Imperial Gensus of 1281.

OPERATIONS AND RESULTS.

IN THE

PRESIDENCY OF BOMBAY,

INCLUDING

SIND.

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J. A. BAINES. F.S.S. OF THE BOMBAY CIVIL SERVICE

VOL I.-TEXT.

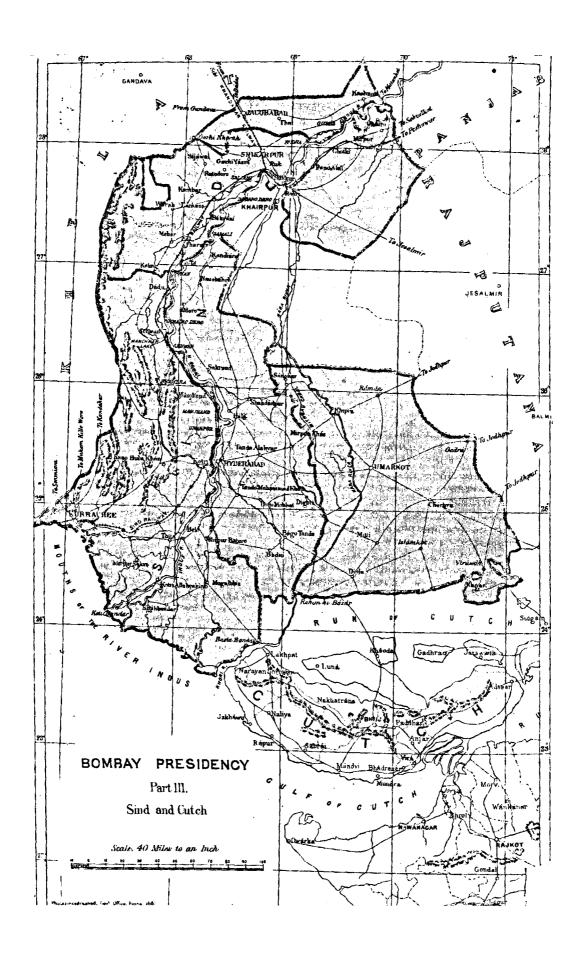
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PRINTED AT THE GOVERNMENT CENTRAL PRESS.

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PREFACE.

An extensive operation like the census entails, when undertaken in this country, an amount of supervision and a minuteness of instruction that would be deemed superfluous in the enumeration of a European population. In the former not only does the whole task of recording the required information fall upon the agency appointed to collect it instead of on the householder who is called upon to furnish is, but in the information itself there are certain features distinguishing it from that returned in the western community which require to be provided for some time before the actual census, or the results collected are sure to be wrong. Thus, though this Presidency is fortunate in the existence of an available staff of enumerators attached to nearly every village, and conversant with all the residents thereof, the very number of these agents necessitates a considerable amount of drilling and supervision before they can be expected to follow the prescribed instructions with complete uniformity. Whatever the degree of detail into which instructions of this special nature attempt to enter, it is futile to hope that they can be framed so as to meet every difficulty that is likely to occur. The solution of such cases, the care that the true purpose of a rule is not distorted by an unintelligent or narrow verbal interpretation on the part of an ill-educated enumerator, and the general provision for the carrying out of the operation in a thorough and efficient manner, are tasks which can only be accomplished through the energy and attention of District officials in the position and with the intimate local knowledge of Collectors, their Assistants, and the Mamlatdars. The success of an enumeration is primarily due to their efforts, for without their cordial and active sympathy a general superintending agency is helpless. This sid has on the present occasion been universally given, and it is to them, then, in the first place, that those responsible for the census have reason to be grateful.

The provision of forms in this country, where there is ordinarily no reason for the maintenance of the machinery requisite for the outturn of so large and various a supply, is a matter of great difficulty, but has been overcome by the exertions and excellent arrangements made at the Government Central Press by Mr. Kingsmill, the Superintendent. Throughout the operations of which these volumes contain the record, he has rendered every assistance, both by valuable suggestions on matters typographical, and by the trouble he has personally taken in furthering the progress of the work through the press, when both his plant and establishment were taxed to the utmost by the demands made upon them for the heavy statistical accompaniments to this review.

I have finally the pleasure of recording my personal recognition of the help I have received in my own share of the task from Mr. J. M. Campbell, Editor of the Provincial Gazetteer, who, with his Assistant, Ráo Sáheb Bhimbhai Kirparám, has supplied me with information regarding caste and other special questions not within the range of ordinary statistics. Also from Professor Forrest of the Deccan College, who took the entire charge of my duties whilst I was absent for three months at a time when the whole of the returns from the Feudatory States were either under revision, or in the press, and who has also assisted me in matters within his own special branch of study. The assistance rendered by the Superintendents of the three Branch offices of abstraction, Mesars. Plunkett, Virprasid and the late Ráo Bahádur Rangráo Bhimáji, was throughout of the utmost value, as by their personal exertions alone could a large body of untrained clerks be drilled into punctuality and systematic work. The task that fell to Mr. Plunkett's share, namely the returns from nine Collectorates, was a particularly burdensome one, as it entailed the employment of an excessively large establishment. I have lastly to mention Mr. Rámchandra Keshav Bágaitkar, whose services were placed at my disposal from the Revenue and General Departments of the Secretariat, and who for two years has been my personal Assistant. His continuous industry and intelligent appreciation of the special character of the work he had to deal with deserve my warmest commendation and thanks.

CORRECTIONS.

Chapter I, page 2-Omit 46:55 opposite Upper Sind Frontier in Column 17 of the Comparative Table.

page 3, para. 2—The tota area is not 123,860 square miles, but 124,123.

For the area of Sind, in the same paragraph, read 48,014 for 47,952 square miles (see note on page 6).

Chapter II, page 41, foot-note, last line but one-Insert "as" before "it has been."

Chapter III, page 45, last para.—The total number of Hindus should be 12,808,582.

- page 48—The number of Muhammadans should be 3,021,131.
 - n page 50. a Christians n 138,317.

(These alterations are necessitated by the revision of the returns for Bombay City.)

Chapter VI, page 107-In the second marginal Table read 'Swedish' for 'Sweden' in column for 'probable language.'

Chapter IX, page 168—The last entry in the tabular statement should be "6.04" not "60.4"

page 172—In the tabular statement the percentage of illiterate in the Panjab should be 93.74, instead of 94.19.

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