

EAST INDIA (PROGRESS AND CONDITION).

STATEMENT

EXHIBITING THE

MORAL AND MATERIAL PROGRESS AND CONDITION

OF

INDIA,

DURING THE YEAR 1872-73.

(PRESENTED PURSUANT TO ACT OF PARLIAMENT.)

*Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
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P R E F A C E.

THE statement exhibiting the moral and material progress and condition of India for 1871-72 was the first of a new series. It was arranged on a plan by which an inquirer might obtain, by the perusal of one section, a good general knowledge of what had taken place during the year under review in connection with any subject in which he might be interested. It was thought that a knowledge was required, not so much of the general proceedings of the different local governments, as of the progress that had been made throughout British India in improving the condition of the people and in providing for their moral and material wants. In commencing a new series it was thought necessary to give a concise account of the previous history of administrative measures connected with such subjects as land revenue, irrigation, and some others, so that, during the perusal of future statements similarly arranged, there might be ready means of reference to a fuller account of any measure or undertaking the yearly progress of which might be recorded. This plan provides a place for every subject or section of a subject, and so long as it is closely adhered to in future statements the progress under any given head may be traced throughout the different years without any trouble.

It is necessary that the first of a series designed on this plan should be complete as regards the provision of a place for every important section of the great subject of which the statement treats. This could hardly be successfully achieved at the first attempt; and there were shortcomings and omissions in parts of the statement prepared for 1871-72. It was, therefore, decided to make the statement for 1872-73 a second edition of that for 1871-72; so that the former will, in fact, be the first of the new series. The meeting of a new Parliament was another reason for this decision.

In the second edition, now presented, the events and administrative measures of 1872-73 are substituted for those of 1871-72 throughout. Nearly the whole has been re-written, and it remains only to enumerate the additions and alterations. The whole subject is arranged, as before, in 15 sections, each treating of a department of administration which is complete in itself, and under one or other of these heads every measure and every event naturally finds its place.

The first section treats of changes and reforms in the Administration, and of Legislation. The additions consist of a further account of the reforms introduced by Sir George Campbell in Bengal, and of a more complete statement of the laws respecting municipalities and of their working.

The financial section contains further information respecting the systems of local taxation, and an account of the currency, especially of the paper currency. The section on land revenue, which was very incomplete as a review of the systems throughout India, has been considerably enlarged. It now contains a much fuller account of the permanent settlement in Bengal and Bahar, and of the recent discussions respecting the settlement of the North West Provinces. An account of the Orissa settlement, and of the waste lands rules, a fuller account of the Oudh settlement, and of the Madras system, including details respecting the method of classing land, and accounts of land revenue systems in Sind, Mysore, and Curg, have also been added to this section; which contains many other additions, and has, indeed, been almost entirely re-written.

The section on agriculture in the present statement commences with information respecting the existing arrangements for the study of meteorology in India. The next subject is the crops, and especially those of the Lower Provinces. Notices are then given of existing means of collecting reliable agricultural statistics; which are followed by an abstract of the important new 'Land Improvement Act.' The paragraphs on agricultural societies, Government gardens, experimental farms, and cotton cultivation have received considerable additions. Then follow accounts of the jute, rhea, hemp, flax, silk, tobacco, Carolina rice, coffee, tea, chinchona, and other special cultivations, of the fisheries, and of horse and cattle breeding.

The sections on irrigation and communications, on forests and minerals, contain

many additions and corrections, and all information on these subjects is brought up to March 1873.

Special care has been given to the new section on trade and manufactures, which has been completely re-written. The balance of trade and the mysteries of exchanges have been explained by the light of Sir Richard Temple's minute of September 1872. Fuller particulars are given respecting the rise of native cotton manufactures and its cause, and the jute trade. Full accounts are inserted of the intercourse of British Indian merchants with Zanzibar and other ports on the east coast of Africa; of the Povindah trade; of the trade with eastern Turkistan and the Palampur Fair; of the various commercial routes from India to Tibet; and such particulars as could be collected of the internal trade of India.

The section on the condition of the people has received many additions. To the account of the census of Bengal has been added those of the census of the North West Provinces, the Central Provinces, Madras, and Bombay. Much fuller particulars are given respecting vital statistics, wages, sanitation, diseases and their alleviation and prevention, and emigration. The section on police and justice has been revised and corrected, and the statistics have been brought up to March 1873.

The section on education has been re-written and arranged on a plan more in accordance with the general system on which the statement is based. The various classes of schools throughout India, referred to in the Despatch of 1854, are now dealt with separately. Their usefulness and influence affect different classes of the community, and, although they form parts of one homogeneous scheme, and are, to some extent, linked together by scholarships, it is thought that the most lucid way of dealing with the subject will be to glance at the condition and progress of each class over all India, instead of, as in the first edition, giving a general summary of the educational work of each province. The paragraphs on missionary work in the statement for 1871-72 brought the subject down to 1873, and, as no later information has been received, they have been reprinted in the present statement.

The political section is entirely new. It is an enumeration of the native states, with a brief account of the treaty rights and obligations of each, of their rulers and history, with some general statistics. The aim is that all may have their due place in the general scheme of the Report. With the object of making this enumeration as clear and intelligible as possible, a classification of the Native States has been adopted, with reference to geographical position, ethnological affinity, and political connection.

The military section is on the same plan as in the statement for 1871-72. The concluding section, on surveys and statistics, gives a general sketch of the origin and progress of the great trigonometrical survey, of the topographical surveys,* of the publishing work done in the office of the Surveyor General at Calcutta, of the system for the supply of instruments, of the work of the Geographical Department at the India Office, and of the materials for the preparation of the statements.

The various subjects are illustrated either by tabulation or by cartographic illustration. The tables, forming an appendix, are intended to illustrate those subjects which are best shown by that method. Such are the areas and population of provinces, the financial statements, the state of trade, the progress of education, and the number and distribution of troops. The maps show the territorial divisions; the rainfall; the systems of irrigation; the railways, lines of telegraph, and light-houses; the reserved forests; trade routes across the Himalayas; the distribution of troops; and the progress of surveys.

CLEMENTS R. MARKHAM.

* Marine Surveys are treated of in the Section on Communications, Revenue Surveys in that on Land Revenue, the Geological Survey in that on Minerals, and Meteorology in that on Agriculture. See pages 88 for Marine Surveys; 23, 26, 28, 30 for the Revenue Surveys; 107 for the Geological Survey, and 34 for Meteorology.

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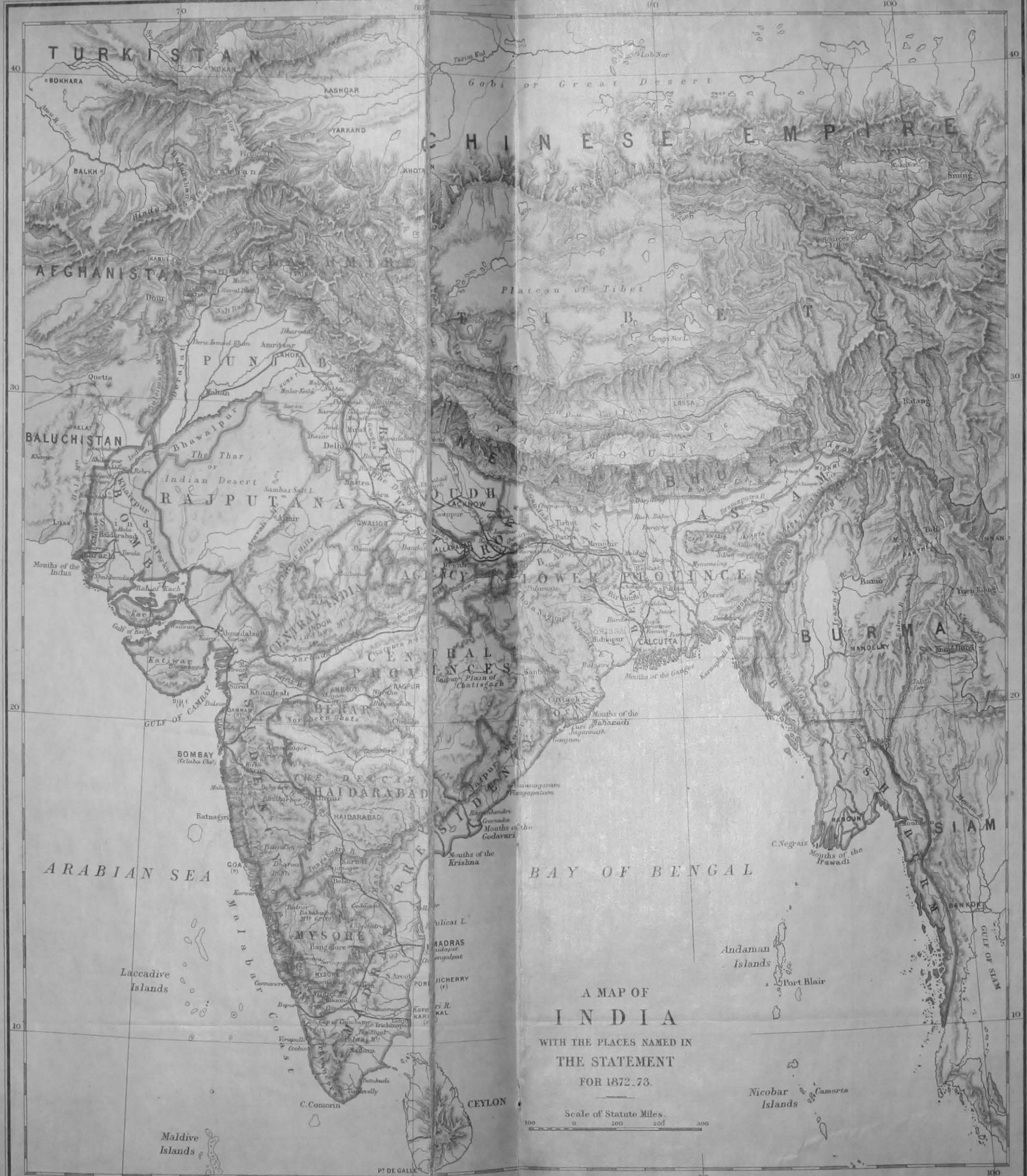
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| No. 1. Area and Population of India. | No. 7. Foreign Trade—Exports: 2. Principal Articles of Foreign Manufacture. |
| No. 2. Revenues and Charges and Receipts and Disbursements of Governments of India for year ended 31st March 1873. | No. 8. Foreign Trade—Imports: Principal Articles. |
| No. 3. Revenue and Charges for year ended 31st March 1873 compared with those of previous year. | No. 9. Coasting Trade for years 1871-3 and 1872-3: Imports and Exports of Bullion and Specie. |
| No. 4. Foreign Trade for the years 1871-2 and 1872-3: Imports and Exports of Bullion and Specie. | No. 10. Coasting Trade—Number and Tonnage of Vessels. |
| No. 5. Foreign Trade—Number and Tonnage of Vessels. | No. 11. Coasting Trade—Exports: Principal Articles. |
| No. 6. Foreign Trade—Exports: 1. Principal Articles of Indian Produce and Manufactures. | No. 12. Coasting Trade—Imports: Principal Articles. |
| | No. 13. Number of Educational Institutions and of Scholars. |
| | No. 14. Distribution of Bengal, Madras, and Bombay Armies for March 1873. |



A MAP OF
INDIA
 WITH THE PLACES NAMED IN
 THE STATEMENT
 FOR 1872-73.
 Scale of Statute Miles.

