, in 1867-68; the number of persons receiving pensions on the 1st April 1869 was 1,125 persons; the lapses by death during the year were 46.

With regard to the debts of Prince Ajeem Jah, the commissioner had reported on 3,784 of the 3,915 claims preferred. To assist His Highness to settle his debts the Secretary of State granted him a loan of 120,000*l.* repayable by instalments in 12 years, and at the close of the year the settlement was taking place.

EDUCATION.

At the close of the year the number of colleges and schools connected with the Educational Department was 2,421, and they were attended by 86,982 pupils, 10,988 belonging to Government schools, the remainder (75,994) to private schools under inspection. Of the latter, 20,575, against 10,992 in 1867-68, were in unaided institutions, which under inspection are being improved so as to become eligible for grants under the system of payment for results. The average daily attendance in all the schools was 70,044. The pupils on the roll were to the population as 1 to 299.

These figures give an increase over the previous year of 43.5 per cent. in the number of schools, and of 38.1 per cent. in the pupils, an increase to which the largest contributors are the lower class schools, which rose from 1,171 to 1,772, and the pupils attending them from 28,464 to 41,448. Next in the scale of increase are the middle-class schools, which rose from 451 to 575, and gave instruction to 31,993 pupils, against 23,089 in 1867-68.

Of the 86,982 pupils 68,479 were Hindoos, while Mahommedans numbered 2,712. Of the various languages taught, by far the most common are English, Tamil, and Telooگو, which were studied respectively by 37,985, 47,956, and 22,096 pupils. The expenditure of the Department was from—

	1868-69,	1867-68.
Imperial Funds -	77,465 <i>l.</i>	65,104 <i>l.</i>
Other Funds -	19,836 <i>l.</i>	13,265 <i>l.</i>

Though these figures give a total cost of 97,302*l.*, or 24.1 per cent. more than in 1867-68, the cost per pupil fell from 1*l.* 6*s.* 10*d.* to 1*l.* 4*s.* 3*d.*

Finance.

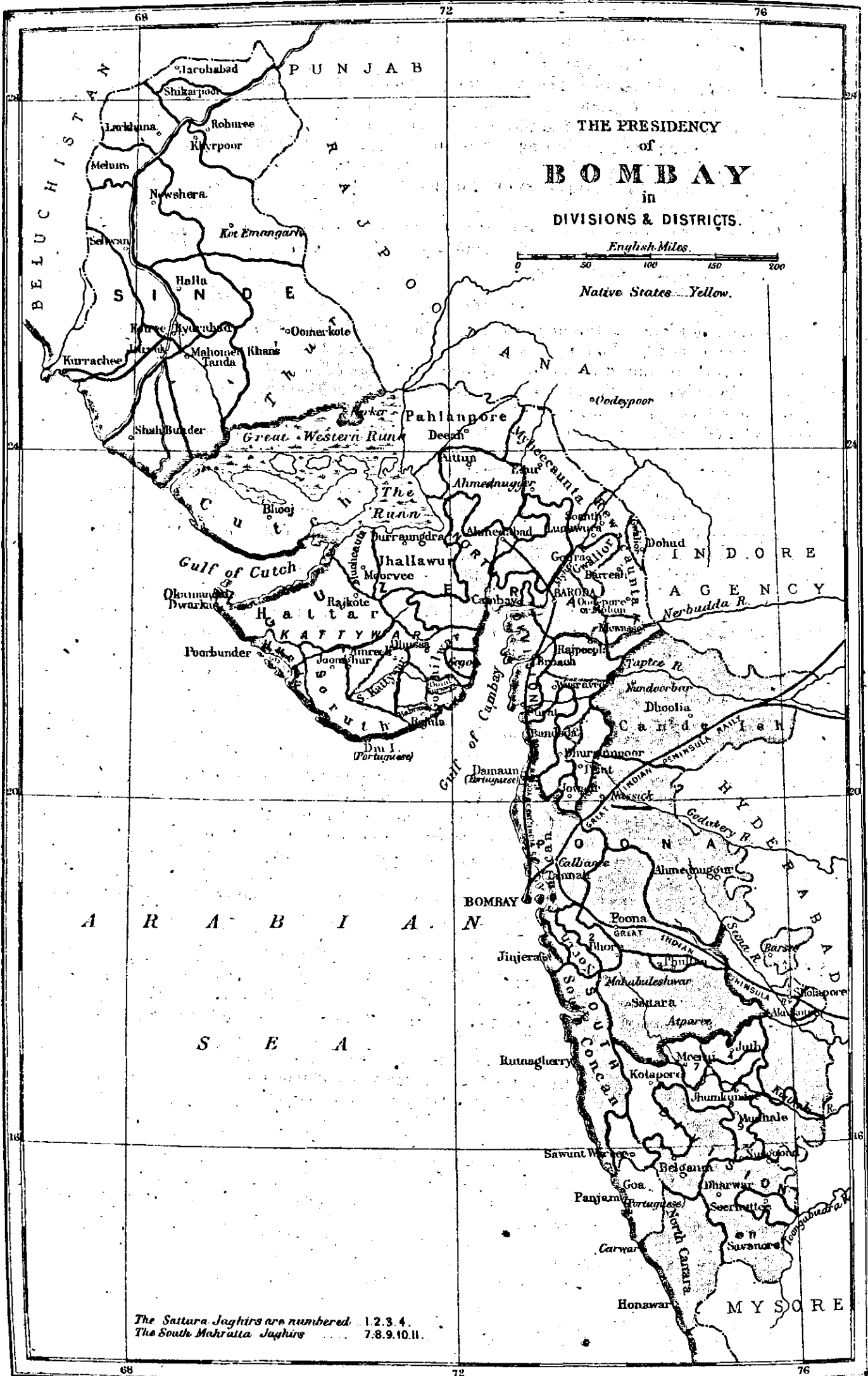
Much need not be added to the information given in the margin regarding the finance of the province.

Gross Receipts.	1867-68.	1868-69.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Land revenue - - -	4,244,396	4,068,789	—	175,607
Tributes from native states - -	344,643	342,643	—	2,000
Excise - - - - -	506,491	490,848	—	15,648
Customs - - - - -	251,902	279,594	27,692	—
Salt - - - - -	1,093,802	1,107,253	13,451	—
Stamps - - - - -	353,725	372,347	18,622	—
Other heads - - - -	717,918	845,612	127,694	—
<b>Total</b> - - - - -	<b>7,512,877</b>	<b>7,507,081</b>	<b>Decrease</b>	<b>5,796</b>
Charges against income - - -	1,005,708	1,042,616	—	—
<b>Net receipts</b> - - - -	<b>6,507,169</b>	<b>6,464,465</b>	<b>Decrease</b>	<b>42,704</b>
<b>Expenditure:</b>				
Army - - - - -	3,072,872	3,016,784	—	56,088
Public works, ordinary - - -	834,990	808,765	—	26,225
Public works, extraordinary - -	81,319	122,869	41,550	—
Administration - - - - -	134,718	143,645	8,927	—
Law and justice - - - - -	405,928	414,617	8,689	—
Police - - - - -	389,394	381,791	—	7,603
Superannuation, retired allowances, &c. - - -	386,337	197,544	—	188,793
Other heads - - - - -	428,257	481,041	52,784	—
<b>Total expenditure, excluding charges.</b>	<b>5,728,815</b>	<b>5,567,056</b>	<b>Decrease</b>	<b>161,759</b>
Deduct gain by exchange on railway transactions.	3,215	11,509	—	—
<b>Surplus</b> - - - - -	<b>5,725,600</b>	<b>5,555,547</b>	<b>Increase</b>	<b>127,349</b>
	781,569	908,981		

Though the gross receipts were slightly less, there was nevertheless, owing to a large decrease in expenditure, a surplus greater by 127,349*l.* than that of 1867-68.

With regard to the receipts it will be seen that there was a considerable decrease under the head of "land revenue;" that "excise" too fell off 15,648*l.*, but that the deficiency was nearly met by a large increase in the returns from "salt," "customs," "stamps," and various other heads.

On the expenditure side the greatest decrease was under the head of "superannuation allowances, &c.," and amounted to no



The Sattara Jaghirs are numbered 1.2.3.4.  
 The South Mahratta Jaghirs 7.8.9.10.11.

less a sum than 188,793*l.*; the army expenditure was less by 56,088*l.* than in the previous year; less was spent on public works ordinary, but more on public works, extraordinary, and various heads, among which may be mentioned education, science, and art, the grant to which was increased from 87,744*l.* to 103,068*l.* The net result was a decrease in the total expenditure of 161,759*l.*

MADRAS.

There are in the Madras division 862 miles of line of telegraph. The effect of the uniform tariff for all India (2*s.* for ten words), introduced 1st October 1868, appeared, as far as the returns were completed, to be that while the number of messages increased about 21 per cent., the cash receipts fell off 6 per cent.

Telegraph.

The work accomplished in the Government press shows an increase of 9·4 per cent. This press, in which convict labour is to a great extent employed, effects a considerable saving to Government.

Government Press.

BOMBAY.

BOMBAY.

Though the island of Bombay was the earliest acquisition of the British in India, having been ceded to Charles II. by the King of Portugal in 1661, it was not till the conclusion of the Mahratta war of 1817-18 that, by the addition of the territory taken from the Peishwā, Scindia, and Holkar, the Presidency of Bombay received territorial extension which placed it on an equal footing of importance with the later settlements at Fort St. George and Fort William. Only two changes of importance have since been made; in 1843 Sind was annexed and was placed under the Government of Bombay to be ruled on the non-regulation system, and in 1864 the district of North Canara, bordering on Mysore, was, for convenience sake, transferred from Madras to Bombay. It will be seen that the province comprises a strip of territory some 900 miles in length, extending from the northern limit of Sind, on the south-west frontier of the Punjab, to the kingdom of Mysore on the south, and occupying more than two-thirds of the western coast of the peninsula. Between the non-regulation division of Sind and the Bombay Presidency proper, intervene the territories of the numerous chiefs of Gujerat, a large province independent of more than British supervision, with the exception of a small portion in its centre, which is nearly severed by the Gulf of Cambay, and belongs to the northern division. The Bombay Presidency has then three main divisions, the Province of Sind in the north, which is placed under a Commissioner; the feudatory states of Kutch and Gujerat in the centre; and the fertile division of Bombay proper, which is divided into two Commissionerships, the northern and the southern.

The area of Bombay and Sind is 140,827 square miles, or rather more than two-thirds the area of the continent of Spain. The population is about 14 millions. Under the jurisdiction of Bombay is Aden, the small peninsula of about 15 miles in circumference, situated on one of the most southerly points of the Arabian coast. Numerous feudatory states of more or less importance are included within the bounds of the Bombay Presidency; some of them receive notice in the report that follows.

Eight Acts were passed by the Council for making laws and regulations, and came into operation during 1868-69. It will be sufficient to notice the three following:—

Legislative.

Act II. of 1869, levies a tax on "Professions and Trades within the City of Bombay for Municipal Purposes," the highest rate being 160*l.* on profits assessed at 40,000*l.* and upwards, and the lowest eight shillings on profits between 100*l.* and 250*l.* Separate schedules in the Act provide for companies and persons receiving salaries.

Act III. is an Act to provide funds for local works of public utility and convenience, and to make better provision for education and sanitary improvements in the Presidency, local committees being constituted for the due administration of such funds.

Act IV. levies town duties within the city of Bombay in addition to any customs duties prescribed by law, the object being to provide additional funds for municipal purposes.

In consultation with the local officers and with due regard to communications and the relative density of the population, the limits of the subordinate civil courts have been re-arranged and their number reduced, while the pay of the judges has been greatly increased. The increase of salary will, it is hoped, attract men of higher education and learning, and was indeed rendered necessary by the higher qualifications required of candidates for the post of subordinate judge under a recent Act of the Government of India, framed with the object of raising the standard of judicial ability of the native bench. The duties of the courts are of a high character,

Administrative changes.

**BOMBAY.** calling for a knowledge on the part of the native judges of both law and equity, the former term including not only the religious and customary laws of various peoples, but also the *lex loci* as established by statute and precedent.

**District Courts, original jurisdiction.** *Civil Justice.*—There came before the District Courts of Civil Jurisdiction 142,520 suits during the year, or 12,500 more than the number filed in 1867-68.

The number of cases decided was, on the other hand, less by 53,000, so that the arrears, which at the commencement of the year were 14,694, had risen to 28,652 at its close. Of the total number of suits filed 122,299 were for sums under 50*l.*, the amount involved in the suits decided was 1,371,776*l.* against 1,442,480*l.* in 1867-68.

**Courts of small causes.** In the Bombay Court 24,703 new suits were filed, or 1,600 less than in 1867-68; 24,764 were disposed of against 25,890, and the arrears were 1,492 against 1,552 in the previous year.

In the four district courts the suits filed were more numerous than in 1867-68 by about 1,000; 13,131 were disposed of, leaving 1,257 cases undecided, or nearly twice the number at the year's commencement.

*Criminal Justice.*—Following out recent orders, restricting transportation beyond seas to those criminals who are sentenced to transportation for life, certain places in the Presidency and in Scinde have been proposed as places of transportation for those sentenced for a definite term of years.

36,873 criminal offences were committed during the year, and there were 33,831 trials; of the total number of persons tried (68,016), 36,154, or more than half were acquitted. The offences and the trials exceed by about 1,000 the numbers of the previous year. The increase occurred under the head of "assaults," and some of the more serious offences; on the other hand there were fewer sentences of death and transportation.

**Police.** The number of persons brought before the police magistrates in Bombay during the year under review rose from 17,620 to 25,993, of whom 14,080 persons were convicted. This very large increase is attributable in a great measure to the unusual influx into Bombay that followed the conclusion of the Abyssinian campaign. In the proportion of convictions by the magistrates there was a marked improvement, the proportion of convictions having risen from 58 to 77 per cent., and in cases brought up by the Executive Police from 62 to 87 per cent.

Though, owing to certain difficulties in the way, it is considered impracticable at present to introduce any system of education into the police, the matter will not be lost sight of.

**Northern division.** Turning to the rest of the Presidency, it is reported from the Northern division that notwithstanding the exceptional character of the year,—famine in Khandeish, ruinous floods in Guzerat in the month of August, followed by great drought, and, in addition, large immigrations of the famine-stricken inhabitants of Rajpootana and Malwa,—the general tranquillity of the country was in no way disturbed, and there was no unusual amount of crime,—facts creditable to the police.

The total number of cases recorded was 19,382, against 19,181 in 1867-68, while the number of detections was 16,599, an increase of from 78 to 81 per cent., and a proof of the greater vigilance of the police.

The year saw a reorganisation of the force and the final settlement of the strength of each district; while their numbers have been reduced to a very low standard, by a higher scale of pay and the hope of pensions for faithful service their efficiency have been increased in a manner that it is hoped will prove them to be able to cope with their more onerous duties.

**Southern division.** Similar changes were carried out in the Southern division, and form the most important event of the year.

The statistics of crime show a diminution throughout the entire division of 5·47 per cent.

At the headquarter station of each district police schools have been established, in which the men and their children are taught to read and write, and the former are instructed in criminal procedure and police codes. Properly conducted they will doubtless be conducive of much good to the force, and become beneficial to the community at large.

**GAOLS.** The number of prisoners received into the Criminal Gaols was 14,132 against 14,690 in 1867-68, but the daily average, (5,941) shows a slight increase. The gross cost of their maintenance rose from 59,000*l.* to 61,500*l.*, and the gross cost per prisoner from 10*l.* 2*s.* 8*d.* to 10*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.*, but a great increase in the value of

convict labour, which in the year under review realised 28,139*l.*, reduced the net cost of each prisoner from 6*l.* 7*s.* 10*d.* to 5*l.* 12*s.* 5*d.*

The per-centage of deaths was unusually low, having fallen from 5·40 in 1866-67, and 3·44 in 1867-68, to 1·73.

The success of the schools, which are now established in all the gaols, has on the whole been very creditable. The instructors are for the most part convicts, but in many cases paid teachers. With regard to the standards of education, it is reported that of the total admissions only 955 could read and write.

In Sind owing to the cessation of the litigation which followed the over-speculation of 1864 and the collapse of 1865-66, and to the working of the Stamp Act, the value of civil suits diminished considerably, from 68,497*l.* that is, to 34,857*l.* At the same time both the number of suits filed and the decisions were more numerous, the former increased from 9,354 to 10,329, while the arrears at the close of 1868 were 400 only, against 724 in the preceding year.

The number of criminal offences committed (10,934) was less by nearly 500; there were 200 more persons brought to trial; against 7,600 persons convicted as many as 9,600 were acquitted, a fact which, while it hardly speaks favourably for the police, is said to be due in some measure to the strictness of the courts.

The generally unfavourable character of the season throughout the Bombay Presidency has already been noticed in connexion with the statistics of crime. As bearing upon the ability of the landowners and cultivators to contribute each his allotted quota to the revenue of the country, it is again touched upon in the introductory chapter on that subject, and it is satisfactory to learn, from a comparison of the figures of 1868-69 and 1867-68, that the distress which prevailed did not greatly affect the returns of land and sayer revenues, while it had altogether failed to disturb the general tranquillity of the country. In the collectorates of Dharwar, Belgaum, and Canara, the great cotton producing districts, the season was, on the whole, favourable for agriculture, but throughout the rest of the Southern division, and nearly the whole of the Northern, the failure of rain was universal, though variable. Government went out to meet the distress which the destruction of crops and house property by floods brought upon the population of Guzerat. In Khan-deish, as has been stated, Government relief had to provide for large numbers of the starving population of Marwar and Rajpootana who flocked into British territory, and, but for the employment given to the Bheels, it is thought that under the pressure of famine they would have returned to their old habits of plunder and lawlessness. The total revenue realised, under the heads of land and sayer, in 1868-69 amounted for the whole Presidency, including Sind, to 3,549,757*l.*, which is a falling off of 62,000*l.* compared with 1867-68.

The contributions of the four divisions are shown in the margin. In Sind the increase amounted to 21,150*l.*; by far the greater portion of which was in the land revenue. In Bombay the increase of 18,570*l.* was chiefly owing to a larger yield from the certificate tax than had been realised from the previous licence tax. Only in the Southern division was there a small decrease of 8,537*l.*

The revenues derived from customs, the principal heads of which are given in the margin, rose from 831,098*l.* to 882,336*l.*, an increase to which every item contributes, and which is due to larger imports and exports of general merchandise, as well as to the larger quantity of spirits imported for consumption in the island of Bombay from the distilleries of Oorun, Bhandoop, and Bassein.

The salt removed from the pans on payment of full duty was, in 1867-68, 31,47,206 maunds; in 1868-69, 36,93,876 maunds, or an increase of 54,667 maunds, which produced a corresponding increase of 104,914*l.* in the revenue realised in this branch of the revenue, which in the year under review was 615,587*l.*, against 510,673*l.* in the previous year.

In the opium revenue the decrease was most serious, amounting to as much as 550,213*l.*, which represents a falling off in the number of chests on which pass fees were levied of 9,124 as compared with 1867-68, and of 3,130 compared with the five preceding years.

The aggregate value of the external trade of Sind for 1868-69, exclusive of Government stores, was 4,257,030*l.*, or 244,000*l.* less than in 1867-68. The

Southern Division	1,591,319
Northern Division	1,441,721
Sind	504,621
Bombay	82,102
	<hr/>
	£3,549,757

<i>Import duty.</i>	
General trade	770,032
Spirits	66,556
<i>Export duty.</i>	
Sea customs	40,201
Land frontier duties	7,586

1867-68 - Opium chests	39,210	2,356,938
1868-69 - " "	30,092	1,806,725

BOMBAY.

customs duties amounted to 51,341*l.* The increase of 3,809*l.* which this represents was attributable chiefly to large imports of cotton piece goods direct from the United Kingdom. The removal of the excise duty on salt has created a revival of the trade in that commodity.

Finance.

Not many words need be said in explanation of the figures given in the margin.

	1867-68.	1868-69.	Increase.	Decrease.
<b>Gross Receipts:</b>				
Land revenue	£ 3,612,612	£ 3,549,757	—	62,855
Opium	2,356,938	1,806,725	—	550,213
Customs	831,098	882,396	51,298	—
Excise	415,311	445,814	30,503	—
Salt	510,673	615,587	104,914	—
Stamps	450,890	470,357	19,467	—
Marine	157,957	448,511	290,554	—
Other heads	948,512	1,218,685	270,173	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,283,991</b>	<b>9,437,772</b>	<b>Increase</b>	<b>153,781</b>
Cost of collection, &c.	1,908,952	1,799,818	—	—
<b>Net Receipts</b>	<b>7,380,039</b>	<b>7,637,954</b>	<b>Increase</b>	<b>257,915</b>
<b>Expenditure:</b>				
Army	2,780,767	2,960,948	180,181	—
Public Works, ordinary	1,154,150	1,073,572	—	80,578
"    "    extraordinary	448,959	481,294	32,335	—
Administration, &c.	158,131	179,524	21,293	—
Law and justice	432,208	460,585	28,377	—
Police	378,610	386,381	7,771	—
Marine	496,526	406,170	—	90,356
Other heads	767,389	692,137	—	75,252
<b>Total expenditure, excluding charges, &amp;c.</b>	<b>6,616,740</b>	<b>6,640,611</b>	<b>Increase</b>	<b>23,871</b>
Surplus	763,299	997,343	<b>Increase</b>	<b>234,044</b>

It will be seen that there was a considerable increase in the gross revenue under every head but two, more than counterbalancing the heavy falling off there was in the returns realised from opium, passes, owing to the drought having compelled the population of Malwa to seek their own safety to the abandonment of the cultivation of the poppy.

The expenditure side presents no remarkable variation between the two years compared, and the net result of the year was

a surplus of 997,343*l.*, or 234,044*l.* greater than that of 1867-68.

The imperial grant for public works was 1,345,000*l.*, of which 1,073,572*l.* were expended, and the remainder, amounting to more than one-sixth of the whole, was permitted to lapse; for the grant made by the Government of India is subdivided into several minor grants, and funds which for any reason cannot be spent under one head may not be devoted to another. The Special Fund had 375,000*l.* allotted to it, of which it spent but 245,000*l.*; and of 290,000*l.* allotted to agricultural works, only 180,000*l.* was required during the year. For military works the grant was 390,000*l.*; the actual sum expended was 40,000*l.* less. Under the head "Other Services" on the other hand, which comprises Civil Buildings, Communications, and Works of Public Improvement, there was an excess expenditure of 55,000*l.* the outlay having been 345,000*l.* against a grant of 290,000*l.*

It has been said that the imperial expenditure of the budget grant was 1,115,000*l.*; add to this 57,500*l.* contributed from local funds, chiefly for road repairs, 17,500*l.* raised by private subscription, and 130,000*l.* spent on works included in the Local Budget, and it will be seen that the grand total actually expended by the Public Works Department *on works*, excluding establishments and tools and plant, is raised to about 1,300,000*l.*

The establishment employed in carrying out these works cost something under 220,000*l.*, or about 16½ per cent. When irrigation surveys and the preparation of projects are complete, the per-centage of establishment to expenditure will be much less.

Military works.

The want of sanctioned plans and estimates which has hitherto made it impossible to carry out the improved accommodation required by British troops in this Presidency, was removed during the year, and barracks on the new standard have been commenced at Colaba, Belgaum, Kirkee, Ahmednuggur, Ahmedabad, and Kurrachee. But sanction was received too late to admit of the whole of the allotment to military works being expended.

The recent decision of the supreme Government to debit the outlay on barracks to current revenue, instead of to loan, has reduced the Bombay allotment for 1869-70, from 395,000*l.* to 290,000*l.*; a reduction that will, it is stated, necessitate the most stringent economy, and possibly a partial stoppage of works.

Civil buildings.

The new post office at Bombay was begun at the close of the year. Its site is on the esplanade facing the public works offices. The style will be mediæval,

BOMBAY.

and it is estimated to cost 60,000*l.* The public works offices were commenced in March 1869, and will be a very handsome specimen of Venetian Gothic. The cost is limited to 40,000*l.*

The Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy hospital, a building of the pure early English Gothic, has been nearly completed at an outlay of 16,000*l.*, and is the cheapest architectural building as yet erected in Bombay.

There is also under construction on the esplanade a new secretariat in the Venetian Gothic style. The sum of 32,500*l.* has been spent already on it, and at the rate the work is now being done, the cost will be considerably less than the estimate of 126,400*l.* These are the most important of many works of utility which are under construction, and will, it is believed, give architectural beauty to the city of Bombay; nor is it necessary particularly to notice the various buildings in progress throughout the Presidency.

Passing to the next head of public works expenditure, it will be sufficient to notice a few of the projects that are being carried out. The works on the Krishna Canal have been completed to the end of thirty-second mile, at a cost of 56,735*l.*; the people are fully alive to the benefits resulting from them, and have irrigated about 6,000 acres.

Agricultural works.

The Ekrook tank or lake upon which 49,000*l.* has been spent out of an estimate of 78,837*l.* will when complete have an area of between six and seven square miles, and is principally designed with the object of supplying with water the large town of Sholapore.

But the largest and most important work which has yet been undertaken in the Deccan is the Moota Valley project. It is designed for irrigation, but it will also afford an unlimited supply of water for the cantonment and city of Poona and the neighbouring cantonment of Kirkee, where scarcity of water has been an evil of long standing. The design of the scheme is to carry a masonry dam nearly three-quarters of a mile in length across the valley of the River Moota at a distance of 10 miles above Poona, so forming a lake or reservoir about 14 miles in length with an average width of half a mile. On either side of the valley there will be constructed two canals, one 99 miles, the other 16 miles in length for the irrigation of the country. The work commenced in the first months of 1869 is being constructed with the greatest care; materials and plant to a large extent have been collected and it was anticipated that great progress would be made in the ensuing year. The estimate for the work amounts to 374,727*l.* and the expenditure during the year was 29,500*l.*

Good progress was made in the construction of communications throughout the province, especially in the cotton district where a network of good roads is a necessity.

Communications.

The principal event of general political interest during the year of report may be said to have been the gathering of the leading chiefs of Gujarat and Katteewar at the ancient town of Broach towards the close of December last. These chiefs, for the first time in the history of our connection with the country, assembled in Durbar to do honour to the head of the Government.

POLITICAL.

In Katteewar the destruction of Mooloo Maneck and four of his associates on the 8th May 1868 put an end to the rebellion of the Wagher outlaws who had so long overrun the Province, and order and tranquillity have since been successfully maintained.

Katteewar.

The result of this blow was, that the chiefs who had furnished the several contingents comprising the Federal Seebundy, which had been primarily organised against these outlaws, made a combined effort to do away with the corps as a local body under efficient European control; but it was pointed out to them that tranquillity was not ultimately assured, and that the corps could not be abandoned until the police arrangements of all the states were placed upon a more satisfactory footing. But, as yet, Nowanugger is the only state in which this hint, which was well received by all, has produced any practical results.

In the matter of education several new schools have been opened throughout the Province, and placed under the immediate supervision of the Government Educational Department.

	No. of Schools.	No. of Scholars.
In 1866-67	101	6,895
In 1867-68	150	11,440
In 1868-69	260	13,724

Public works have not been at a standstill. The main road from Rajcote to Wudwan (65 miles) has been completed, and many others are in an advanced state of progress.



BOMBAY.  
Kutch.

The differences between the Rao and his Bhyad have occupied the earnest attention of the British Government, and are said to be in a fair way of being adjusted.

The internal confusion has been the result of peculiar feudal relations between the Rao and his chiefs, and the social system common to all Rajpoot states.

The present occupants, the Jhareja Rajpoots, immigrated into Kutch at the beginning of the 15th century. The title borne by their chief was originally "Jam," but in 1580 was changed into "Rao." The Bhyad or brotherhood is the name given to the system of minute subdivision of fiefs which obtains in all Rajpoot states, and is here carried out, with all its fatal consequences, to the last extremity. Infanticide, the great curse of Kutch, is perhaps only a legitimate consequence of such a system.

Kolhapoor.

The main feature of interest in connexion with this State is, that the young Raja, who has been trained for the duties of his high station under an English officer, has begun to undertake some of the real work of government.

Sind  
frontier.

Considerable uneasiness has prevailed in the districts of the Khan of Khelat, who unfortunately is not on the best terms with his own chiefs, on account of the threatened hostilities on the part of the Persian Governor of Bampoor; but they have happily passed over. Agreements have been made with the Belooch chiefs for the care and protection of the land-line telegraph, which has been commenced from Gwader to Cape Jask.

Education.

There is a total number of 2,216 Government institutions; in addition to which there were 240 private schools aided by Government or subject to inspection. These figures represent an increase during the year of 320 in the first, and of 49 in the second class of institutions. The number of pupils during the same period increased in the Government schools from 122,171 to 140,496, that is, by more than 18,000. In the private schools there were at the end of the year nearly 17,000 pupils, representing an increase of 2,500.

The Imperial expenditure on education was 108,935*l.*, a very slight increase over that of 1867-68; but from this sum must be deducted about 20,000*l.* devoted to science and art,

Local funds contributed nearly 91,000*l.*, or about 19,000*l.* more than in the previous year.

These two sums together gives a grand total of 175,642*l.* devoted to education alone.

Indo-  
European  
telegraph.

There have been several alterations and improvements in the working of this line during the past year, notably the reduction of the tariff for a single rate of 20 words between Kurrachee and Great Britain from 5*l.* 1*s.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*

The gross and net revenues realised by this line amounted to 149,068*l.* and 94,478*l.* respectively. The total number of messages transmitted was 35,492, an excess of 4,808 over the number of the previous year. The revenue, however, shows a decrease of 4,409*l.* as compared with 1867-68, caused mainly by the reduction of the tariff above mentioned.

#### BRITISH BURMAH.

BRITISH  
BURMAH.  
General  
progress.

In 1826, at the conclusion of the first Burmese war, Aracan and Tenasserim became British possessions. The king of Burmah still retained the whole of the northern portion of his dominions; and the important Province of Pegu, with its flourishing port of Rangoon, and the minor one of Bassein, was still interposed between the two provinces in a position to withdraw from them both population and trade. So thinly inhabited were Aracan and Tenasserim, and so unproductive, that it was seriously proposed to restore them to Burmah. Happily for the British Government, and happily for the people, wiser counsels prevailed.

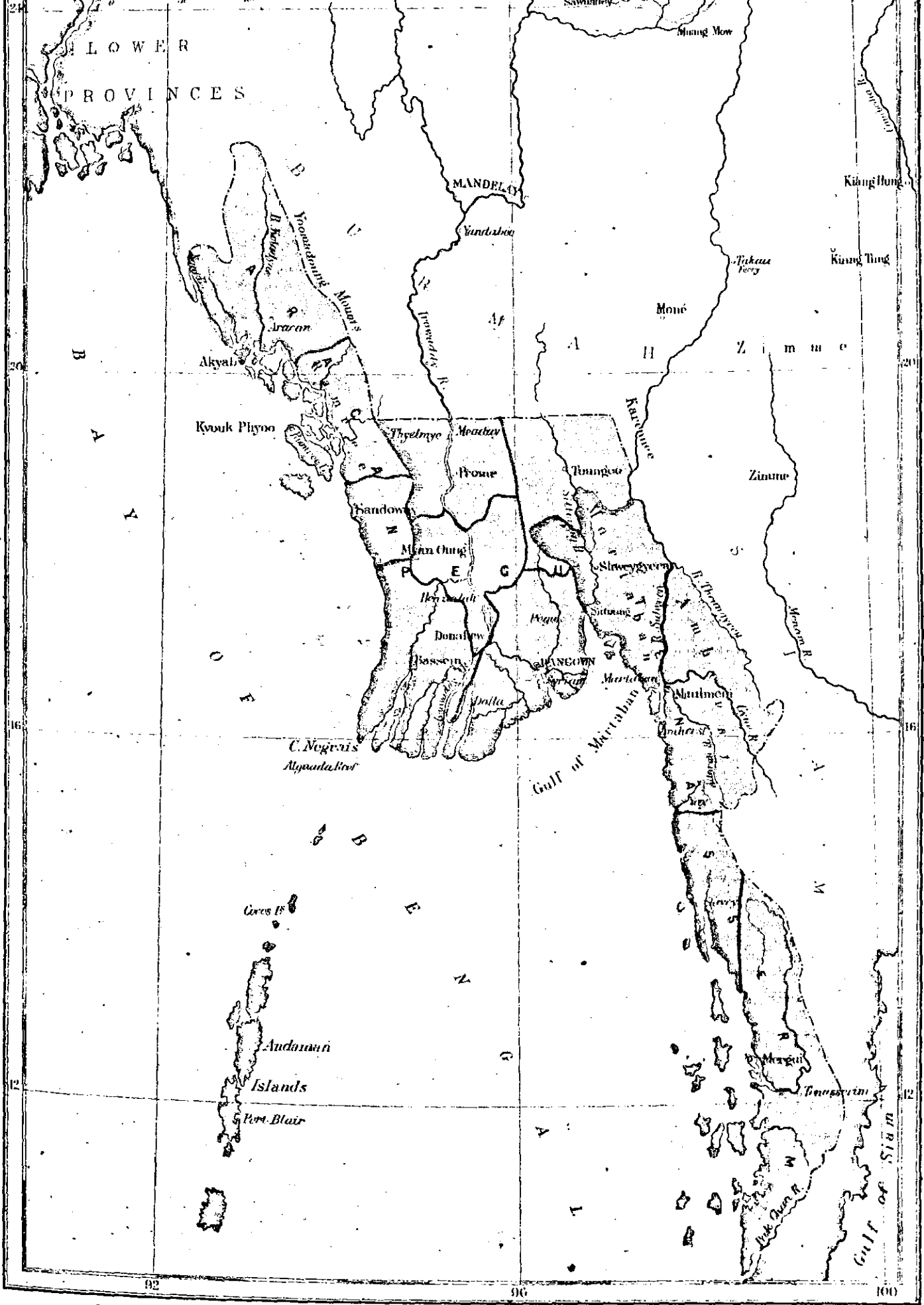
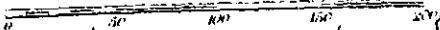
In 1862-63 the population of Aracan had increased from 100,000 souls to 386,144, or by 386 per cent. in 36 years; its revenue from 41,714*l.* to 182,096*l.*, or by more than 400 per cent.; its area under cultivation from 66,227 acres to 359,710; and Akyab from a Mugh village had become a large and flourishing seaport town. The population of Tenasserim had increased from 70,000 souls to 394,264; the total area of assessed cultivation had increased to 254,234 acres, and the total revenue to 187,549*l.*; and Maulmain, which in 1826 was a mere fishing village, had in 1852 a population of 60,000 souls. Moreover, the imports and exports of the port of Akyab, which in seven months of the year 1830-31 were



# BRITISH BURMAH

in  
DIVISIONS & DISTRICTS.

English Miles.



LOWER PROVINCES

MANDELAY

Younghing  
Moung  
Akyab  
Aracan

Yuntaboo  
Irrawaddy R.

Moung

Kyauk Phyo

Thyathay

Moatay

Proue

Thungso

Zinut

Bandow

Mann Ching

Shwebo

Heh

Donaboo

Bassein

WANGON

Balla

Martaban

Moulmein

C. Negrais  
Algodan

Gulf of Martaban

Caves Is.

Andaman

Islands

Port Blair

Gulf of Siam

valued at 7,378*l.*, and were carried in 140 vessels, had in 1855-56 risen beyond all comparison; the exports for that year were valued at 1,256,500*l.*, of which the value of grain alone was 1,067,862*l.* and of timber 158,634*l.*; the value of the imports was 778,844*l.*; while the tonnage of vessels which cleared out was 195,162 tons.

The cause of this marvellous progress is to be found in the settled government which following on British occupation tempted the Burmese to fly from the misrule that reigned in their own country. With the annexation of Aracan and Tenasserim, set in a migration from Burmah to British territory, which, notwithstanding the opposition of the Burmese authorities, continued unabated, until, on the addition of Pegu to the British empire in 1852, at the conclusion of the second Burmese war, there was no longer any reason why the inhabitants of Pegu should emigrate to Tenasserim or carry their produce to Maulmain. The British merchant, following rapidly after the British army, established himself in Rangoon, and Rangoon has taken its proper place as the most important, the most prosperous, and the busiest town in the Province, while, at the same time, Pegu, owing to its greater natural advantages, has advanced far more rapidly than the two older districts, and partly at their expense, that is to say, the progress of Aracan and Tenasserim in general prosperity though continued has been less marked; while the rice trade of Akyab has been seriously affected by Rangoon: from being, perhaps, the first rice port in the world it has become the third or fourth port in the Province; and the value of its grain exports, which was 1,067,862*l.* in 1855-56, had diminished in 1862-63 to 396,349*l.*

The returns for 1855-56 give the population of Pegu as 631,640 souls, and the gross revenues as 297,753*l.* The area of rice land under cultivation was 510,149 acres, on which the assessed revenue was 82,648*l.*

Among the improvements that have been carried out in the Province the most important is the construction of six lighthouses on points of the coasts which were noted for the danger they caused to mariners. That on the Alguada reef, off the mouth of the Bassein river, occupied four years in building, and cost 100,000*l.*

British Burmah has since 1864-65 placed at the disposal of the General Government of India 175,000*l.*, and in 1868-69 alone the remittance was expected to amount to 335,000*l.*

The still further development of the resources of the Province is only retarded by the absence of roads. Everything is done to attract emigrants. They are exempt for five years from the capitation tax, they get grants of land on the easiest terms, and yet the inhabitants number only 40 to the square mile, and the area of uncultivated waste land is enormous.

Lord Dalhousie, when he visited the Province in 1852-53, saw the necessity for the vigorous prosecution of a system of roads, and the roads between Rangoon and Meaday, Rangoon and Pegu, Martaban and Toungoo, Maulmain and Mergui, were all selected by him as urgently required for the improvement of the country; but the mutiny of 1857 interrupted their construction, and up to the present not one of them has been completed.

British Burmah extends along the eastern shore of the Bay of Bengal from the Chittagong division of the Lower Provinces to the kingdom of Siam in 10° N. lat., and is naturally divided into four portions:—

(1.) A narrow strip of country between the Bay of Bengal and the summits of a chain of mountains and hills forming the Aracan-Yoma range, which terminates at Cape Negrais. Aracan extends along this slope from the Náf estuary, which divides it from Chittagong to the Keintalee River, where it joins Pegu.

(2.) The valley of the Irrawaddy between the summits of the Aracan-Yoma and the Pegu-Yoma, the latter being a range of low hills in the centre of Pegu seldom rising to 2,000 feet in altitude.

(3.) The valley of the Sittoung between the Pegu-Yoma and the Poug-loung mountains which divide Pegu from independent Karennee.

(4.) The valley of the Salween with its tributaries on both banks, including the Yonzaleen on the right and the Thoungyeen, Gyne, and Attaran valleys on the left. These, with the Tenasserim River and a long strip of coast ending at the Pakchan stream, are in the Province of Tenasserim.

Owing to the nearness of the range which bounds Aracan there are no large rivers. The Koladyne or Aracan river, at the mouth of which is Akyab, is navigable for 50 odd miles by vessels of 300 or 400 tons burden. The entrance to it is dangerous for ships of heavy burden, the channel being narrow, and the depth at

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low-water springs shallow. The soil is mainly alluvial; the rocks are composed of a dark brown sandstone, black gneiss, and brown or grey clay slate, and towards the southern portion basalt is plentiful. Except a small quantity of iron and limestone, there are no mineral productions of any value.

Valley of  
the Irra-  
waddy.

The valley of the Irrawaddy unites at its lower end with the valley of the Sittoung to form an extensive plain stretching from Cape Negrais on the west to Martaban on the east. The northern boundary line which separates the British possessions from the territory of the king of Burmah, and which is marked by a line of stone pillars, leaves the Aracan hills at a point called "the ever visible peak," and running due east it passes the Irrawaddy at its fiftieth mile, and 43 miles further the Pegu-Yoma range; thence after 33 miles it crosses the Sittoung, and finally loses itself in the Poug-loung range 13 or 14 miles further east. At the frontier line the Irrawaddy valley from chain to chain is 80 miles broad, rugged, and unfit for regular cultivation, but as it flows south the hills recede, and the valley becomes a broad rich plain, the richest portion of the whole Province. The valley of the Sittoung, divided from the Irrawaddy valley by the Pegu-Yoma hills, and from the Salween on the east by the Poug-loung range, somewhat resembles the former, but is narrower and less productive.

## Rivers.

The Irrawaddy flows for 660 miles before reaching the British possessions, and afterwards its waters roll on in the same, generally southern, direction for 240 miles to the sea. As it nears the coast it divides, converting the lower portion of the valley into a network of tidal creeks. The most important towns on the main river in British territory are Thayetmyo, Meaday, Prome, Henzadah, and Donabew. Bassein is on the western branch of the delta; Rangoon is on the Hleing or Rangoon river, the eastern branch of the delta. The Sittoung enters British territory north of Toungoo, and flows past Toungoo, Shwè-gyee, and the town of Sittoung. The meeting of the tidal wave of the Indian ocean arriving from the south-west, and of other portions of it borne from the south-east along the Tenasserim coast, produces a bore, which, with a curling crest nine feet high, sweeps up the Sittoung river; its effect, broken by the river's curve below the town of that name, being yet felt at Shwè-gyee.

The valley of the Salween is British territory only in its lower portion. The Salween, though a large river, is not navigable beyond 100 miles from its mouth owing to its rapids. Maulmain, the capital of Tenasserim, is situated at its mouth.

The surface of the country in Tenasserim is mountainous, thinly populated, and much intersected by streams. The Tenasserim river rises in about 16° N. lat., and flowing south between the grand boundary range and a smaller one which runs parallel to it, turns west after passing the ancient town of Tenasserim. It is navigable for large ships for some distance, and for boats for 100 miles.

## Area.

The total area of the Province is 93,879 square miles, of which Aracan has 18,528; Pegu, which includes the Irrawaddy valley and the valley of the Sittoung on its right bank, has 36,454; and the Tenasserim division which takes in the left bank of the Sittoung. In magnitude, therefore, the whole Province approaches the kingdom of Italy, while Pegu the most important of the three divisions, is almost equal in size to Portugal.

Of the total area of 93,879 square miles, 3,044½ are cultivated, which is only 7 per cent. of the culturable area, 38,195 square miles. In Pegu alone there are no less than 17,000 acres of uncultivated waste land which only requires population to become as fertile as any in the world almost. Last year the grants and sales amounted to 44,025 acres out of 20,089,685, or about 0·2 per cent., a rate which would bring the land fully under cultivation in 500 years.

Communica-  
tions.

The communications throughout the Province are mainly by water. Steamers ply on the Irrawaddy between Thayetmyo, Prome, Myanoung, Henzadah, and Rangoon, and a small steamer runs from Bassein to Rangoon. There is steam communication all round the coast from Calcutta to Akyab, thence to Rangoon and Maulmain; and from Maulmain a small steamer runs once a month south to Tavoy and Mergui. The only canal in the Province is one which connects the Pegu and Sittoung rivers.

## Roads.

Notwithstanding the comparatively large revenue of the Province there are, as has already been stated, but 655½ miles of road altogether, of which 124 are first class and 374½ second class.

## Climate.

The climate is warm, moist, and depressing, and in some of the forest tracts it is during the monsoons, and for some time after the cold weather has set in, deadly



On the coast, however, and on the frontier it is not an unhealthy climate. The rainfall varies considerably from 253·15 inches at Sandoway to 48·50 inches at Prome. In May the thermometer ranges from an average of 76 $\frac{7}{8}$ ° F. at sunrise to 88 $\frac{3}{4}$ ° F. at midday; in December from 65° to 80°.

An expedition was despatched during the past year under the leadership of Major Sladen, political agent at Mandalay, to endeavour to penetrate into Yunan via Bhamo. The expedition left Mandalay on the 13th January 1868, and returned to that place on the 15th September following.

The chief objects for which the expedition was sent, were to discover the cause of cessation of the trade formerly existing by these routes, the exact position held by the Kakhyens, Shans, and Panthays with reference to that traffic, and their disposition or otherwise to resuscitate it; as also to examine the physical conditions of the routes.

The Panthay rebellion against the Chinese authorities was the primary cause of the cessation of trade by the Bhamo routes, which as late as 1855 (the date of the rebellion) was nearly half a million of pounds sterling, and all previous history of this line of commerce with which we are acquainted proves beyond doubt that there exists an important field for trade in these localities. The knowledge, too, acquired by the mission assures us that the parties most interested in this commerce desire a revival of the trade. Major Sladen succeeded only in reaching the frontier town of Yunan (Momein), the disturbances in the interior of the country precluding his proceeding further. It would, doubtless, have been very interesting from some points of view had the party succeeded in reaching Tali, the head quarters of the Panthay Government; but it certainly appears that the Panthay authorities whom Major Sladen met at Momein were of sufficient importance and position to render their views and opinions a safe criterion of the favourable feeling of the Panthay Government towards the resuscitation of trade.

The expedition having only reached Momein, Major Sladen has refrained from speaking with any authority in his report regarding the trade statistics of Yunan. All the information, however, that he was enabled to give most fully corroborates the reports of the mineral wealth of Yunan, as also the wealth of the neighbouring Provinces of Szechuen and Kwei-chau, and their trade in tea, silk, rhubarb, tobacco, sugar, hemp, oil, varnish, and other commodities, and their capacity to consume European manufactures, a large proportion of which trade we shall gain when once the route by Bhamo is fully re-opened. Mr. T. T. Cooper, in his late endeavour to travel from China via Thibet to India, in a letter to the "North China Daily News," from a place named Tai-Tsian-loo on the western frontier of China, fully confirms the importance of the resuscitation of the trade by Bhamo. In it he states that the "present trade between Chung-king and Yunan and Kweichau, is only "temporary (with Hankow on the Yangtsekyang) on account of the closure of the "Bhamo and Tali route, and as soon as this route is re-opened, so sure will "Burmah take to herself the trade of these two Provinces, and if, as is probable, "British merchants establish themselves at Mandalay," (this has already been done), "then a rivalry for this trade between China and Burma merchants seems "almost certain, the result telling probably in favour of the latter, both in exports "and imports. Trade by this route has flourished before, without European "enterprise, and as soon as it is re-established, the trade between Hankow "and Chung-king will be lessened one-third."

There are three principal routes from Bhamo, which, leaving the town of that name on the Irrawaddy, run in a north-easterly direction to Tali, the present Panthay capital of Western Yunan, passing over the Kakhyen hills, then through a narrow belt of Shan States, and joining together at Nantin, proceed on to Momein, the border town of Yunan, whence by Yungchang (the centre of the trade in Western Yunan) the route passes on to Tali. Considerable delay occurred in the Kakhyen hills, prolonging the period of absence of the expedition beyond that which was anticipated, but this is not to be regretted, as it enabled Major Sladen to obtain considerable information regarding the Kakhyens, who, holding the hills, must always form an important element in any scheme for re-opening the route, and has given them an opportunity of learning our real intentions, regarding which they would appear to have been falsely imbued by designing persons.

The three routes above mentioned are valleys pierced through a range of hills lying in a north and south direction, forming a spur of the Himalayan range of mountains, and are named severally, the Northern, Sanda Valley, or Ponlyne route; the centre, Hotha Valley, or Embassy route; and the Muangwan Valley, Southern

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Expedition  
to explore  
the routes  
leading to  
Western  
China via  
Bhamo.

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or Sawuaddy route. From Mr. Gordon's (the engineer officer who accompanied the expedition) report it appears that he considers the Northern route along the Sanda Valley to be the most advisable one as far as physical difficulties are concerned, and that the central or Hotha Valley, for the purposes of a road constructed on scientific principles, cannot compete with either the Northern or Southern routes. He does not speak so confidently of the latter as the former route, as he had not the same opportunities for observing it; but on the whole he is of opinion "that a good road with easy gradients can be made without great expense through either the Sanda or Muangwan Valley." No difficulties greater than are ordinarily met with in constructing hill roads exist in the Kakhyen hills, and the country compares favourably with the Aracan mountains opposite Prome, over which a road has been constructed 100 miles long, 90 of which are in the mountains. The distance between Bhamo and Momein is only 120 miles, and he estimates that by the Sanda Valley route there would be 70 miles of plain land and 50 miles of hilly through which the road would pass, and that as labour and good material for road making are available in the country to any extent that may be required, a road 20 feet wide in the plain land complete might be taken at a cost of 10,000 rupees per mile, and in the hilly land 12 feet wide, with gradients of 1 in 30, completely bridged, should not be over 10,000 rs. per mile; or the road could be made for 1,000 $\frac{1}{2}$  per mile, the whole length of 120 miles costing 120,000 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

Major Sladen reports regarding these routes, that "it would be premature to puzzle ourselves which is the most practicable in an engineering point of view, until we are prepared to entertain a definite scheme of road improvement or even railroad communications, that trade to an almost unlimited extent is now possible by any of the existing routes without reference to their engineering capabilities, and that the determination of either of these three routes as a through-route for general traffic must depend for sanction on questions of policy and general expedience, rather than of special adaptability or physical disqualifications;" and he prefers the Hotha valley, central, or Embassy route to the other two for all present purposes of commerce and communication.

From both the reports of Major Sladen and Mr. Gordon we gather therefore that the present routes are available for traffic by means of mules as formerly, that between Bhamo and Momein no physical difficulties of any kind exist to the construction by one or other of these valleys, of either a road built on scientific principles for wheeled carriages, of a tramway, or of a railway, and that the length of such would only be 120 miles.

The Government of India has sanctioned an Assistant Political Agent being stationed at Bhamo, and his arrival there no doubt will confirm the belief in the reality of our intentions to re-open the traffic, and to maintain communication with the Shan Chiefs and Panthay Government; and also influence the Kakhyens towards giving facilities for safe transit of goods. The Court of Mandalay had, previous to the last treaty, shown great distrust and thwarted all our attempts to send an expedition via Bhamo, as also great jealousy of English steamers plying between Rangoon and Mandalay, but since the ratification of that treaty His Majesty appears to be fully alive to the advantages that must ensue from a re-establishment of the extinct trade, and as far as our steam communication on the Irrawaddy is concerned, the Burmese Government have become accustomed to it, and found from experience its great advantages. Before the beginning of 1867, only four English steamers with merchandise had ever been up to Mandalay from Rangoon, but now there is a regular communication every 10 days to and fro by the vessels of the Irrawaddy Flotilla Steam Company, and the trade has so rapidly increased that steps are now being taken for very shortly establishing a weekly line of communication by large steamers built on the American principle, with beam engines and carrying their own cargoes without flats in tow, and capable of performing the voyage up to Mandalay from Rangoon within seven, and Bhamo nine days, and the down trip in each case in half that time. Any trade, therefore, that may come to Bhamo will certainly pass down the Irrawaddy, and any idea of its being diverted towards Assam through the difficult country between Bhamo and Suda on the Bhramapootra or via Munnipore and Cachar, is totally out of the question. Our trade with Upper Burmah has doubled itself within the last four years, and although, perhaps, immediate results may not flow from our attempts to re-open the old trade route with China and the Shan States, still in a few years, if our efforts are earnest and continuous, we may hope for an extensive and valuable addition to our trade being established.

On our north-eastern frontier are the independent hill States of the Eastern and Western Karennee tribes. The chiefs of the former have always declined having any relations with the British Government, while the latter have been on most friendly terms with us. For some time the frontier has been in a most disturbed state. About three years since, on the death of the chief of Eastern Karennee, the succession was disputed by his two sons, and taking advantage of the confusion that reigned the Zimmay Shans were able to expel this tribe from all occupation of the territory east of the Salween river. Then the Western Karennees, instigated by Prince Myeng-gon, the rebellious son of the King of Burmah, who had taken refuge with them, made an attack in June 1869 on their brethren of the east and were repulsed, and in their turn suffered at the hands of the Burmese troops for the shelter afforded to the Prince, who finally fled into British territory, where after attempting to raise a rebellion he was captured in August last. This state of the frontier interfering greatly with our timber trade at Maulmain, the chief of Zimmay has been called upon to check the disorders on his frontier and the King of Burmah has been requested to cease all interference with the Western Karennee.

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The Karen  
nee tribes.

British Burmah consists of three divisions of very unequal area and population, viz., Aracan, Pegu, and Tenasserim.

Civil divi-  
sions.

Aracan has 18,529 square miles of area and 45,314 inhabitants; in the year under review it produced a gross revenue of close on 200,000*l.* sterling. It is divided into three districts: Akyab, Ramree, and Sandoway.

Pegu is divided into five districts, of which Myanoung is the most populous.

Rangoon.  
Bassein.  
Myanoung.  
Prome.  
Toungoo.

With an area of 33,440 square miles and a population of 1,480,581, or 4.16 per cent. more than in 1867-68, the whole Province produced a gross revenue of 743,993*l.* in 1868-69, showing an increase of 12 per cent. on the previous year. The progress made by this division was, judging from these figures, good, but the land tax fell off, and the increase in the gross revenues is due to an increase in taxes which do not show the real material prosperity of the country. The crying

want is population, for, including in the calculations the large and populous towns of Rangoon and Prome, there are but 40 souls to a square mile.

Tenasserim has four districts, an area of 38,897 square miles, and a population which increased in the year under review from 424,517 to 473,016.

Amherst.  
Shwè-gyeen.  
Tavoy.  
Mergui.

The gross revenues fell off considerably, from 206,220*l.* to 165,363*l.*

The decrease was principally in Amherst.

The total population of the Province numbers 2,395,985, against 2,329,312 in 1867-68, or an increase of 66,673, or 2.86 per cent. By far the largest portion of this increase must be attributed not to births, but to immigration from Upper Burmah and from China.

Population.

The settlement in British Burmah is not on the same footing as in other Provinces of India. Here, though the terms are extremely liberal, it is difficult to get the people to take a five or a 10 years' lease. The rent is calculated according to the productiveness of the land, its distance from a market for the sale of its produce, the facilities for conveying the produce to such market, and the local price of the produce. With a few exceptions, all landholders are proprietary cultivators, paying separately and direct to Government. The average holding is very small, about 1½ acres. The rate of assessment varies from 10*s.* annually in some parts of Amherst to 6*d.* in some parts of Sandoway, Myanoung, and Toungoo. Were there numerous roads throughout the Province cutting the country in every direction as there are in other parts of India, the rates per acre could in many cases be raised, and the land revenue be largely increased.

The land  
settlement.

The revenue of the Province is derived from direct and indirect taxes; the indirect are the customs, excise, &c., and the direct are the land tax, capitation or poll tax, and the taxes on fisheries, salt, and forest produce.

The principle upon which the land tax is levied is as follows: the Province is divided into divisions, the divisions into districts, the districts into townships, the townships into circles, and the circles into tracts of country called "quengs," and these last constitute the smallest portion upon which a separate rate of assessment is fixed. The land revenue demand in the year under review was 309,563*l.*, showing a small falling off of 46*l.* from the previous year.

Land tax.

The capitation or poll tax is taken from all men who are less than 60, but more than 18 years old, married, men paying twice as much as bachelors or widowers. The general rate is 10*s.* annually for the one and 5*s.* for the others; but in some places they are as low as 4*s.* and 2*s.* Government exempt from the tax all females,

Capitation  
tax.



## STATEMENT SHOWING THE MORAL AND

BRITISH BURMAH. their own servants, religious teachers, students, and schoolmasters, all who are unable to earn a livelihood, and all emigrants for the first five years after they arrive in the country. In some towns a land assessment is levied in lieu of the capitation tax from which Government servants are not exempt. The demand for the year was 225,714*l.* or 5,500*l.* more than in 1867-68.

Fishery tax. The tax on fisheries is levied in two ways, on nets or traps used, and by the sale of the fishery or pond. They are sold annually, not to the highest bidder, but at a fair valuation, and if possible, to the villagers residing near the fishery. The right of catching fish for sale does prevent any one from catching fish for his own consumption or that of his family. The demand from this source was 61,111*l.*, or 7,200*l.* more than in 1867-68.

Salt tax. The salt tax is levied upon the pots employed in the manufacture, earthen pots holding about six gallons being charged for at the rate of from 1*s.* 6*d.* to 1*s.* for the year, and iron cauldrons at the same rate according to capacity. This is a small source of revenue, the demand being 11,000*l.* only, which, however, is more than double that of two years ago.

Revenue. The total amount of the revenue demand under all heads is given in the following table:—

Revenue demand.	Items of Revenue demand.	Total demand for 1866-67.	Total demand for 1867-68.	Total demand for 1868-69.	Increase in 1868-69.	Decrease in 1868-69.
	1. Land, including collection on bees' wax, edible birds' nests, &c.	£ 306,687	£ 309,609	£ 309,563	£ —	£ 46
	2. Fisheries	52,627	53,903	61,111	7,208	—
	3. Salt	5,308	8,753	11,082	2,329	—
	4. Capitation tax and land assessment in lieu	215,120	220,242	225,714	5,472	—
	5. Excise, including net profit on sale of opium	87,685	93,000	111,184	18,184	—
	6. Customs, including fines and confiscations	120,415	201,266	289,972	88,706	—
	7. Marine	5,061	4,206	6,344	2,138	—
	8. Forest revenue, including excise on foreign timber	55,186	75,669	105,713	30,044	—
	9. Stamps, revenue and judicial	38,158	42,843	53,471	10,628	—
	10. Postage stamps	5,599	7,009	10,590	3,581	—
	11. Assessed taxes	—	13,759	9,822	—	3,937
	12. Gaol manufactures	4,068	9,533	10,716	1,183	—
	13. Coast lights	—	3,543	5,602	2,059	—
	14. School fees	317	451	—	—	451
	15. All other items	22,539	19,674	20,110	436	—
	Total	918,770	1,063,360	1,230,994	171,968	4,434

It will be seen that there was the large net increase of more than 167,000*l.*, that the increase under the head customs alone was 88,000*l.*, and that the forest revenue produced 105,713*l.*, or 30,000*l.* more than in 1867-68.

Of the total demand, 1,189,708*l.* was realised at the close of the year. Of the outstanding 26,950*l.*, owing to damaged crops and murrain among cattle, it was proposed to remit no less than 14,336*l.*

Legislative. The Administration of British Burmah has no legislative power of its own; it is legislated for by the Council of the Governor General for making laws and regulations, to whom during the year no Bills relative to it were submitted. The framer of the Administration report represents that the circumstances of British Burmah are in many points so utterly different from those of any other Government in India that local *laws* (not local rules which are subject to vacillation) duly passed by the Council, but affecting only Burmah, are much wanted.

In the two towns of Rangoon and Maulmain civil and criminal justice is administered by town magistrates and recorders. Beyond the limits of these two towns the Commissioners of divisions, Deputy Commissioners of districts, and Assistant and Extra Assistant Commissioners are the officers who administer justice. The total number of judicial officers in British Burmah is 183.

The real criminality of the population is shown by the non-bailable offences, which increased from 7,456 to 8,114, or by 8.82 per cent., the population having increased by 3.22 per cent. only. The increase was unequally spread over the Province. As to the general disposal of all non-bailable offences, 53 per cent. of those ascertained to have occurred were brought to trial, against 49 per cent. the



previous year, while the proportion of persons convicted to those brought to trial receded from 62 to 60 per cent. The total number of punishments (chiefly fines) was 18,656, against 17,830 in 1867. 16 persons were sentenced to death.

The total number of decrees passed in the Civil and Revenue Courts, superior and subordinate, was 19,317. It is important to notice the extent to which arbitration is resorted to. In a large number of disputes the people prefer to have their differences settled in their own village by their own village elder, to proceeding some distance to a Civil Court to file a plaint. They have been accustomed for ages to trust to these arbitrators (who receive a fee), and they are content with their awards, which are as binding to them as any Civil Court could make them.

The Chief Commissioner considers that on the whole the working of the various courts has improved, but that the courts of the lowest grade are in need of still further improvement. The judges are selected from amongst the most influential of the people, for an aristocracy, as usually understood, there is none, and like most Burmans they have little other education than that which they received as boys in some Buddhist monastery, and that which they have received by contact with the world. They are indeed obliged to pass examinations, but they do not understand what they learn and have little or no power of applying it. Improvement can only come from the spread of education, in a word, by the spread of civilisation in its broadest sense.

One of the great wants of British Burmah is stated to be a Judicial Commissioner, as already possessed by Oude and the Central Provinces. At present the Chief Commissioner, in addition to his many duties and responsibilities as chief executive officer, is, as chief judge, frequently a judge in his own cause, having to determine many points which intimately affect the revenue and the well-being of the Government for which he is responsible.

The number of prisons was the same in 1868 as in 1867, viz., two central gaols at Rangoon and Maulmain, one first-class and five second-class district gaols, and seven lock-ups. The total number of persons confined in them, including, as well as prisoners, lunatics for whom at present there is no asylum, and persons awaiting trial, rose from 3,510 to 4,156. A lunatic asylum is now being constructed at Rangoon. The gross expenditure was 25,324*l.*, or about 200*l.* less than in 1867, but a large increase in the profits arising from gaol labour reduced the net expenditure to 18,709*l.*, and the average of cost of each prisoner from 5*l.* 13*s.* 9*d.* to 5*l.* 0*s.* 5*d.*

Prisons.

These results are satisfactory, and it may be added that though several of the gaols were overcrowded the health of the prisoners remained very good; and that fewer escapes and outbreaks, and perhaps a somewhat severer discipline would have left nothing to be desired.

The sanctioned strength of police is 5,681. In 1868 the numbers who were discharged at their own request was 1,303, or so much as 22 per cent.; the number of policemen punished by the magistrates increased from 3.2 to 4.3 per cent. It is hoped that the better wages now offered to constables may introduce something like permanency in the service, and may introduce a better class of men.

The police schools are not kept up to teach men to read and write, but to instruct them in their police duties. The standard of education in British Burmah among the ordinary population is far higher than in India; there is no conventional distinction between the arms-bearing and the education classes.

The revenue derived from nearly every department of the Government service increased largely during the year under review. While the total revenue of 1867-68, exclusive of Port Blair, was 1,156,685*l.*, in 1868-69 it amounted to 1,266,493*l.*, being an increase of 109,808*l.*; the charges against revenue, cost of collection, &c. amounted to 157,378*l.* in 1867-68; in the year under review they were 168,084*l.*, or about 11,000*l.* more. The actual expenditure in the two years was 738,558*l.*, and 727,771*l.* respectively, and the net surplus for 1868-69 was 370,638*l.*, or greater by 110,000*l.* than in 1867-68. The most costly items of expenditure were "Law and Justice" (209,303*l.*), "Police" (134,558*l.*), and "Public Works" (253,674*l.*).

Finance.

The total allotment for public works was 303,300*l.*, against which an outlay was incurred of 253,674*l.* on imperial, and 26,215*l.* on local works, and the total expenditure was less than the total grants by about 23,000*l.* The principal heads of imperial outlay were military works, &c., civil buildings, and communication, which divided equally 177,000*l.*, and the sum

Public works.

Imperial	-	237,000
Local	-	66,300
Total Grant	-	£303,300

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BURMAH.

of 26,608*l.* was spent on agricultural works. The excess outlay on imperial works was mainly due to a reduction made in the Budget towards the close of the year.

A fully detailed project for the construction of a railway between Rangoon and Prome was submitted to the Government of India, and was under their consideration. For a portion of the distance two alternate lines were proposed, one lying to the west of the Pegu-Yoma range, and the other skirting the western bank of Hlein or Rangoon river. This latter line would also serve as an embankment, shutting out the floods of the river to westward, and would form a portion of the general proposal for the reclamation of vast areas of country lying to the east of the Irrawaddy. The line would be about 166 miles in length, and its estimated cost is about 1,500,000*l.*

**Agriculture.** The principal crop is rice, of which there were 1,667,262 acres, or about 15,000 acres less than in 1867-68. The decrease took place in Akyab, Sandoway, Amherst, and Mergui. In Sandoway there were 25 acres of mulberries, which apparently are not grown elsewhere, though silk is made in Prome. In Akyab there are 100 acres on which tea is grown, and the tea is of very good quality. There is a very small amount of indigo cultivation, 133 acres.

Notwithstanding the murrain the number of cows and bullocks increased from 388,190 to 419,887.

The price of labour has varied but little; the wages of skilled workman is as high as 4*s.* a day in Akyab and Toungoo, and as low as 1*s.* 4*d.* in Shwè-gyeen. Unskilled labour is about 2*s.* a day in Rangoon, but the average is from 1*s.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*

**Mines.** The only mines of any importance in the Province are the tin mines in the Mergui district. There is no doubt that Mergui is the richest district for minerals throughout British Burmah, and tin mines would be very remunerative if properly worked; but, as yet, excepting the Chinese, no speculative people have entered the field.

**Manufactures.** The principal manufactures in British Burmah are silks, which are woven in the Prome district, where also is manufactured very good lacquered ware. The markets are for the most part in Aracan, Tenasserim, and the Straits Settlements.

**Trade.** The total value of the trade of the Province during 1868-69 was 10,658,688*l.* against 9,950,987*l.* in 1867-68, an increase of 7.11 per cent. The *seaborne* trade of the year amounted to 8,544,183*l.*; and the *inland* commerce to 2,114,504*l.*, showing an increase of 15.37 per cent. in the one case, and a decrease of 16.92 per cent. in the other.

The large importation of salt from England and the continent of Europe, and the pretty ready market which the article found at lower prices than the home-made salt has hitherto realised, renders it not improbable that the local manufacture will in time be extinguished, as it has been along the seaboard of Bengal. Should this take place, the salt manufacturers will soon find abundant means of utilising their labour in this sparsely populated country, while this new and important source of freight for ships which now come to British Burmah in ballast to load with rice will doubtless lead to a reduction in the rate of freight, and place the staple of the Province in a better position to compete with the product of Cochin China and Siam.

The falling off in the inland trade through Thayetmyo and Toungoo with Upper Burmah and the Shan States does not imply that the commerce with countries beyond our frontier is declining. The year 1867-68 was altogether an exceptional one. Upper Burmah just restored to quiet, and impoverished by the rebellion which had for some time devastated the country, required more than the usual supply of goods of European manufacture, and a large quantity of rice; while with regard to imports, there can be no doubt but that produce accumulated in the hands of the people during 1866, and that immediately the country became settled every means was adopted for speedily bringing it to market.

With the commencement of 1868-69, a weekly line of steamers was established between Calcutta and Rangoon, running *via* Akyab every alternate week, with an extension to the Straits Settlements once in four weeks. The number of letters, &c. received was 631,675, against 535,954 in 1867-68, and the number despatched increased from 541,854 to 634,337.

## MATERIAL PROGRESS

178 schools receive aid from Government, and Department; and there are 272 unaided school mission schools. The progress has on the whole been

A return presented to Parliament in 1869 shows that had taken up the question of the conservancy and and that the Secretary of State had acquiesced in an officer who had given his special attention to pisciculture. Much valuable information regarding the fisheries of the country has been investigated and report upon the fisheries of the Indian subcontinent. The presentation of this return have been received two interesting reports, Dr. Day, in which he gives the results of his examinations of the fresh water fisheries of Orissa and the Midnapore district, and of a visit made subsequently to Upper Burmah for the same purpose.

As Buddhists the Burmans have a religious horror of taking life, and animals, but they reconcile themselves to the indulgence of their fish diet by throwing the blame on the fishermen, whom they doom to feed in a future state. The value and importance of the fisheries of the country is manifested by their producing a revenue to Government of 54,000 Rs. the shape of licenses and rents, and by the value of the dried fish. Lower to Upper Burmah, which in 1868-69 amounted to no less than 10,000 Rs. and this was about 10,000% less than in 1867-68.

In Aracan the fisheries are insignificant, the rivers are few and the area of fresh water small. It was to the province of Pegu that Dr. Day directed his attention, and his investigations extended as far north as the Irrawaddy and were carried through the numerous creeks and offshoots of the Irrawaddy besides, ascended the Pegu river to Pegu, and examined a portion of the river. Fishing is said to be not much carried on in Upper Burmah; there are tanks for breeding, and the rainfall is so scanty that but for the snow-water from the mountains, such cause, which keeps the river full, the fish would not be able to ascend the stream at the proper season to deposit their ova. When the Irrawaddy reaches the frontier, the natural tanks and subdivisions of the stream increase, and become more numerous; the further it flows south, moreover, the more

Pachan in Upper Burmah	-	2	inches.
Thyetuwo in Lower Burmah	-	20	"
Prome	"	47	"
Meanoung	"	52	"
Rangoon	"	110	"

rainfall, which, added to the snow-water from the mountains far away in Upper Burmah, causes the river to overflowing, and fills all the lowlands in the vicinity. As the sea is approached, many branches are distributed; the lakes are numerous nor large, one near Meanoung, seven miles in length and three miles in width, being the most important; and there are many marshes which in the rainy season become useful for fishing stations.

With regard to the mode of letting the fisheries, the amount of rent which is to be paid for each fishery is decided at every successive letting, and the fishery is selected from certain known persons living in the neighbourhood. All fishery laws, nets and traps, and all leases of lakes and ponds, are annual, and terminate on the 30th April, at whatever period of the year they may have been granted. The general public are permitted to take free of charge what they require for their own consumption; certain small creeks also are left free, and it is directed that the fisheries shall be reduced in extent as much as possible to enable the poor to become renters.

Dr. Day finds fault with this mode of letting, and with the total absence of rules for the preservation of the fish. He would substitute letting by auction, as pursued in Madras, and has not that fear that the gambling propensities of the Burmans would lead to reckless bidding which is the reason for the present system. By degrees he would introduce five year leases, while to check the present wholesale destruction of the young fish, into which his report goes at some length, he would forbid the use of nets smaller in the mesh than one inch from knot to knot, and altogether interdict the bunding of rivers for fishing purposes. These, with the appointment of an Inspector of Fisheries with magisterial powers, and two assistants, are Dr. Day's principal recommendations. To conclude with an extract from his report, which illustrates all the faults of the present system. He met a fisherman who "formerly cultivated tobacco and rice, but who, as soon as he obtained

**T SHOWING, &c.**

He rents by the year, and his weir is intended to  
ne water, and lets nothing escape. This fisher-  
said, if any regulation were made making one inch  
boos forming weirs, he should require a decrease of  
ne must work good, but remarked that as he was  
ll he could, because next year the fishery might be

**W. N. STURT.**