## Rare section

Dhananjayarao Gadgii Limrary

GIPE-PUNE-G0059!

# SELECTIONS FROM THE RECORDS OF THE BOMBAY GOVERNMENT. 

No. CXXXIL.--Neiv Series.
$\qquad$
NARRATIVE

OF THE

- BOMBAY INAM COMMISSION,

AND

## sUPPLEMENTARY SETTLEMEXTS,

$B Y$

COLONFG ALFRED THOMAS RTHERIDGE RSI.
BOMBAY STAFF CORF, INA COMMISSIONER, $\mathbb{X} C$.

-     -         -             - $+\ldots-1$

Prefaced by a Sketch of the Extent and Treatment of Alienated Revenue throughout the Presidency from the Introduction of the British Government up to the Present Time, under the various Rules and Regulations in Force in different localities, showing the steps which led up to the Creation of s Special and Trained Department for Investigating Claims to Alienated Revenue in the Dean and Southern Mahratts"Country, and wherein Act XT. of 1852 was required to give place to Acts II. and VII. of 1863 for the fishing and completion of the whole.

Fy Order of His Grace the Duke of Amyl, K.T., Scoviary of Stole joe India (Dispatch No. si, doted th April Rit).

## bombay:

PRINTED AT THE GOVERNMENT CENTRAL PRESS.
1874.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& x(J)=(2231) \cdot m 3 t \\
& 18 t \\
& 5+1
\end{aligned}
$$

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

##  and later anmoxtions excluded. in respect of altenated land'

 revenne, from the common law of the Prestenesת. Luw applicable to the old and new provin....
4. The Inam Commeseion not a Rensmoption Connmisswe
5. Benefit to Inamulars from the eonfimation of thes.
6. Oid grievnuct: arlinsted.
7. Extent of interference in case of bal tithe
8. Possession umaffected by deciaion.

9-11. Description of the word Tnam.
12. Assignments in kind and fees.

1:-1k Llive acquitea for thr Enclish Fast Iudia Company granta in - Lam from tha Nigara and Great Mogul after the namer of the Freneh East India Company.
15. The English retain their Tuams. Smaller grants change hauds

16-18. Greater and smaller chefs play at royalty and make guants. Consequent origia of numerous holdings.
19. Snch holdiags not respectel by the Peishwa, who did not always respect his own griants. Mootalikee stal and its powers There abase :
20. Eifects of hasenof pown on the Inam tenmre Dpinione of eminent Induan Statesmen.
21. Inam tenure, as such, nowhere defined, though exempt tionures are specially deait with by Mr. Elphinstote in geving the effect of law to tho ruleg and regulations of the Presulency in the Code of 1827. Inam propory not private property in auy such sense as to free it from its dutien to the State,
29. Opidions of eminent Indian Stutesmen that Inam lands should sid the public resources.
23. Tenures recognized by the custom of the conntry compared with ordinarily exempt tenares.
24. Conflicting opinions regarding the Inam tenure and right of transfer.
25. Necessity for a special tribunal for regular enquiry into Inams.
*6. Reasons why such enquiry bad hitherto failed.
27. Corresponding state of things in respect to cash alienations.

28-29. Mr. Goldsmid takes up the question and shows the incredible proportion of land aliconated in the collectorates of Dharorar and Belgaun.

30--81 Mr. Goflsmad collects ${ }^{\prime \prime}$ mas fucio evidence that many of the allegen Inams are sumptations holdings, and suggents the atilhzation of the Proma Duftur.
32-34. Fisst Committee of Investigation formed.
35. Euquiry limited to two districts. Afterwamds extended Conrt of Directors express their approlution of the 'just amel

36. Mr. That's tact, abihity and success induce Sir Cearge Clark to take a further ntep in the settement of alienations. The Inam rules pass into liw during the sncceeding reign of lord Falk-- Dand and become Act XI. of 1852, but appicable only to the new provinces.
37-38. No progress inade in the settlement of alienations in the old provinces under Regulation XVII. of 1827 and its snpplements, nor indeed for the next elemen years up to the passing of Act VIl:
: of 1863. The Inam Commission continnes its work for this period up to the passing of Act II. of 1863.
39. Act XI. of 1852 the embodinent in judicial form of rules originated by Mr. Elphinstune in 1819 and constitnting the Inam Code of 1842.
40. Corresponding therewith, the rules of 1842 for the adjudication of cash and grain allowances. These, after the promulgation of Act XI. of 1852, amended aud eularged, so as to be unalogons thercto, and issued in that year as "The amended Rnjes of $18.2 .{ }^{\prime}$
41 The onus probumil full and complete rests with Government in the case of Iuam land under Act XI. of 1852 an it hal dane since 1843. Not so, necessarily, in the case of cash uuder the mented rules of 1842 .
42-48. Act XI. of 1852 explained.
49. This Act approved by the Comty of Directors in lrist aw the hasis for a Madras Inam Commission.
50. The eventual settlement in Madras.
51. The defect of the Bombay Inam Commiswim. A more summary settlement deximble, Part 1 . of the ahicuation congary complete. Part II. brgins.
52. Financid remults of Part I. not shown nt parately, bat included with Part II., which comprises suplementary sctlements.
53. Principle of the Summary Settlement.
54. Titles of Summary Settlement Acts for both old and now provinces.
55--56. These Acts explained.
\$7-58. Thess Aets do not provide for the conression of terminatho Inams into frechold, nor was it considered netesinty in the ofl provinces.
59. Terminable Inan Setuemeut in the new provinces explained.
(6) Results most satisfactory.
(1. Eshended to the old prorinees,
6. Thates mposed finul, except in the case of unsurveyed hand.
63. Iamd settlement with which the Alienation Departruent was diceolly concemed fast approaching completion. Summels issucd.
64. Classification of holdingt rathbled frum the above settlements, with which the Alienation lherertneut was only enhereflly conceraed.
fri - - 1 . Deseription of theso holding and the settronents effected.
72. Cash allowance Summary Sethement axplamed
5-3-74. Pecaliarity of momo of the Gazurat cash allowances. Sutheruents in the okd and new provinces approaching completion.
7\%. Cornect lista for the use of Collecters.
Fiti- Fx. The Poma Duftar.
$3:-82$ Its classiffation and amangement.
 of the opriadions of the Smam Department at a ghance
s7. Redomption of quit-reat not sanctioned, nor likely to be taken advantage of, if sanctioned.
B8. No kegal emartment necerisery to place onfrauchised Inam property mater the jurisdiction of the courts.
6!) Adrantages derived by the Sinte and people from the completion of the Inam enquiry. Simplifeation of revenue ancounts.
100. The future of the Alienation Department.
91. Mr. G. B. Seton-Kare of the Dombay Civil Sorvice aud Sin Jolin Kaye on the subject of 'that grat comfocatory tibumet known as the Jithin Commission of BumZry."
9-93. Refutation.
14. Comelasion.

APPENDICES
from A to Q iurluside,
Beiner fighoct statements exhibiting the resulls of the operations of the Inam It partuent in the several collectorates of the Bombay Presidency.

## APPENDIX R

Exhibits proportions.

## APPENDIX S

Gives the names of the gentlemen who have at any time sedvel in the Inam Commission.

## APPENDLX T

Giver the opinions of afew well-informed district officers as to the effecto of the Imam Commission proceedings after a period of three years,

## APPENDIX A.

${ }_{-}$CLASSIFIED Table shewing the value and present condition after settlement by the Inam Department of all $z$ Tenures of Land and Cash Alienations existing on the Collectorate of Dharwar.

The columne are numbered so as to correspond with abstract statement para. 83.


[^0]
## APPENDIX B.

CLASSIFIED table shewing the value and prescnt condition ofter settlement by the Inam. Department of all Tentires of Land nnd Cas A Alienations existing in the Collectorate of Belguum.

The columps are num leitel so as to correspond with abstract statemont jora. 83


Nora - Acreage onditted because not complete in this collectorate.

## APPENDIX C

CLASSIFIED Table showing the value and present rondition after settement by the Inam Department of all Tenures of Land and Cash Alienations existing in the Collectorate of Inaladgi.

The columns are mumbered so is to corrcspond with abstract atatement para. 83.


Note.-Acreage omitted because not complete in this collectorite.

## APPENDIX D．

CLASSIFIED Table shewing the value and present condition after settlement by the Inam Department of all Tenures of Land and Cash Alicnutions existing in the Collectorate of Sholapur．

The columns are numbered so as to correspond with abstract statement para． 63.

| Class of Tenure． | Land Autirnattons． |  |  |  |  |  | Cask Alimetitons． |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total value o the Govern－ ment books the commence ment of alien ation opera－ tions． <br> Class of hold ings． | Result of operations． |  |  |  |  | Total value on the Govern． raent books at the commence－ ment of alien． ation opera－ tions． | Result of operations． |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Recovered． |  | Confirmed． |  |  |  | Recovered． |  | Confirmed． |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 言 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 启 } \\ & \text { 品 } \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |  |  |
| 1 |  | 3 |  | 4 |  | 5 | 6 | 7. |  | 8 |  | 9 |
| I．Political <br> II．Pers，nal <br> IIL．Dewusthan <br> IV．Wuttun <br> V．Talooka wuttundars whose sarvices have been retained |  | Rs． | $\begin{gathered} \mathrm{Rs}_{\mathrm{R}} \\ 13,410 \\ 3,382 \\ \ldots \\ \ldots \\ \ldots \\ \ldots \end{gathered}$ | Rs．$\ldots$47,8854,662$\ldots$ | Rs． 2，213 <br> 539 <br> 20，331 | Rs． ．．． <br> 321 <br> 71 ．．． $101$ |  | Rs． | Rs．3631,860 | Rs． <br> $\ldots$ <br> 3,738 | $\underset{15,557}{\text { Rs. }}$ | Rs. |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 282 | $\cdots$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | ．．． | 10，138 | $\ldots$ | $\cdots$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\ldots$ | ．．． | 17，450 | $\ldots$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | ．．． | ．．． |  |  |  | ．．． | ．．． | ． |  |
| VI．Village sorrants ．．． |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 69，532 |  |  |
|  |  | 2，13，933 | 16，792 | 75，565 | 23，083 | 493 |  | 27，084 | 2，223 | \＄3，408 | 33，289 | $\cdots$ |

－1

Nore－Acreage ouitted beeause not conplete in this collec orate．

## APPENDIX E.

CLASSIFIED Table shewing the value end present condition after settlement by the Inum Depurtment of all Tenures of Land and Cash Alienations existing in the Collectorate of Satira.

The columns are numbered so as to correspond with abatract statement para. 83.


Nuts-Acreage omittod because not complete in this collectorate

## APPEMDIX F.

CLASSIFIED Tuble shewing the value end mesent conditicn after settlement by the Inom Department of all Tenures - of Trand and Cash Alienations eaisting in the Collectorate of Poona.

The columns are numbered 80 as to correspond with adotract statement para."83.


[^1]
## APPENDIX G.

CLASSIFIED Toble shewing the ralue and mresent condition after settlement by the Inem Department of all Tenures of Land and Cash Aliemations existing in the Collectorate of Ahrondnugar.

The columns are mumbered so as to correapond wath Abstruct Stutement, para. 83.


Note.-A creage omitted because not complete in this collecturato.

## APPENDIX H.

CLASSIFIED Table shewing the value and present condition after settlement by the Inam Department of all Tenures of Land and Cush Alienations existing in the Cullectorate of Ratnagiri.

The columns are numbered so as to correspond with abstract stutement para. 83.


* Inams hell on Nore.-Acreage ouriteal becanse nut complete in this collectorate.



## APPEADIX I.

CLA SSIFIED Tuble shming the vulue and present condition after settoment by the Intm Depatiment of all Tonures of

$\stackrel{\infty}{\sim}$

Norf.-Acrage omitted bocause not complete in this wollcetorate.

## APPENDIX J.

CLASSIFIED Table shewing the value and present condition after settlement by the Inam Departneent of all Tenures of Land and Cash Alienations existng in the Collectorate of Tanna.
The coluansis are ntumbered so as to corrospond with Abstract staiement para. 89


[^2]
## APIENDIXK.

 Land and Cush Alienation's existimg in the Collectrmute of Nistik.


Rots - Acreage omited becauge not complete m this cullectorate

## APPENDIX L.

CLASSIFIED Table shewing the value aud present condition after sttlement by the Inam. Dequartment of all Tenures of Land and Cash Alienations existing in the Collectorate of Khandesh.


Nork - Acreage ountted because not complete in this colles urate.

## APPENDIX M

CLASSITIED Table shewing the value and present condition after eettiement by the Inam Department of all Tenures of Lond and Cash Alienations existing in the collcctorate of Surut．

The columis are numbered so as to correspond wuh Abvtruct Statement pata． 83.

| Cass of Tonure． | Land Alievations． |  |  |  |  |  |  | Cashamienations． |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Tutal value on the Govern－ ment books at the eammence－ mont of aliena－ tion opera． thone． <br> class of hold ings． |  | Result of Operations． |  |  |  |  | Total value on the Guvern－ huent books at the comence． went of alie－ nation opera－ tions． | Result of Operations． |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | Recovered |  | Coufirmed． |  |  |  | Recovered． |  | Confirmed． |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 第 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | 2 |  | 3 |  |  |  | 5 | 6 | 7 |  | 8 |  | 9 |
| I．Pulitical．．． |  |  | $\mathrm{H}_{3}$ | Rs．22919,523 | Rs．$\cdots$$2,46,209$ | Ris． | Rs．$4,476$ |  | dis． | $\begin{array}{\|c} R_{\Omega} . \\ 1,31,888 \\ 4,881 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{c\|c} \text { Rs. } & \mathrm{Ks} . \\ \cdots & 68.718 \end{array}$ |  | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Rs } \\ 4,139 \end{array}$ |
| II．Personal．．．．．．．．．．．． |  |  | 10，785 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 4.334 |  |  |
| III．Dewrathan．．．．．．．．． |  |  | 15，174 |  | ．． |  |  |  | 23 | $\begin{aligned} & 11,268 \\ & 29.454 \end{aligned}$ | － |  |  |
| IV．Wuttua．．．．．．．．．． |  |  | $\stackrel{\infty}{\infty}$ |  |  | 18，172 |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\cdots$ |
| V．Talow wationdars whose serviers have |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| been rotanned．．．．．．．． |  |  |  |  | $\cdots$ |  |  |  |  | ．． |  | ． |  |
| VI．Villageservants．．．．．． |  |  |  |  | 90，233 | ．．． |  |  | 4，383 |  | 42，531 | ． | 899 |
|  |  |  | 71.811 | 119，702 | 3，69，788 | 14，204 | 9，059 |  | 1．04，281 | 1，36，797 | 94，028 | 73，052 | 5.038 |

Nute．－Acreage omitted becullise nut complete in this collecturate．

## APPENDLX N .

CLASSIFIED Table sheming the value and present condition after settlcment by the Twam Dcpurtment of "ill Tenures of Land and Cash Alienations existing in the Collectorate of Brovech.

The columns are mumberel so as to correspond with Abstract Siatement para. 83.


[^3]
## APPENDIX 0

CLASSIFIED Table sheuing the value and priesent cundition after Sotlement by the Inam Department of all Tev.rev of Land and Caxh Alienationse existing in the Collestorate of Kaira.


## APPENDIX $P$.

CLASSIFIED Table showing the valueand present condition after settlement by the Inam Department of all Tcnures of Land and Cash Alienations existing in the Collectorate of Ahmedabad.


Nure.-Arriage onitted becauso ne eumplete in this collectorato.


## APPENDIX $R$.

## STATEMENT showing the Proportion of Land Alienations to Net Land Revenue, and the Percentage of award to District and Village Officers from Net Realisations.



## APPENDIX S.

Showing the Names of tios. Gentlempn who have served in the Inan Comminvion.

| Nione and preseut rank for rawk at date of death or retrement.) | Rank and date of mist eutry. | Pemank. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Hemey Edward goldsmi, C.s. Deconnel. | 16 th June 1843. Nember ot Committen. | Afterwards Chisf Secretary to diovernment. |
| Honourable Whlius Makt, C.S. | 17th Jumary 1844. | Aftersards Inan Commas sirncr, Secretary to Government. Juthe if High Court. Revenue Commssioner, and Member of Legislative Conned |
|  | $18+\mathrm{h}$ Augu4t 184. Asestant Jnam Conume sluner. Frum Politua! Deport. nent. | Afterwards luam Comois. suaner. |
| (aptain Criarles Johin Cibipfity. Derrased. | mind March 1851 Axcistant Lnan Commisshoner | Afterwards Inam Comonis. sioner. |
| Brigadier-Genl. J. W. Schneidrr, C.B. Lejt Dexartinert. | 22nd May 1851 <br> Aserstant Inam Conumissooner. | Afterwards Judye Alwocate General of the Amy, and now Folntical Festent at Aden. |
| Lient.-Culonel T. A. Cowpre. Rettred. | 23 rl May 1551. <br> Asbatant Indm CommisBuact. <br> Frem Public Wroks Dequatmett. | Afterwarila Inam Cempuns. sioner, Rerenue Commismoner fur Abenatume, and Commssment Hyderabad Assigned Enstrict s. |
| Carles Jimps Massun, C.S. | 28th June 18.51. Assistant Inam Commissioner. | Afterwards Inam Cotumssioner and Political Agent. southern Dakiatta Countiy. |
| Colonel A. T. Etheridge, C.S.I. Prearnt Incumbent. | 12th April 1852. Assistant lnam Commis. sioner. From Political Depart mant. | Afterwards Assistant Rerenue Commbsioner, Now Inam Commissoner under Sec. tion 9, Act II. of 18t3, and Alienathen Officer, Deccan and Southern Mahratta Country. In charge of Poona Duitur and Records, 8 . |

## AIPENDIX S-concludnd.

Shouing the Numes of those Gentlemen who hate sered in the Intem
Commission-concluded.

| Name and present rank (or rank at date of death or ruturement.) | Rauk and dute of first entry | Remarks. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Honvmalle Trancts Steart Chapman, C.S. <br> Left Department. | Sard Inne 1852. <br> Assistant Inam Commis. sioner in charse of hak infurs. | Afterwards Collectar of sa. tara, and nuw ("hef Serretary to (ioveromeat and Mforime of Supreme Lexislative som. [cul. |
| Fohster Fitgrimatid Arbethnot, C.S. Left Departmont. | 21st April 1856. Special Duty, Guzerat | Afterwaris Collector of Bunbay. |
| Honourable E. W. Ratevycroft, C.S. Leff Department. | 32th May 1806 Spechal Duty, Guzerat. | Afterwaids Inam fommes sicner, Mandyer Herguah, and now Artug Chef Sicretary to Goverument and Mender of Lfgexhative Comach. |
| Major Petrr Dods Relored. | 22nd Novemior 1856. Assistant Inam Commun sioher. | Afterwarls Inam Cunmis. simer, and Tirector of $1{ }^{1} \mathrm{a}^{1}$ he Instruction in the Cextral Irovinces. |
| Ifonotable Barropy Helbert Ellis,C.S. Left Department. | 25th April $155 \%$. <br> Revenue Cummissinaer for Alienations. | Afterwards Secretary to fio vernmeat, Momber of Chincil Bombry, and now Member of snprenic Goverument. |
| Whiliam Gempge Pedorr, B.A., C.S. Aeft Defartmest. | 14th Felmuary 1859. Special Daty, Guzerat. | Afterwards Inam Cummis. missioner, Mandve Pergunah, Cinmissioner at Aughoion and now Mancipal Cumunsiober, Bombay. |
| James Braitewaite Perlf M.A., C.S. Left Department. | 19th March 1861. Settlement Oxicer, Guzerat. | Afterwarts [uinor Secretary to Gipvenment, Diructor of Public Instructuon. and now Pulitical Agent in Kutthawar. |
| $J_{\text {Ames }}$ Bellot Ruchey, C.S.* Left Department. | 5 th February 1862. Assistant Revenue Commissioner N. D. | Afterwards Culer Socrctary to Government, nod now Ta. lonkdaree Settionert (Hficor, Cuzerat. |
| Edward Hope Privival, C.S. Left Depurtement. | 28th August 1863. Settlement Officer, Gnzerat. | Aitemards Private Secretary to the tiovemon, and now receial pulitual duty. |

## APJENDIX T.

Giveng Questions and Answers referred to in Note \$ pera. 2 of Narrative.

Questions put by Mr. Hart to Mr. Reeves.

Me Reeves' Reply.

Para. 2. To question the first I have to reply that, as far as my knowledge extends, the establishment of the Inam Committee caused no general feeling of alarm, distrust, or discontent in the districts under my control in 1844 . I state this with considerable confidence, because, in the years 1844 and 1845 I was called upon to instituto minute enquirics into the state of the pablic feeling in consequence of the intrigues and risturbances which, you are aware, showed themselves abont the middle of the former year. It is certain, I think, that, if the Inam Committee had then occasioned any such alarm or distrust as you allude to, the fact would have become apparent however disguised its tokens might at first have beon;discontent would have found a mouthpiece either in Belgaum, Dharwar, Kolapore, orSawantwarri. But among the numerons examinations which originated in the course of my protracted investigations, not even a hint was dropped at the Inam Committee.

Para. 3. No such fecling of distrust or alarm has of late sprung up with respect to the Committee.

Para. 4. To the second question I reply that I have no doabt whatever that the summary proceedings of my assistants are culculated to create a much greater degree of discontent than the proceedings of the Inam
ings of the Inam Commismion, so far as the latter bave come under your observation?

3rr. Whether, with the exception of the case of the villages of Badlee and Nurvinhullee (since resumed by orders of Government) and that of Modugay, the Committee has ever adrocated your adoption of summary measures towards Inamdars?

Committee. I find that betreen the commencement of 1840 und the end of April 184.5 huchsive no lews than 167 Inam posiossions were attarhed in the Belgaum collectorate; of these 105 wore attathed previnus $t, 1841$ and twolve sobsequently. No enquiry except what is unually made by a manlutdar appears to have taken place-the possessors were deprived of their holdings, the proceeds of which were annitally realized and put in deposit, pebing fual decision on the several cases, which, until the formation of the Committce, wan simply an event unlikely to happen. This seems well calculatod to cause discontent. I must, however, mention that I ordered the releace of all the-o Inams as soon as ever I heard of them.

Para. 5. To the third question proposed I would observe that, as far as it has come under iny observation, the couduct of the Committee in its very delicate inquiries has betn remarkable for its forbearance and liberal spirit; and I know one instauce only, besides those of the villages named by you, in which summary process was advocated by it towards Insudas. It was that of the third share of the village Gool Hosoor held by the beirs of Chitamber Dixit; but in each of the cases noticed by you prelminary and accurate inquiries had been made which proved the Committee's recommendation to be necossary. In the case of Modugay I myself ordered an attachment in the first instance when I sent you the papers connected with it-while in that of Gorl Hosoor, the share of Mrityoonja Dixit ouly was attached, and that only until he appeared to answer for himedf before the Committee, which had repeatedly but unsuccessfully called on him to attend for that purpose.

4th. Whether the Committee has oot, on the contrary, in some cases suggested the adoption of a milder course than that adopted or contemplated by the ministerial officers of your collectorato, regarding interference with Iuams suspected of being invalid?

5th. Whether the enquiries of the Commission the pecular characteristics of which are its exclusive attention to claims to alienated land and its constant access to a large mass of Government records) are or are not better adapted to ensure full justice being done to the ryots (as well as to Government) than the investigation of their titles by the regular ministerial officers of your collectorate?

Para, 6. In a letter dated July 3rd, No. 257 (of 1846) ardlressed to we by the Inam Committee these words occurred:-
'The attachment of a suspected Inem before the final decision of Gozernment has been pronounced, though of common occurrence, is not a step $I$ should feel dipposed to alrocate except under circumstances of froud.' This is quite coincident with the views expressed by me in a letter which I wrote to the Revenue Commissioner, Southern Division, deprecating the system of summary attachment which had previously been parsned in thus collectorate by assistants to the Collector, and, ennsidered in connection with the course adrocated by the Committee in several instances in which complaints and references were made to it, enables me to answer direct in the affirmative to the 4th question propounded by you.

Para. 7. In regard to tho fifth quertion I would observe that I am unable to conceive how a Collector can be espected to supervise in a satisfactory manner the duties now performed by the Inam Committee, any more than those of the Superintendent of the Revenue Survey and Asressment. I am asserting, I believe, nothing but a truism when I say that Collectors are unable to meet the current exigencies of their offices; but if true of Collectors generally, this is I imagine very palpably applicable to the Collector of Belgaum who to the usual duties of these officers adds those of Political Agent and Commandant of Irregular Horise.

Para. 8. It will take some years before the pressure of business occasioned by several late acts of Govern-
ment will be got over, and by that time other exigencies will probally have occurred. Indeed the business of Collectors seems annually to incresse rather than decrense. There is no hope of their ever being able to uudertake any aduitional duty.

Para. 9. As to Inam enquiries be. ing conducted by Assistant Collectors, I an of opinion that my assistants, even if they were gablied, have no tine for them; and this may be gathered from the circumstance alluded to in my nuswer to the second question. Assistant Collectors, it should also be remembered, are liable to sudden transfer from one collectorate or even district to another, by whioh the local knowlenge and progress grained in one apot would be lost, and Inamdars woull be s.rbjected to much real hardship and injustice.

Para. 10. I am very clearly of opinion that inquiries into doubtful Inams demand the eachasive attention of able persous possessed of abilitits and experience of a peculiar sort; fur not only is their iutricacy frequently excessire and enbarrassing, but they involve an extensive acquaintance with the records and domestic history of late Govermments; at all events I should say that, until he has beeome acquainted with the recorls and - oflicial history of the country, the cleverest man camot posibly do justice either to the Natives or to Goverumert.

Para. 11. The Inams in this collectorate amount to very nearly half of the gross revenue, a proportion oo greatly in excoss of what is elsewhere met with, that it has constanty attracted the attention of Coverninmt. It certainly warrants a surpicion that
nnauthorized possessions are now extensively held. I trust, therefore, that since the establishment of the Collector of Belgaum is so utterly inadequate to undertake double duty of asserting the rights of Government and ensuring a nice and liberal measure of justice to the present holders of these possessions, the Inam Committee which is undoubtedly well qualified for it will continue as heretofore to perform it.

Questions put by Mr. Hart to Mr. Frere.

1st. Whether, during the periods in 1845 and 1846 , in which years you were successively in charge of both the collectorates of the Southern Maliratta Country, you had reason for supposing that the existence of the Inam Commission was the cause of any general feeling of alarm, distrust, or discontent among the inhabitants of the districts under your supervision?

## Mr. Frere's Repiy.

Para. 1. In reply to the first question I have the honour to inform you that the impression I derived from my intercourse with the Natives was that they had no feclings of alarm, distrust, or discontent whatever against the existence of the Inam Committee.

Para. 2. It has been my lot as acting Collector of Belganm to take possession of the villages of Budlee and Nurvinhullee from the Dixits, and as acting Collector of Dharwar to resume Badh (I think, but I have no records to refer to in this latter collectorate, under decisions from Goverument upon reports of the Inam Committee, and I am very certain that both the families affected by these decisions were well satisfied with the justice of them and the liberality with which they were treated by Government, and if since that they or any others hare expressed dissatisfaction it has arisen from the machinations of evil disposed persons and not from their own

2nd. Whether the enquiries of this Commission (the peculiar characteristies of which are the exclusiveness of its attention to claims for alienated land, and its constant access to a large mass of Govemment records) are or are not better adapted to ensure full justice being donc to the Inandars (as well as to Gevernment) than the investigation of their titlos by Collectors or their assistants?

Srmanomus feelinge. I do not thimk thore is may part of the Ionowalile C'in pany's tertitorien in whech the Covernment are held in hagler esteen and confudence than in the Southern Mahatta Country, nim? when we har the inemased intelligence and in formation of cur Native suligets so mumh and wo justly extrillel, ther wemll. I think, lnse their totle to it iv they were mable to apprecint, the liberality as well as juatice of Gowermment, who, when making a strict on puiry into the times of a fow, is at the same time reducing the assesmume now all aromen them.

Sara. 3. In reply to the second question I lave the homontr to inform you that both espertiene and the records of Goceruments show how minth has been done by the Inam Committro which the Collertors and their assistants were unable to do. If Gowernment are inclined to sive up all Inams to the present holders the Committee may as well be abolished, but if Government intend to continue an cuguiry into the tilles, or to allow the tities to he questioned, it can never be done so justly as by an authority whose wholo attemion is directed to the subject.

Para. 4. The peculiar qualifications for carrying on these enquirios as far as my ohservation lead me is an intinato acquaintanco with the Mahratta history (in further detail than is to be found in Grant Duff's most excellent and entertaining work) embracing also a kmowledre of all the different mamluthare amd what their huldings were and whether they held the lands na manintdars or on any other tenure, a fruitful canse if I recollect right of comfusion; a knowlenge a-r of chronolagy aud
contemporary events, more rady and more in detail than any revenue officer could hope to command, with due attention to his other duties, is also, I think, another essential, and for this parpore, as well as to avoid any rash or hasty opinion, a persen enquiring into these titles ought in my opinion to be free from all other duties.

Para. 5. If the Collector and his assistants are expected to enquire into these cases they will, as they have hitherto done, overlook false claims, and should they by chance never rejoct a good title, still tho very inequality and uncertainty of their decisions, though they may bo far more liberal than the presont, will give rise to discontent. A man is well satisfied to forego his clain or resign it with content when be serea that the law or raice and joetice are aggingt him, but the is not so easily satistied when he sees that it was only his luck failed him, and that others with no better title have been more successful-a Commission attending to nothing else would be incxcusable did any appearance of caprice manifest itself in their opinions; all should be consistent with themselves and with one another; Dat such is not to be expected from a Collector or his assistant whose multifarious duties enable them to dispose with much tact and quickness of cases summarily, but renders their means of forming a deliberate judgment very uncertain, and I fear m many cases umsound. ' In saging this, however, I restrict mysclf to judgments including also tho grounds of that judgment and not to opinions in general, which latter may be correct though founded on wrong bases and drawn from false prenises.


1st. Whether the establishment of the Inam Commission caused any genoral feeling of alarm, distrust, or discontent among the inhabitants of the districts under your supervision; or whether any such feeling with respect to it has of late sprong up among them?

> Mr. Mansfleld's Repli.

Para. 2. In reply to your first question I bey to state that I have been employed in this zilla since November 1843, and with the exception of three months in each of the subsequent years havo been living completely in the districta to which the enquirics of the Inam Commiltee have been exclusively confined, aud have had therefore excellent opportunities of becoming acquainted with the feelings of the pepulation towards Government. It is my firm opinion not only that there is no symptom of ill-feeling or dissatisfaction in consequence of the operations of the Inam Committee, but there has been a great improvement in the feeling of the population in fuvour of Government, and in proof that this opinion is the result of my own conviction and not of any feeling in favour of the Inam Committce $I$ send you an extract from my jummabundee report which was written nearly a month ago.

Para. 3. Those individnals whose Inams have been attached or declared life holdings are discontented I have no doubt, and it would be very unnatural if they were not so; but that the discontent extends to the great mass of the population is not the case, and if I received an order to-morrow to attach every Inam in the zilla I should not have the least anxiety regarding the peace of the country or the exhibition of any feeling of general dissatisfaction. The great mass of the population are the ryots, who, with the exception of a few Mussulmans, are all Lingajuts

2nd. Whether the enquiries of this Commission (tho peculiar characteristics of which are the exclusiveness of its attention to claims for alienated land, and its constant access to a large mass of Government records) are or are not better adapted to ensure full justice being done to the Inamdars (as well as to Government) than the investigation of their titles by the Collector or his assistants?
and would be perfectly indifferent. As for the village and district officers they would be delighted, for it would give them an excuse to follow the example of Government and resume large portions of their wutton lands alienated to Inamdars by their ancestors, as from these alienations they are, as a class, reduced to extreme poverty. I have received frequent petitions from these officers to be allowed to resume these lands.

Para. 4. Among the Inamdars themselves I belive dssatisfaction against the Inam Committee to be confined entirely to those who have their Inams attached, for I recollect meeting in last February an Innmdar while out riding and on asking him what he thought of tho proceedings of the Committee he said at once they were perfectly just-that all Inamdars who were entitled to their Inams had been confirmed in them, and only those who had surreptitiously obtained them had suffered.

Para. 5. In reply to your second question, I beg to state I have served in the Poona, Tanna, and Belgaum zillas. The revenue and magisterial current duties in those collectorates are as much as the Collector and three assistants can barely get through; but it seldom happens that the Collector has his full complement of assistants and it is only by the zeal of public servants that the current duties are performed, very frequently they are very much in arrears, and, therefore, every extra duty is postponed ad infinitum. In proof of this the records of Government can show the difficulty which always occurs when any detailed enquiry or investigation of nameroas claims is ordered, the number of
circulars issued calling for the statements of losses sustained by individuals by the alolition of the transit and town duties, and how frequently the statements are returned in consequence of the imprefect information they contain owing to the Collector being unable to afford time to make a proper investigation. In this zilla there are two descriptions of chamants for losses sustained by the abolition. of the trausit duties. A satisfactory enquiry and settlement could have becu made by any revenue officer of experience in two montha, and yet, thongh nine years have elapsed since the abolition took place, the enquiry his not been brought to a close. $\Delta$ gain, Government ordered in $1833^{\circ}$ an enquiry into the warshasuns of this collectorate, but no progress whatever has been made in it, and nono will be until some officer distiact from the collectorate is appointed to enquire into them. Meantime, Govermment are losing annually largo sums by the enquiry being diferrod.

Para. 7. A person to conduct an investigation into theae Inams requires expericuce, it is also necessary he should be intimately acquainted with the history of the furmer Government and its records and ho should always have access to the latter. A Collector and his first assistant might have sufficient experience but they could not afford time to make themselves acquainted with tho history and records of the former Government; but supposing they had time their other duties require them to be constantly travelling in the districts and therefore they oould not have access to the records unless they carried them about with them which it is olviously impossible they could do.

Questions fet by Mr. Hart to Captain Wingate.

## Captain Wingate's Reply.

1st. Whether the proportion of land in the Southern Mahratta Country alienated as Inam, \&c., is so great as to make it advisalle that Government should continue to appropriate exclusively for the investigation of the titles by which such land is held an establishment such as that of the Inam Commission; or, whether the Collectors or their assistants could, in addition to their carreat ministerin duties, also complete, with justice to Govermment and the ryots, all the invertigation regarding alienated lands which may to requisite?

Fara. 2. In roply to scur first question I beg to state that in my opinion the vary large proportion of land alienated in the Southern Mahratta Cometry, amounting I imagine to nearly a half of the whole province, and held in great part on defective tille according to common report, the correctness of which has heen proved by the enquiries hitherto made, make it most adrisable that Government should continue to appropriate exclusively for the investigation of the titles by which such land is held an establishment such as that of the Inam Commission. The Collectors and their assistants hare already difficulty in getting through with the current duties of their respective charges, and it wonld, I am assurod, be quite impracticable for them to conduct the enquiries in question. And were the case otherwise, the enquirers themselves require for their successful prosecution peculiar qualifications and a familiar acquaintance with the records and usages of the former Governments, which it would be unwarrantable to expect in any officer whose principal duties lay in somo other direction. Many other objections to the prosecation of enquiries into these Inams by any other than a department constituted for the express purpose suggest themselves; bat without detailing these, I may state my opinion, that in no other way could they be satisfactorily completed, so
and a due regard to the interests of Government.
2. Whether the establishment of the Inam Conamission caused ang general fecliug of alarm, distrust, or discontent among the inhabitants of the districts under your supervision; or whether any such feeling with respect to it has of late spruvg up among them?

Para. 3. To your second question I have to reply, that, as far as I am aware, no gencral feeling of alarm, distrust, or discontent among the inhabitants of the districts under my supervision was occasioned by the establishment of the Iuan Commission or has since sprung up in consequence; and I do not conceive it possible that such should exist without my being aware of it. And more than this, so completely the recerse is: the fact, that I have no hesitation in affirming the population generally to be better disposed to our Government at this moment than it was during any part af the period intorvening between our conquest of tho province and the introduction of the combined operations for the revision of assessment and settlement of Inams which form the objects of the present survey.

Para, 4. I have little doubt of there being land held as Inam in the Southern Mahratta Country upon fraudulent and defective title, which undor Government management would yield a revenue exceeding two lacs of rapees per annum, and I am at a loss to conceive a sufficient reason in the circuinstances of the case for Government relinquishing so important a resource at a time when the execution of public works adraitted to be of the utmost importance is avowedly deferred from financial considerations. The Inamdars as a body do not cultivate their own lands, and are by no means either liberal or indulgent landlords. Their tenants' would generally rejoice to hold thir lands of Government direct; so that it is difficult to imagine in what way an engairy into the titles or resumption of the lands of Inamdars conll uccasion ill-feeling amoug the general

[^4]No. 2568.
Revenue Departmenf.
Statisics.
Bombay Castle, 6th May 1873.
Resolution.-Colonel Etheridge has completed the important task assigned to him by Her Majesty's Secretary of State in an able and satisfactory manner.
2. His Excellency the Governor in Council does not feel called upon to record any opinion as to the principles and policy which regulated the proceedings of the late Inam Commission. But he considers it due to the eminent officers who were entrusted with those proceedings, to state his conviction that they were actuated by a sincere desire to do justice between the State and the parties concerned, and that they did their work with a degree of accuracy and precision which produced the most beneficial effects on the general revenue administration of the Presidency.
3. Colonel Etheridge's interesting and concise report will be of much value hereafter as a work of reference. It is to be printed and published as a selection from the records of Government.

F. S. CHAPMAN,<br>Chief Secretary to Government.


[^0]:    Notr.-Acreage omitted because not complete in this collectorate,

[^1]:    Nore.-Acrenge omitted because not complete in this collectorate.

[^2]:    Nork-Acteage muited bicause mot complete in thas coliector te

[^3]:    SHes.-Acterge momed bectuse not complete in thim collecturate.

[^4]:    population. The later, in faci, wiil be finnd perfectly indifferent to the proceedings of the Inam Committee, thich are dreaded only by those directly ar indrectly iuterested in the retention of lands to which their possessors have no juet title.

