## SELECTIONS FROM THE RECORDS OF THE BOMBAY GOVERNMENT.

No. CCLX.-New Series.

PAPERS<br>relating to the<br>REVISION SURVEY SETTLEMENT<br>Of The<br>NEVÁSA TÁLUKA<br>OF THB<br>AHMEDNAGAR COLLECTORATE.

## INDEX TO THE CORRESPONDENCE RELATING TO THE REVISION SURVEY SETTLEMENT OF THE NEVA'SA TA'LUKA OF THE AHMEDNAGAR COLLECTORATE.




From

Colonel G. A. Latghton,<br>Superintendent, Revenue Survey and Assessment; Poona and Násik ;

To
J. ELPHINSTONE, ESquire, Acting Collector of Ahmednagar.

Sir, $\quad$| Superintendent's Office, |
| :---: |
| Camp Ralagan, 5th January | . 88 .

have the honour to submit for transmission to the Survey Commissioner, and Commissioner, C. D., with any remarks you may see fit to make upon it, the following report upon the Revision of Assessment of the Nevása Taluka of the Collectorate under your charge.
2. At the time of the introduction of the survey settlement in $1851-52$, as will be seen - from an appended copy of a report by Colonel G. S. A. Anderson (not the late Survey. Commissioner), then Superintendent of the Survey, the Nevasa Taluka consisted of 149 Government and 31 partially, and wholly alienated villages, in all 180, comprising an area of 477,138 acres. At the present time, in consequence of the different changes since the above period, the taluka consists of 148 villages, of which 118 belong to Government, and the remainder are alienated. Of the latter only 19 are for revision settlement: 7 are for settlement for the first time, but will not be treated of in this report; while of the remaining 4 the Inámdars of 1 settled village, and of 3 , into which no settlement has been introduced, refuse, in the one instance, to have the present rates revised, and in the other to have survey rates introduced at all : consequently this report treats of 118 Government, and 19 Inam villages, now for revision settlement.
3. The accompanying map shows the taluka as it is at the present date; while the different colours denote the rates now proposed to be introduced, an explanation of which will be given hereafter: the lnám villages are denoted by a yellow colour, those for revisionhaving a border of the same coloar, as the adjoining Government villages to the groups of which, according to the proposed rates, they belong. The figures in black ink to the west, in the adjoining talukas of Rahuri and Kopargaon, denote the sanctioned revised rates of. those villages; those to the north show the rates now in force in the villages of the Nizam's dominion; while those to the east and south the rates of districts which have not yet been. revised.
4. The areas of the villages under report, as obtained by the present and past surveys, are shown in the following statement :-

For 137 Villages, 118 Government and 19 Inám.

| Former survey Revision survey |  |  | Total Area, | Deduct unarable. | Remaining |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Acres. | Acres. | Acres. |
|  | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | 339,656 | 49,883 | $289,778$ |
|  |  |  | 338,374 | 42,234 | 296,140 |
|  | Increase <br> Decrease |  | 1,282 | -7.0.649 | 6,367 |

The difference between the total areas is very small; by the revision survey less by 0.4 per cent. : the area formerly deducted as 'unarable' is now less, being nearly balanced by the increase in 'arable' area. Such a state of things would seem to point out the want of any necessity to re-measure the whole district; the partial system of re-measurement, sooften deecribed, was introduced in January 1880 by orders of the Inte Survey Commissioner, Colonel Anderson, not, however, before nearls the whole of the taluka had been re-, surveyed.
5. Though the difference of the gross area; obtained at the tivo periods, is small, the actual difference between the areas of individual felds, as shown in the following table, issuficiently large to entitle a re-measurement :-
: 8 1036-1

| Total SurvoyFields. | Diffresicas in arras of old and prisent Soryiy. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Onder 5 cent | $\left\|\begin{array}{c} \text { Above5 and } \\ \text { under 10 } \\ \text { per cent. } \end{array}\right\|$ | Above 10 and under 15 per cent. | Above 15 and ander 20 per cent. | Above 20 and under 25 pe vent | Above 25 and under 30 per cont | Above 30 per cent. |
| 16,500 | 15,083 | 916 | 257 | 117 | 73 | 10 | 44 |
|  |  | 1,417 |  |  |  |  |  |

It will be observed from the above that a large number of fields show a difference of area above 5 per cent., while in no less than 44 numbers the difference between old and new work amounts to more than 30 per cent. From a careful test of the present work, the difference between original and test measurements has been discovered to be only 0.27 gunthas per cent. ; while I remark from the former Superintendents' report (paragraph 41) that the average error, as discovered by test, in the former work amounted to 1.50 per cent.
6. No alteration was made in the present system of classification, every field having been subjected to that operation: full, necessity was found for an entire re-classification, the unequal nature of the former work, as already described in my reports on the Sangamner and Rahuri Talukas, viz., a high standard in the poorer soils, and a low one where the soil is good, having been found to obtain throughout the district; this was clearly ascertained bothby the late Survey Commissioner, and myself while examining personally the present work and comparing it with the former.
7. The Nevása Táluka is bounded to the north by the river Godśvari, which separates it from the Nizam's territory; to the east is the Taluka of Shevgaon; to the south Taluka Nagar; and on the west are the Talukas of Rahuri and Kopargaon, into both of the last revision rates have already been introduced. It would appear that at the time of introducing the revenue survey Colonel Anderson reported that the boundaries were "very intricate." This arose from numerous villages lying detached in adjoining talukas, chiefy in Shevgaon and Ráhuri, and vice versâ, many of the villages of those talukas being included within the limits of the district under report. Now all this is altered; outlying villages have been interchanged, so that the present boundaries are fairly compact, and with the exoeption of one village, Malnaja Budruk, situated across the Godavari, in the Nizám's territory, all the others are included within one continuous line of boundary.
8. There is only one river of any size in the district, the river Pravara, which entering the taluka on the west flows in a north-easterly direction, and falls into the Godervari close the village of 'Pravara-Sangam,' The river Mula bounds the taluka on the west for a short distance, when it joins the Pravare not far from the village of Nimbri. The drainage of the district, for the most part, trends to the north ; a few small nalas alone on the eatern border having a tendency in that direction.
9. The general character of the taluka is flat; here and there there are elevated tracts of 'mal' land which yield but a scanty vegetation. With the exception of the above the soil is fairly good, the best being to the west and not along the banks of the rivers; that along the Godávari is somewhat clayey, which is not the case with the soil on the Mula, the banks of which are singularly free from this deteriorating substance, which requires a plentiful rainfall to cause it to become productive.
10. The following are two statements, the first giving the annual rainfall for 12 years as registered at the Mámlatdar's Kacheri at Nevasa, and in the adjoining talukas to the west, Rahuri, and Sangamner. The second gives the amount of rain which fell monthly in Nevása from the year 1876 (famine year) to 1880 . The averages for the five years, during the monsoon months of June, July, August and September, are 3.83, 4.71, 4.46 and 6.74 respectively.

A return of annual rainfall for the undermentioned years:-

|  | Years. | Sangamner. | Ranuri. | Nevasa, | Years. | Sangamner. | Râhuri. | Nevása. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | In, cts. | In. cts. | In. cts. |  | In. cts. | In. cts | In, cts. |
| 1869 | *. | 2745 | 3429 | 225 | 1875 ... | 2450 | 2871 | 2613 |
| 1870 | $\ldots$ | 5`60 | 972 | 537 | $1876 \ldots$ | 659 | $10 \cdot 57$ | 1362 |
| 1871 | ... | 560 | 192 | 991 | 1877 | 1629 | 1541 | 1330 |
| 1872 | ... | 1481 | 1966 | 2215 | $1878 \ldots$ | 2673 | 3145 | 3255 |
| 1878 |  | 1770 | 2141 | 2267 | 1879 | 2217 | 2032 | 36.86 |
| 1874 |  | 2450 | 2246 | 2664 | 1880 | 1541 | 1506 | 2048 |

A monthly return of rainfall as taken at Nevása for the undermentioned years :-

| Months. | $\begin{array}{\|c\|} \text { Famine } \\ \text { year, } \\ \text { 1876; } \end{array}$ | 1877. | 1878. | 1879. | 1880. | Months. | Famine year, 1876. | 1877. | 1878. | 1879. | 1880. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | In. cts. | In.cte. | F. cta. | In, cts. | In. cts. |  | In. ctat. | In, eto. | In.cts. | In, cts, | In. cts. |
| January | ... | $\cdots$ | ** | $\cdots$ | $\ldots$ | July ... | 674 | 026 | 778 | 776 | 102 |
| February | ... | $\cdots 30$ | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | August | 180 | 109 | 882 | 996 | 065 |
| March ... | $\ldots$ | 030 | -13 | ... | ... | September | 137 | 403 | 1319 | 209 | 1304 |
| April .. | -** |  | 013 |  | ... | October |  | 159 | 169 | 278 | +37 |
| May ... |  | 029 |  | 547 |  | November | 093 | 020 | 007 | 10 | ... |
| June ... | 348 | 554 | 084 | 780 | 140 | December |  | ** |  | ** | *.. |

11. The chief crop of the district is the later descriptions of jowari, grown as rabi, or winter crop. In fact, as may be supposed from the later rains being more abundant as shown. above, the winter crops predominate in a proportion of $51-1$ per cent. to 319 of the earlier, or kharif crops, of which the chief is bajri, equal to 279 per cent. Details of the different descriptions of crops are given in the Appendix, vide Statistical Table No. III. The proportion of waste is only 17 per cent., which speaks well for the prosperity of the district.
12. Of garden cultivation there is a very small proportion, viz. 0.5 per cent., and this almost entirely under wells; as, with the exception of land under the influence of the canal, fed by the Laikh Reservoir, there are only 18 acres irrigated by 'Pâtg; or water channels. The canal from the Lakh Reservoir on the Pravara river constructed by the British Government, passes through two villages, Nevasa Budruk and Punatgaon, situated in the north-western part of the táluka, between the rivers Pravara and Godavari. The supply of water is, however, not oufficient to enable perennial crops being grown. During the last seven years, on the average, about 157 acres have been irrigated, the largest area being in 1877.78 , when about 842 acres received a supply of water from this source: possibly this larger irrigation may have been in expectation of another year of scarcity following on the year of famine, 1876-77.
13. With respect to communications the táluka seems to be much in the same state as in 1851-52, vide paragraph 18 of Colonel Aaderson's report. He alludes to two roads meoting at the "Imampur, or Jeur Ghat"; one leading through Shevgson to Paithan, a large town in the Nizan's territory to the east; while another branched off to the north, then termed the "post line from Bombay to Calcutta, vid Nagar, and Aurangabad." Evidently at that time these roads were little better than mere cart tracks; for Colonel Anderson goes on to say, "within the last few years a good road has been made by Captain Gaisford of the Artillery, from the city of Nagar to the top of the (Imampur) Ghat, and, I believe, he was most anxious to extend it into the plain bolow; but; although both the Toka, and Paithan lines were surveyed, or marked out by him, he does not appear to have been permitted to carry out his views as regards the making of a road on either line." Both of these roads have, since the above was written, been completed; the smaller nallas have been bridged, the roads have been metalled throughout, and are generally in a good state of preservation. With the exception of these two, there are no other which may be called 'made' roads; what there are, being the ordinary cross country roads passable in the fair scason, and after a long cessation of rain in the monsoon. Still, as the country is generally very flat, there is no difficulty of communication by carts from one end of the taluka to the other in every direction.
14. The chief markets of the district are at Kukana, Goregaon, Nevása and Sonai, where the sales average from Rs. 300 to 1,400 ; at the first two the averags weekly sales of cattle amount to RA. 600 ; the other articles sold are chiefly grain, and cloth. There are 8 other villages where weekly bázárs are held, but they are of no great importance, and suffice for the immediate wants, in miscellaneous articles, of the neighbouring villages, These bázar towns are shown on the accompanying map by small red flage.
15. I take the following from the Classing Officer Mr. Fforde's report on the subject of manufactures-"In 145 villages there are 56 looms for weaving cotton fabrics, and for woollen 158. The prices of cotton clothes are from one anna to Rs. 9 according to size and quality, and those of woollen (camblies) from 8 annas to Rs. 3-8 each. There are no other manufactures in the taluka except of saltpetre in 8 villages, which has brought a return to Government of Rs, 190-9-0 in 11 years, or an annual average of Rs. 17-0-0."
16. The system of husbandry is much the same as already reported on in the adjoining Talukás of Ráhnri and Kopargaon. It is the rule to plough the heary lands every year, but of course much depends upon the means possessed by the occupant of the land. On the whole the character of husbandry does not materially differ from that described thirty years ago, which, Colonel Aderson said, did not "appear to be good, thongh here and there well cultivated fields are to be seen. The soil is naturally fertile, and with good tillage, capable of yielding very rich and luxuriant crops," to which I may add that the above coincides exactly with what I have seen while visiting this district at different times daring the past three years :-
17. The following is a statement obtained from the statistical returns prepared for each village at the time of classification. It shows the increase of population during the current lease, and the average number of souls to the square mile; the increase is equal to 187 per cent.:-

| Period. |  |  | Population. | Arerage to the <br> equare mile. |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Former survey <br> Revision survey | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ |

18. The next is an abstract statement compiled from the same returns (sce Appendices IV. and VI.) by which the statistics, taken at the time of the former survey, can be compared with those obtained at the revision survey.

For 118 Government and 19 Inám Villages, total 187 :-

| Items. | According to first Survey Sottlement. | $\begin{gathered} \text { According to } \\ \text { Revision } \\ \text { Survey Settle } \\ \text { ment. } \end{gathered}$ | Increase, | Decrease. | Percentage increase or decrease. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Population | 49,294 | 58,510 | 9,216 |  | $+18 \cdot 7$ |
| Houses $\{$ Flat-roofed and tiled | 5,962 | 7,301 | 1,339 |  | $+22.5$ |
| Houses \{Thatched ... | 2,200 | 1,321 | 1,389 | 869 | -39.5 |
| Agricultural cattle ... | 17,537 | 20,655 | 3,118 | ... | +17.8 |
| Cows, buffaloes, and their young | 18,188 | 24,556 | 6,968 |  | +35.0 |
| Sheep and goats ... | 40,114 | 32,029 |  | 8,085 | -20.2 |
| Ploughs ... | 2,949 | 3,928 | 979 | 8,085 | $+33 \cdot 2$ |
| Carts ... | 1,641 | 2,558 | 917 |  | $+55.9$ |
| Horses and ponies | 1,748 | 2,266 | 518 | $\ldots$ | + $29 \cdot 6$ |

The revision survey shows a most material increase in every item except two, via, "Thatched roofed houses" and "Sheep and goats": a decrease in the first shows to advantage, pointing to an improvement in the condition of the people; fewer'thatched' and a greater number of 'tiled' houses being always indicative of a more prosperous state of things. For the decrease in the item of "Sheep and goats" it is difficult to assign a satisfactory reason. The famine of 1876 -77 can bardly be adduced as the real cause; for sufficient time has elapsed to allow of these animals recovering their normal numbers. As there has generally been a decrease in this item in the talukas lately reported on, I am inclined to think that the real cause lies in the difficulty of enumerating correctly all the sheep and goats in some of the large villages; even the owners themselves are not aware of the exact numhers they possess. This applies equally to the former as well as to the present Census. But this is a small item as compared with the fair and steady increase in ' population,' good houses,' ' agricultural cattle,' 'milch kine, ' 'ploughs,' 'carts' and 'horses,' in all of which the present, as compared with the past, shows a marked improvement.
19. Appendix A. shows that in the 187 villages under report there are 18,958 surveg and pôt numbers: deducting the waste numbers, 1,255 equal to 6.6 per cent. of the whole; of the remainder about 73 per cent. are cultivated by those whose names are entered in the village records as owners; about 1.27 per cent. of the cultivated land is held in partnership with others; 9.90 per cent, is sub-let for money payment, and $15 \cdot 70$ per cent, for grain payments. The same rates for sub-letting obtain here as in the adjoining taluka of Rahari; for dry-crop, the produce and assessment being shared between lessor and lessee; while for irrigated land the division of produce from one-third to two-fifths, the cultivator taking the larger proportion. The greater number of sarvey numbers entered as being cultivated by those who are recorded as the 'owners' is perhaps misleading; a survey number may be cultivated by the man whose name is entered in the village books; yet it may be mortgaged to that extent that the real owner is the lender of the money; while the reputed owner is only the labourer of the mortgagor; it is imposeible to arrive at the true state of things in such matters.
20. Statistical Table No. V gives the proportion of the agricultural, partly agricultural and non-agricultural population in the villages under report. At the time of the first survey this table.was made out under two heads only, 'agricultural' and 'non-agricultural ". The chief increase appears to be in the 'partly ' and ' non-agricultural' portions of
the people : as there are no manufactures to apeak of, and as agriculture is the ohief parsuit of the inhabitants, this undue inorease is greater than might have been expected.
21. Appended returns marked B, C, D are compiled from the records of the Government Registration Office, of mortgages, sales, and sub-letting for the last three years. In 45 villages 2,383 acres bearing an assessment of Rs. 1,460 were mortgaged for Rs. 27,077, or on an average 18.5 times the assessment. In 37 villages 1,459 acres were sold for Rs. 19,549 ; the assessment on this land is Rs. 959, consequently the average is 20.4 times the Government demand. Also in 33 villages 1,140 acres were sub-let; the assessment is Rs. 742, and the sum of money obtained being Rs. 13,977, the average is 18.8 times the assessment. Only cases in which the money obtained was over 8 times the Government assessment have been selected to be shown in the accompanying appendices. The above goes to prove that the land is of considerable value, if it proves any thing.
22. The next is a statement showing the progress of education in this district. It would appear that before the introdaction of the current settlement there was only one Government school, and that at Nevása, attended by about 30 boys. Since that time there has been a considerable increase both in schools and in pupils, the chief increase being in the second decade of the settlement, viz., 14 and 651, respectively : the present total being schools 28 and 1,244 scholars:-

23. Below is given a return of wella, those which were in existence at the introduction of the present settiement and those which have been dug daring the three decades which have elapsed since that period :-


It will be observed that the number of substantial wells has increased from 1,101 to 1,494, equal to $35 \cdot 69$ per cent. ; the greatest inerease being during the third and last decade. The area under well and budki irrigation has increased from 3,026 acres to 7,195 , or more than double. There are only 18 acres irrigated by water channels or " Pats," and even these are assisted by wells.
24. Inow give an abstract statement of the principal grains sold in the basars of the taluka. Statement marked E in the Appendix exhibits the average annual prices for every - 1036-2
year since 1851-52, not only for this district but for the adjoining talukas of Rahuri and Kopargaon. The abstract gives the average prices by decades, and also for the four last years, for Nevása, calculated at 80 tolas=one ser :-

| Psion. |
| :--- |

N,B,-The above is calculated at 80 todial 1 aor.
25. It will be observed that the highest prices ruled in 1877.78, the year following the one of famine. There was a sudden fall in prices last year, $1880-81$, consequent on the good rainfall of the previous year, and the prices are still lower now; by the Government Gazette I see the average price for jowari in November was about 40 seers the rupee, and the other graine in proportion; much of the surplus grain, which is almost the only export, used to find its way to the large bázar town of Vambori in the adjoining Taluka of Rahuri. This was before the rail road (Dhond and Manmad) was completed; considering the greater facilities for export, there is no falling off here; while advantage is taken of the adjacent Railway Stations of Lákh and Belápur, also in Ráhuri, to export the eurplus grain of the north and north-western part of the taluka in that direction. The imports into the district consist only of ordinary necessaries, such as salt, rice, cloth, and a few articles of hardware.
26. There are ten statements in the Appendix, lettered from $F$ to $O$, which give the past revenue history of the villages under report settled at different periods ranging from 1849-50 to 1869-70. In the subjoined table are given the average collections and remissions on Government land for 110 Government villages, the principal number settled in 1801-52, taken from Appendix G.

110 Government Villages settled in 1851-62.


It will be observed at a glance, how cultivation and revenue have increased during the years of the current settlement; while outstanding bslances disappeared during the first two decades, to appear again in the third; in this last period, as may be supposed, the largest sum outstanding was in 1877-78, the one following the year of famine. As usual in the firs year of settlement, collections on Government occupied land were considerably lower than the average of the previous decade; but within four years this average was attained, and the
collection of revenue has steadily increased until with some fluctuations it reached its highest point in 1870-71; which, taking the average rate of prices for the aame year, nearly the highest of its decade (1861-62 to 1870-71) may be attributed to the demands resulting from the American war raging at that time. Subsequently there has been a reaction, and the collections of last year only equal that of 1861-62, nearly twenty years since; nevertheless the area of unoccupied arable assessed land amounts only to 9,920 acres out of a total of arable area of $2: 4,277$ acres.
27. The following information relative to sales in default of payment or revenue has been furnished by the Mámlatdar::-


From the above it would appear that out of a very large number of notices issued during the past three years, it was necessary to resort to the sale of occupancy only in 15 instances.
28. The next is a statement showing the amount realized by sales of the land, in default of pagment of revenue-

| Yearr. |  | Notices.$\begin{array}{r} 1 \\ 4 \\ 10 \end{array}$ | Ares. <br> Acres. g. $\begin{array}{rr} 18 & 29 \\ 217 & 9 \\ 287 & 14 \end{array}$ | Assessment | To be sollected. | Realized. |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | Rs. a. p. | Rs. a. p. | Rs. $\mathrm{a}_{4}$ | p. |
| 1878-79... |  |  |  | 840 | 8123 | 30 | 0 |
| 1879-80... | $\ldots$ |  |  | $\begin{array}{llll}91 & 8 & 0\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{llll}73 & 8 & 9\end{array}$ | 760 | 0 |
| 1880-81... |  |  |  | 10040 | 10113 3 | 9212 | 9 |
|  | Total | 15 | 52312 | $200 \quad 0$ | 18423 | 17112 | 9 |

Evidently the land sold was of a poor nature, as the average assessment only amounts to about 6 annas per acre; nevertheless the sums realized by sale nearly equalled the amount due to Government, which speaks well in favour of the value of the land.
29. Having described the different subjects of the past, and present status of this taluka, it remains only to suggest proposals for the revision of the present assessment Colonel G. S. A. Anderson proposed to divide the villages into three groups for the purposes of assessment of dry-crop; the first group in the south, close to the hills in the Nagar Taluku, and adjacent to the villages of Rahuri, assessed at Is. 1-4-0, at the same rate. The

See Colonel Anderson'z report, para. 44. remaining villages be divided into two groups, the maximum dry-crop rates of which were fixed at Rs. 1-2-0 and $1-0-0$ respectively; the former lying to the west and north-west, and in the body of the district, as not enjoying such a regular supply of rain, and vicinity to markets as the first group; and the latter as being somewhat inferior to the other in both respects.
30. Beyond the completion of the roads mentioned in para. 13, and which, at the time Colonel Anderson wrote, were mere cart tracks, nothing of material importance has occurred within the limits of the district to alter, in my opinion, the grouping formerly sanctioned; I would therefore propose to retain the same at the present time. But though no changes have taken place to alter the grouping, atill there has been a steady improvement in prices of the principal product, grain, and in the material prosperity of the district, such as an increase of the better class of houses, in the number of wells and agricultural stock, sufficient to warrant a moderate increase. I would therefore propose to increase the present maximum rates by two annas on each group, shown on the accompanying map. by red, blue, and green colours respectively.
31. The only exceptions to the proposed increase of 2 annas per group, are in the first group-1st, Singwa Kesheva, No. 120 on the list, an Inam village setiled in 1869-70 on a maximum dry-crop rate of Rs. 1-6-0. I would propose to retain this rate, so as to assimilate it to the adjoining villages of the same group which, with the proposed increase, will also bear a rate of Rs. 1-6.0. By so doing there will be a decrease on the present reported revenue of the village of about 19 per cent. On examining the papers, however, I find, that instead of an area of 1,850 acres, bearing an assessment of Rs, 1,460 , being under cccupa-
tion, the classification papers have brought to light only 1,753 acres as being occnpied, the assessment of which, on the present maximum dry-crop rate, is Rs. 1,183, a difference of Rs. 277, which alone acconnts for the percentage decrease.
32. In the second group there are three Government villages which I propose to retain on their present maximum rates of Rs. $1-4-0,-18 t$, Shiregaon, No. 63 on the list, a village transferred in 1861-62 from the adjoining taluka of Ráhuri; by the present classification, on a maximum of Rs. 1-4-0, the increase amounts to 27.1 per cent; थnd, Malwadi, No. 92 on the list, situated just between the two groups of (proposed) Rs. 1-4-0 and 1-2-0; the present classification makes the percentage increase $29 \cdot 1 ; 3 r d$, Koregaon, No. 53 on the list: this village was settled in 1869-70 on a maximam of Rs. 1-4-0; the present classification reduces the assessment by 22.4 per cent. Although the reported occupied ares and that found by classification are nearly the same, I have not the former classification papers to refer to, but I have satisfied myself that the present work is correct.
33. Of Inám villages in this second gronp, there are three, Ghogargaon, Prawara Sangam, and Khedli Parménand, Nos. 124, 125 and 122 on the list; these vilages were settled at different periods from $1853-54$ to $1869-70$ on a maximum of Rs. 1-4-0. By retaining this rate the increase by the present classification will be from 14 to 28 per cent.
34. In the third group there is only one exception, an Inam village, Tuljápar, No. 119 on the list, and situated in the extreme north-eastern part of the taluka. This village was settled in $1869-70$ on a maximum rate of Rs. 1-8-0; the present classification shows an incresse of assessment on this rate of 10.4 per cent, consequently no further increase seems advisable.
35. Garden land has, as already stated, increased by 7,195 acres, of which 6,810 belong to Government. Land nuder old wells will be assessed, in accordance with Government orders, within the highest rate on dry-crop lands; while ordinary dry-crop rates will be applied to land irrigated by wells dag since the introduction of the present settlement. For the few acres under combined channel and well irrigation I propose to adopt an 8-rupees scale according to the dry-crop rate of the village within which the land is situated; this will give an average rate of Rs. 1-1-i per acre.
86. The following abstract statement of Appendix P. shows the general result of the imposition of the proposed rates of assessment on each group of villages and on the whole of them:-


The total increase of revenue in the villages under report, Government and Inám, is estimated at $29 \cdot 2$ per cent. ; the actuals when worked out will probsbly not differ from the estimate by more than 1 or 2 per cent one way or the other.
37. Only in one village, Ladmod, No. 41 on the list, does the percentage increase exceed 50 per cent. This is a small village on the Pravara, or rather sarronnded by that river, and seems, from its position as if it should have been a part of the large village of Nevása Khurd. The area by present returns is 41 acres, but the classification papers record 20 increase of 21 scres equal to 50 per cent., which alone accounts for more than half of the percentage increase of 95.2 ; taking into consideration the fertility of the soil, and mdrantages this village receives from the land being sometimes flooded by the river, as also
its extreme vicinity to the large and populons bazar town of Nevasa, I have no hesitation in recommending that it be included in its present groap of Rs. 1-4-0. There are no other villages which seem to require any special remarks, or regarding which explavation has not already been given.
38. The following statement shows the total area and assessment of these villages under every head:-

| Tecura of Land. | By Forist Soryss. |  | By Revision Susidy, |  | Collection of Judi on Indme. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Acres. | Asfescment. | Acres. | Aspeeament. |  |
| 1 | 2 | 8 | 4 | $s$ | 6 |
|  |  | Es. |  | Rs. | Rs, |
|  | 258,149 | 1,36,408 | 266,281 | 1,76,177 | 4,479 |
|  | 11.578 | 3,593 | 10,672 | 3,794 | ...... |
| Inamb ... ... ... ... ... | 20,052 | 10,022 | 19,187 | 12,056 | ..... |
| Government narable unassessed waste | 49,883 | ...... | 42,234 | **.. |  |
| Total ... | 339,656 | 1,50,023 | 388,374 | 1,92,027 | 4,478 |

The proposed assessment on the whole of the Government occupied area gives an average of Re. 0-10-6 per acre, while the present assessment shows Re. 0-8-5 to be the average rate, the increase being Re. 0.2-1. On the Inám land the increase is exactly the same, via., Re. 0-2-1. Looking at the rates on which the adjacent villages to the west of the Rahari and Kopargaon Calukas have lately been revised, and the very high rates lately imposed by His Highness the Nizam's Revenue Survey Department to the north of the Godávari, Rs. 1-10-0 to Rs. 1-14-0, the proposed rates for the villages under report, with the moderate increase of assessment, contrast favourably, and will, 1 trust, meet with the approval and sanction of Government.
39. It only remains to ask for the sanction of Government to the settlement now proposed for a period of thirty years, viz., from 1882-83 to 1911-12.
40. If it is the intention of Government that the revised rates should be introduced during the current year, and in the event of there not being time to do so before the 31st of March, I have to request that sanction may be granted for this period being prolonged until the 5th of June.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,

## G. A. LAUGHTON, Colonel,

Superintendent, Revenue Survey and Assessment,
Poona and Násik.
P.S.-The following villages, having been settled in the years mentioned in column 4, will not be for revision settlement until the years entered in column 5 :-

| Number on the List. | Name of Village. |  |  | Goverament or Inam. | Year of firgt settlement. | Year of Revision Settiement. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 2 |  |  | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 92 | Maliwadi | $\cdots$ | $\ldots$ | Government | 1853-54 | 1883-84 |
| 121 | Ghoregaon ... | ... | $\ldots$ | Ináro | 1858-54 | 1883-k4 |
| 122 | Khedla Parmánand | ... | $\cdots$ | Do. | 1855-56 | 1885 -86 |
| 123 | Karanjgron ... | ... | $\ldots$ | Da. | 1853-54 | 1883-N4 |
| 124 | Ghogargaon ... | ... | ... | Do. | 1853-54 | 1883-84 |
| 126 | Bhendi Khurd... | $\ldots$ | ... | Do. | 1854-55 | 1884-95 |
| 127 | Gumpha ... | ... | ... | Do. | 1853-54 | 1883-84 |
| 128 | Bakú Pimpalgaon | ... | ... | Do. | 1858-54 | 1883-84 |
| 129 | Toka ... | $\ldots$ | ... | Do. | 1853-54 | 1883-84 |
| 130 | Mabálapur ... | ... | ... | Do. | 1853-54 | 1883-84 |
| 131 | Manglápar ... | $\ldots$ | ... | Do. | 1853-54 | 1883.84 |
| 132 | Majwádi ... | ... | $\ldots$ | Do. | 1853-54 | 1843-84 |
| 133 | Gopalpar .... | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | Do. | 1853-54 | 1883-84 |
| 134 | Khamgaon $\quad . \cdot$ | ... | ... | Do. | 1853-54 | 1883.84 |
| 136 | Najik Chincholi | ... | $\ldots$ | Do. | 1853-54 | 1883 -84 |
| 137 | Deotakli ... | ... | $\ldots$ | Do. | 1853-54 | 1883.84 |

G. A. LAUGBTON, Colonel,

Superintendent, Revenue Survey and Assessment, - rona and Násik.

INDEX TOTHE REPORT.


## NEVA'SA TA'LUKA.

7. The Ṅesása Taluka claims priority of description, as it was surveyed and settled

Position and Bonndarien of Nevisa Taluka before the others. It is situated in the plain of the Godavari, to the north of the Nagar chain of hills. Its boundaries, as will be seen from the map, are very intricate, and the form of the taluka much requires amendment: In its general position it lies to the east of Ráhuri; to the north of Nagar, from which it is separated by the somewhat lofty hilly barrier that forms the watershed or dividing line between the Godávari and Bhima valleys; to the west of Shevgan ; and to the south of a portion of the Nizam's territory, from which it is separated by the river Godávari. Many detached Shevgaon villages are however acattered over its surface, and vice vers $\hat{a}$, many of its own villages are mixed up with those of Shergaon ; three of them especially, namely, Tondoli, Shekteh and Mali Babulgaon, being most inconveniently distant from Neváse. Its boundary with Ráhuri is very irregular, though it is only broken at one point. This is in the extreme north-west, near the Godivari, where some intervening Nizana's villages separate the body of the taluka from a clump of its outlying villages; the latter extending along the Godávari to the Kopurgaon division of the Patoda taluka. Again, there is a detached Nevasa village in the midat of the Nizam's territory, some 8 or 10 miles to the north of the river. Its boundary' with Nagar is the best defined, though there also some outlying Shevgaon villages prevent its being a continuous one, and cut off from the maia portion of the taluka a few villages in the extreme south-east, which extend beyond the Nagar boundary and come in contact with another part of the Nizam's territory.
8. Nevása has an estimated area of 477,138 acres, as shown below. A detailed field

> Ratimated areen survey of the lands of 166 villages has been made by the Survey Department, and the surveyed acres given are those ascertained by actual measurement. The lands of 14 alienated villages have not been surveyed in detail, but their areas have been computed from the map, the boundaries of each village having been surveyed by the theodolite.

Number of Villages, with their Surveyed, or Computed areas.

| Description. | Surveged. |  | Compated. |  | Total. |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Villages. | Acrea | villages. | Acres. | Villagek | Acrem. |
| Government | 149 | 388,013 |  |  | 149 | 388,013 |
| Partially alienated ... | 10 | 24,503 | 4 | 13,094 | 14 | 37,597 |
| Wholly alienated | 7 | 14,309 | 10 | 37,219 | 17 | 51,528 |
| Total | 166 | 426,825 | 14 | 50,313 | 180 | 477,138 |

[^0]| $\underset{\substack{\text { Num. } \\ \text { bex. }}}{ }$ | Namee of the Old Pivifons in which theViliage are eitazted. |  |  |  |  | Nowbir op Vamata. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | Under Mamlatdar. |  |  |  | Ondor Xahtikari, |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Govers. } \\ & \text { memt. } \end{aligned}$ | $\left\lvert\, \begin{aligned} & \text { Part } \\ & \text { ally } \\ & \text { alione } \\ & \text { atedi. } \end{aligned}\right.$ | Wholly mad. | Total. | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Govern } \\ & \text { ment } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Parti- } \\ & \text { Pulien } \\ & \text { ailiend } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Wholly } \\ & \text { alike. } \\ & \text { sted. } \end{aligned}$ | Totas. |  |
| 1 |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{array}{r}16 \\ 10 \\ 9 \\ 9 \\ 9 \\ 12 \\ 12 \\ 10 \\ 8 \\ \cdots \\ \cdots \\ \cdots \\ \cdots \\ \hline\end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} \cdots \\ \cdots \\ \cdots \\ \cdots \\ \cdots \\ c_{2} \\ \cdots \\ \cdots \\ \cdots \\ \cdots \\ \cdots \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \mathbf{1} \\ \mathbf{2} \\ \cdots \\ \cdots \\ \mathbf{1} \\ \mathbf{1} \\ \mathbf{3} \\ \mathbf{2} \\ \cdots \\ \cdots \\ \cdots \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 17 \\ 12 \\ 10 \\ 9 \\ 14 \\ 13 \\ 17 \\ 12 \\ \cdots \\ \cdots \\ \cdots \\ \cdots \\ 11 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \cdots \\ \cdots \\ \cdots \\ \cdots \\ \cdots \\ \cdots \\ \cdots \\ 14 \\ 11 \\ 13 \\ \cdots \\ \cdots \end{gathered}$ | $\cdots$$\cdots$$\cdots$$\cdots$$\cdots$$\cdots$$\cdots$$\cdots$$\cdots$$\cdots$$\cdots$11$\cdots$$\cdots$$\cdots$ | $\cdots$$\cdots$$\cdots$$\cdots$$\cdots$$\cdots$$\cdots$$\cdots$114$\ldots$$\cdots$$\cdots$ | $\begin{aligned} & \cdots \\ & \cdots \\ & \cdots \\ & \cdots \\ & \cdots \\ & \cdots \\ & \cdots 2 \\ & 15 \\ & 13 \\ & 18 \\ & \cdots \end{aligned}$ | 171210914131712121513187 |
| 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 8 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 7 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 8 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 11 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 18 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 13 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 14 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 14 |  |  |  |  |  | 101 | 10 | 11 | 122 | 47 | 4 | 7 | 58 | 180 |

B 1036-4
10. The present report principally relotes to the 148 Government villages, into which Number of villages reportad on. revised rates were introduced in 1851-52. In that year one village hitherto wholly alienated lapsed to Government, and it has therefore lately been assessed and settied in the same manner as the other Government villages. In addition to the Government villages, 10 partially alienated and 7 wholly alienated villagen have been surveyed at the request of the Collector's Department, and an assesament has been determined for them in accordance with that of adjoining Government villages, but the rates have not yet been introduced; the operations of measurement and classification having only recently been completed. Rates will be introduced into these villages by the Collector's Department.
11. Merába has undergone several territorial changes since it came into our possession Territorial changes. in 1818-19. It then contained 111 Government, and 69 partially and wholly alienated villages. Of the Government villages 7 are stated by the district officers to have been, in 1822-23, given in suranjam, to Mahomed Abdool Kadur, and Mahomed Hajief Munshi. Of these, 4 reverted to Government in 182\%-23, and 3 in 1838-3y, on the deathe of the jaghirdárs. Of the alienated villages 37 lapsed to Government at various periods prior to the year of settlement, and 1 during that year. In 1824-25 Nevása was incorporated wihh Shevgaon, but in 1834-35 it again became a separate taluks. In 1885-36, on the formation of a Petta division, the Mahalkari was stationed at Nhergaon, but he was subsequently, in 1838-39, removed to Sonai. The Mámlatdár has from the first been stationed at Nevasa. Several of the alienated villages are held by dependants of Scindiah, but no influential jaghirdárs reside in the district.
12. I have not been able to obtain much interesting information relative to the history

## Past History.

of the tyluka prior to its coming into the possession of the British. According to tradition Nevasa and the other diatricts of this portion of the valley of the Godavari were, whilst under the old Hindu government, thickly peopled and in a high state of civilization and prosperity. Several facts render this highly probable. Any one passing through the champaign country between the Nagar and Adjunta lines of hills must be strack with its great natural fertility and its capabilities of supporting a dense pupulation. That it was a rich and flonrishing country in the olden time is also proved by the existence in the vicinity of the Cave Temples of Ellora and other works which could not have been undertaken and completed except under the patronage of powerful monarchs having the contmand of much wealth and labour, as well as of many skilfulartizana Moreover the celebrated Hindu King Sháliváhán is said to have resided at Paithan on the Godavari, which is only a few miles distant from Nevasa; and the neighbouring city of Dowlutabad, (Devgad), the seat either of Shalivahan's descendants, or of another Hindu dynasty, is stated by Ferishta and other Mahomedan historians, to have been a place of much importance and wealth, and to have yielded an immence booty to Alla-ud-din Khilji in 1294. Under its Mahomedan and Mahrátha rulers the country never appears to have enjoyed any long period of prosperity, though it may have flourished at times by fits and starts. From about 1490 to $1636^{\circ}$ Nevasa formed part of the territory of the Mahomedan Nizám Sháhi Kings of Nagar, and the memory of Mullik Ambur, the great minister of the last king of that dynasty, is still affectionately preserved in the district. About 1636 it passed under the 8 way of the Mogul Emperor Shah Jehan. It is said to have been, in the beginning of the last century, bestowed with other districts as a marrisge present on the Mahratha Rája Sháo

Grant Daff, vol. 1, page 415. (the grandson of Siwaji), who was then a prisoner in the was actually given up to him. Being a frontier district, it suffered much in the wars between the Mahrathas and the Nizam Subhedars of the Deccan, bat although the former may have previously plundered it and collected chouth, I believe it was not permanently occupied by them until about the year 1709. Subsequently, up to the commencement of our rule, it was under the direct government of the Paishwahs, and its history, during that period, is much the same as that of other parts of the Maratha country. The same stories are told by the inhabitants of numerous acts of rapine and pillage committed by the armies of the several contending parties who infested the Deccan in the end of the last, and beginning of the present centuries. It is an open district with no forts or strongly walled towns, and it lies on the main line of road from Poona and Nagar to Aurungabad and Hindustan. It is also close to Shevgaon, which was then in the joint possession of Scindiah and Holkar; so that it was probably plundered and oppressed to a greater extent even than most other districts. From 1798 to 1800 it suffered in the petty warfare that was carried on between Scindiah and the two Baees. From 1801-1803 Holkar and his Sirdárs Futteh Sing Manay and Ameer Khán Pathán, on their passage to and from Poona, moved through Nevása, robbing the villagers and ruining the country to the atmost of their ability. In the latter year General Wellesley followed this route from Nagar, in his operations against Scindiah and Rughuji Bhonslay, which resulted in the battle of Assaye. After Holkar had ceased to molest the country, it was visited by many bands of plandering Bheels, but in 1806 many of them were killed by the Paishwah's troops at Ghewree Chandgaon in the neighbouring district of Shevgaon; and they were, soon afterwards, entirely put down. The population and resources of the district were so reduced in consequence of these disasters, and of the famine in 1803-4, that only 21 villages remained inhabited and the country became covered with jungle. Subsequently, the Pindharis now and then troubled the district, but the country continued to revive and the population to increass, until taken possession of by the British in 1818, aince which time it has enjoyed a state of perfect quiet.
13. Lientenant Burgess gives a pretty accurate description of the aspect and soil of Aspeot and soil. the toluks. The hills in the south rise abruptly to the height Aspeot and soil. of several hundred feet above the plain, and adjoining them are a few detached smaller hills. Throughout the taluka, also, there are, here and there, 'gently elevated tracts of hard sterile land, which yield a very scanty vegetation; but the general appearance of the country is flat and monotonous, and it has a much more rich and fertile aspect than the valley of the Bhima. Its soil varies considerably. The best description is a deep rich "moonjal" generally to be found near the Pravara and Mula rivers, which requires less moisture and is more easily worked than the more stiff and clayey soils along the Godavari, Which, however, are also of a good description, and are very productive in seasons of plentiful rain. In other parts of the taluka tracts of rich, deep soils, of various textures, are to be met with, but the land elsewhere, is not so uniformly fertile as in the immediate vicinity of the Godávari and its tributary streams, the Mula and Pravara. Light, shallow, easily-worked coils prevail towards the hills. In the north-west of the talluka, near the villages of Vadadi and Bhokur, there is a slightly-elevated tract of "mal" or poor land, which is a continuation of the ridge alluded to in my report on Ráhuri as situated between the Godívari and Pravara rivers. Similar barren ridges are to be found between many of the smaller streams of the taluka. The country is well watered. The Godávariis here a fine broad river. The united Mula-Pravara river is also a considerable stream throughout the year, and a plentiful supply of water can always be ubtained from the beds of the Dhora, Vridha, and other minor streams, some of whick continue to flow, in portions of their courses, during the hot season. The district is not well wooded, though the soil is well suited to the growth of many descriptions of large trees.
14. I am of opinion that the climate of Nevasa is slightly inferior to that of Rahuri, the district situated immediately to the westward. In the early part of the monsoon it does not generally enjoy such a plentiful supply of rain, and its kharff crop is, consequently, less productive. The after rains, on which the rabicrops prineipally depend, probably tall pretty equally in both districts, though some of the Nevass villages far out in the plain do not always have a fair supply. It may be here noticed that the after rains, namely, those which fall from August to October, and sometimes later in the season, are, in this direction, more uncertain than the early rains. In ordinary years lands in the vicinity of the hills generally obtain a steady and sufficient supply, bat out in the plain the fall is much more irregular, some lands being well soaked from passing showers, whilst others close by do not obtain even a sprinkling. Lieutenant Day has classed the villages into three groups with reference to fall of rain, but as his remarks are made on the authority of the district officers, who appear to use his own words "to have had in their mind's eye the comparative fertility of the villages generally without reference to the separate question of fall of rain," they are not of much value. Lieutenant Burgess appears to have trusted more to his own observations, and his statements on the subject are therefore more worthy of attention: He considers the villages near the southern hills to have the best climate, and in this opinion I agree with him. The remaining villages he divides into two classes, but I am inclined to think that in the plaint, at a short distance from the hill, there is no great variation in the fall of rain, though the villages between the Pravara and Godavari rivers have, perhaps, slightly the advantage, and may be more favourably situated than the villages in the norti-east of the taluka.
15. The cultivation of Nevasa is principally dry-crop. Garden crops, notwithstanding Crops and Husbandry. the plentiful supply of water, are only raised in the proportion to the entire cultivation of about 1 acre per cent., which is less than in most other tálukas of the collectorate. Both kharif and rabi crops are grown; the latter most extensively, probably in the proportion of about ten annas in the rupee. Bajri, jowári, wheat and gram are the principal crops. Kurdai, and other oil plants are also raised. A little tobacco is grown. The garden crops are generally inferior ; chillies, garlic, wheat, gram, and vegetables being the principal products. Sugarcane is raised to a very limited extent; and there are no betel plantations. The garden lands are generally manured. Manure is slso applied to the dry-crop lands near the hills, but not generally to those of the plain, although sheep are occasionally folded on the latter. The lands do not generally uppear to be allowed a fallow. In some cases I was informed by the rayats that their fields haid been continuously cultivated for 40 years and upwards. Some of the poor soils, however, when they become exhausted, are thrown out of cultivation for a time. A system of rotation of crops is observed as far as possible, but there is not a sufficient variety of crops in this taluka to admit of a good rotation. A twelve-bullock plough is required for some of the stiff solls of the Godavari, but in other directions a six, eight, or ten-bullock plough suffices. Some of the soils are broken up by the large plough every year, and others only oace in two, threo, four, or even ten years; a small two, or four-bullook harrow being used in the intermediate yoars. On the whole the husbandry of the district does not appear to be good, though bere and there well-cultivated fields are to be seen. The soil is naturally fertile and with good tillage capable of yielding very rich and lusuriant orops.
16. There are no manufactures of importance. In the Government villages not more than 50 or 60 looms are made use of in weaving cosrse cotton stuffs. A few woollon cumlies are also made up by the Dungars, but most articles of wearing apparel are imported.
17. The trade connected with the district is not valuable, Grain is the principal Trade of District. export, finding a sale in the Nagar and Poona marketa Some wool and a good many sheep are also exported to Bombay and other places. The imports consist almost entirely of necessaries, such as salt, rice, cotton stuff, manufactured hardware articles, iron, cocoa, supári, \&c. A few cattle are also imported for farming purposes and are sold at Ghotun, Ghoregaon, and Kokaneh. Wheat can be kept in a good condition for several years in the "pevs" or grain-pits of the ryota, but if exposed to the atmosphere it soon becomes bad. If the four could be preserved for

## Flour.

 lengthened periods it would probably become a valuable export. I observe from the newspapers that the Americans send flour from Boston and New York to Port Yhillip, and it has long been ons of their principal exports to other parts of the world. But I conclude that it is some difference in the description of wheat raised in the two countries, and not in the methods of preserving it, that prevents India competing in the market with America.18. Although the trade of the district itself is inconsiderable, a large traffic from other

## Exterior Traffic.

Ronds. quarters passes through it. The Emámpur or Jeur ghát on the south is the only one passable by carts, and as there is no other cart-road to the eastward by which the bills can be surmounted, a large quantity of cotton from Berár, brought eid Paithan, or other Mogulai towns, is conveyed to Bombay by this route. The post line from Bombay to Calcutta via Nagar and Aurungabad also passes over the same ghát. Both these lines of road are shown in the frontispiece map. There are also a few other crose-roads, principally traversed by Brinjaris, but the bulloek traffic is fast decreasing, whilst that carried by carts is increasing. Within the last few years a good rosd has been made by Captain Gaisford of the Artillery from the city of Nagar to the top of the ghat, and I believe that he was most anxious to extend it into the plain below, but although both the Toka and Paithan lines were surveyed or marked out by him, he does not appear to have been permitted to carry out his views as regards the making of a road on either line. In January 1852, I observed that a road was being made on the Nizam's side of the frontier, from Toka to Aurungabad, and I conclude that it is still progressing, or that it has been completed, and I think it would be most desirable to complete the unfinished portion from the foot of the ghat to Toka as speedily as possible. A made road from the foot of the ghát to Paithan (a large manufacturing town on the direct route to Jaulnah) would also greatly facilitate the traffic, and would much benefit the Nevass and Shevgaon Tálukas, both remarkably fine districts, and capable, not only of being much benefited by the opening out of markets, but alao of being made to pay indirectly, by increased cultivation, for any expenditure laid out for their advantage in this manner. The ghát itself, Lieutenant Burgess informs us, is not in a good state ; but although the road over it (an old military one, I believe) will probably have at last to be Emampur Ghat $\quad$ abandoned, and a line of more gradual and easy descent selected, I think it is of more immediate importance to complete the lines to Toka and Paithan. Captain Gaieford, before he left the country, kindly furnished me with a return of the traffio passing over the ghát for four months of the year 1851, a copy of which is subjoined :-

Return of Traffic on the road from Nagar to Emámpur, for March, April,
May, and June 1857.

19. There are no large or important towne within the district. Nevasa Khurd, the Tomns. Mamlatdar's station, has a larger population than any other town, but it only contained, at the time of survey, 3,268 inhabitants. Of the 149 Government towns and villages only 9 have a population exceeding 1,000 souls. The market towns are 14 in number, and as they are distinguished in the táluka map by a mark (a pair of seales), it is unnecessary to enumerate them. Toka and Pravara Sungam-towns principally inhubited by Brahmins at the junction of the Pravara with the Godavari-are considered sacred places by the Hindus. The principal temple Grant Daff, page 165, vol. II. is dedicated to Mabadev. Some of the temples at Toka were of each year pilgrims and itinerant traders arrive at this town from all quarters, to the number, it is said, of about 50,000 , and a fair is thus stablished which lasts for about a month, and a good deal of traffic in cloths and other articles is carried on during its continuance. The sabjoined table of the population and farming stock of all the Government villages comprised in the taluka has been prepared from the usual census returns taken at the time of survey :-

20. From the result of my own observations, and from several of the statements Condition of Ryots. contajped in the reports of Lieutenants Day and Burgess, I am led to believe that the ryots of Nevasa are in somewhat better circumstances than those of Rashuri and Sangamaer. Under the former Government the condition of these three districts was very similar, and Nevasa possesses no superior advantages either as regards climate or markets, but, as will hereafter be shown, it has not hitherto been taxed so heavily, which accounts for the taluka not being in such an extremely depressed condition as the other districts. A few cultivators hold farms of upwards of 200 acres, and have 20 or 30 bullocks, and a good many of them are free from debt, and have grain-pits of their own wherein they can stow away their surplus produce, and to which they can resort in times of necessity instead of to the Marwaris.
21. A great majority of the ryots, however, are deeply involved in debt. Many Harwatit and debts of Ryots. interesting observations on this subject are contained in the Assistants reports, snd although it is impossible to obtain perfectly accurste infornation on the subject, I am led to believe from inquiries made by me at the time of settlement that about two-thirds of the ryots are in the hands of the Márwáris, and that the average debt of each individual is not less than Rs. 100 . This, under any circumstances, would be a very heavy burden on the agricultural population, and, owing to the harsh and usurious proceedings of many of the Marwaris, the system has engendered so much bad feeling, and the ontery regarding it on the part of the ryots is so loud and general, that it would be most satisfactory if measures could be adopted for the mitigation of its attendant evils.
22. So far as I can ascertain from conversing with intelligent natives on the subject the general opinion appears to be that the law requires amendment, and that the Marwaris commit many frauds and plunder the ryots; whilst the Civil Courts are not able or willing to afford the latter justice. There are few lurge capitalists in the district, and it is only undar our rule that Marwári, Gujaráti and other foreign traders have commenced to resort to it. Most of these are without funds when they first arrive, and many of them, after acquiring fortunes, return to their own country. Generally. when a Marweri first comes to the district, he enters into the service of one of his relations or countrymen and when he has saved a little money he sets up a small shop in some village where he thinks he can improve bis circumstances. At first he is very meek and forbearing in his transactions with the ryots, and sometimes induces the Patels or other influential parties to lend him money to enable him to enlarge his business and provide for the wants of the villagers. By degrees he extends his operations until he has got the ryots completely into his hands, and by dint of usury and of any oppressive dealings in which he may be able to obtain aid from the Civil Court, he collects say from Rs. 3,000 to Rs. 4,000 , and returns to his country for the purpose of marrying. On his return he plays the same game; other members of his family join him, and with his assistance set up separate shops. In this manner the country has not hitherto derived that benefit from the Márwaris which it would do from respectable and permanently-resident capitalists, and although of late years matters have somewhat improved, and the Marwaris begin to show an inclination to settle with their families in the district, still the people are much preyed upon by needy adventurers, and there is a great deal of reekless and fraudulent trading carried on, which appears to me not only to entail much injury and oppression on the ryots, but also subjects the traders themselves (at least the honest portion of them) to loss. No one could object to the legitimate employment of capital, but at present the doings of the Marwaris far exceed the limits of fair trading, and in many localities it does not appear to be so much their object to trade with the ryots as to get them, by fair means or foul, into their hands, so that they may use them as mere tools in the acquisition of fortunes. For instance, a ryot may borrow 2 maunds of grain, the price of which is, say, Rs. 2 or Rs. 3. This by tricky proceedings on the part of Marwari is converted into a money debt of Rs. 12, and, subsequently, by the writing out of new agreements it gradually increases to Rs. 50 or upwards. In this manner a ryot becomes so entirely involved that it is not in his power to extricate bioself by any honest exertions of his own, and he either remains in slavish state of poverty and indebtedness, or, should he show signs of resistance to the Marwári's continued exactions, he is dragged into Court and ruined, to deter others from proving disobedient. If more fairly dealt with, I think the ryots would be better customers of the Márwáris, as in general they seldon attempt to repudiate their debts unless they fancy themselves unjustly or dishonestly treated. The Marwaris, besides being money-lenders, are also generally retail traders in cloths and other artioles, and were the ryots more independent of them, their gains as shopkeepers would be increased, though their profits as moneylenders might be lessened.
23. The opinion in the district is that original agreements only should be recognized by the Civil Court, At present new agreements are being continually written out, so that
the debt, on paper, may be increased to an unlimited extent; also that each instalment paid by as ryot in liquidation of an original debt should be acknowledged by the Marwari by a writing made before the village officers, and by a receipt to be given to the ryot. The Márwáris are now generally accused by the ryots of acting in combination and of not being honest in their dealings, that is, that actual transactions are not truly represented in their papers. It is also considered that the proceedings of the Courts are much too harsh, and that, instead of entirely ruining a ryot and selling his property at greatly depreciated prices, in issuing the decree the circumstances of the debtor should be taken into consideration, and he be required to pay the debt by easy instalments, or his property should be fairly rated by independent assessors, and accepted by the creditor at its real value. The nore respectable and intelligent traders also allow that the present state of matters is not satisfactory, and I believe that any rewedial measures carried out by Government, that would not interfere with the legitimate employment of capital, would be agreeable to them ns well as to the ryots.
24. There are not many employments unconnected with the agriculture of the district.

## Employments unconnected with Agriculture

 A few ryots of Matultan and other villages cultivate lands, on reduced rates, in the adjoining Nizam's territory. Some of the villagers go for a time to Bombay as labourers or hamála, but I think that there are fewer emigrants from this district than from others. Many of the ryots when their farming operations for the season have been completed, are bired, with their bullocks, by sowkars, for the conveyance of grain and other exports to the coast. Few men are enlisted from this part of the country. Many individuals of the Mahar caste would probably enlist, and they are generally intelligent, obedient, and serviceable men, but there would appear to be a prejudice against them in the Native Infantry Regiments.25. The miras tenure prevails in this taluka. From returns furnished to me by the

Miras Tenare.
Mámlatdár, I find that of the 17,163 survey numbers into which the Government lands of the district have been divided, $\mathbf{1 0 , 5 2 0}$ belong to mirásdárs, the remaining 6,643 being gutkuli, inám, or barren fields. Of the mirás tields alluded to, 2,630 are cultivated by the mirádárs themselves, 1,765 by mirasdars of other mirás holdings, 1,817 by ooprees and 4,308 are waste.
26. The district is not well supplied with educational establishments. There is a

Educationsi Establighments. Government Maráthi school in Nevása, attended by about 30 boys. The American Missionaries have also established a school in that town, which is attended by a similar number of scholars. The private Maráthi schools throughout the district are few in number, and are, probably, not attended by more than 150 or 200 boys. At Toka, Nevása, and Pravara Sungam, the Brahmins teach Sanskrit, and their pupils are stated to be in number about 150.
27. The principal characteristics of the district and the present state of its population having thus been described, I propose, before proceeding to discuss the subject of the revised assessment, to give an account of the past revenue management, and of the preliminary survey operations of measurement and classification.
28. Prior to the establishment of British rule, the revenue management of Nevása was of the same unsatisfactory description as that of other territories obtained from the Paishwah. It is one of the distriets supposed to have been settled by Mullik Ambur about 250 years ago, but, beyond tradition, nothing can be gleaned on the spot regarding the reforms actually carried out by him, and even with regard to the bighaoni system, which existed up to the time of the recent settlement, it is somewhat doubtful whether it was introduced by him or by the Mogul officers of Shah Jeban, to whom the management of the country was intrusted on the breaking up of the Nizam Shahee kingdom. Be this as it may, he is universally considered by the ryots to have been the wisest and most benevolent ruler of former times, and in their estimation the highest praise that can be bestowed on any useful reforms introduced by the present Government is to liken them to those of Mullik Ambur. Under the former system each village had its
Rukba, Tunkha, Kumal, "rukba" and "tunkha"; and other names such as "kumal" Topher. and "topher" are also to be found in the accounts. The "rukba" is the maximum area in bighas of each village and is supposed to have been determined partly by messurement and partly by estimate, the size of the bigha varying in different villages and in different localities of the same village. The "tunkha" is said to represent the maximum assessment of Mullik Ambur's time; being supposed by the hereditary district officers to be the equivalent of a fourth of the gross produce in kind converted into a money value on data furnished by the cultivation of past years, and the bazar prices of the different kinds of produce. Subsequently, this assessment appears to have been frequently altered, and the maximum assessment of the Mahrathas was generally in excess of the "tunkha," and was called "kumal." "Tophér" appears merely to signify the difference between the original maximum assessment and that sabsequently imposed, bat whether "kumal" and "tophér" are terms introduced by the Moguls or Mahráthas

Naro Babaji's reforme. is not known. The Mahratha rule commenced about 1759, and Nagar, and who is said to have remained in office for a period of 35 or 40 years, introduced numerous revenue reforms, probably similar to those carried out in other parts of the Paishwah's texritories under instructions from the Huzúr. The bighas of each holding appear
to have been determined by him, in some cases by measurement, and in others by estimate, but one uniform size of bigha was not adopted. In good soils a bighs of small area (generally from 20 to 30 gunthas) appears to have been introduced, but in poor soils the area was doubled, trebled, or otherwise enlarged, as may have been, considered expedient. Varying rates per bigha were also imposed on the different descriptions of soil. The district was managed directly by Government on the ryotwar system, and the local officers were not often changed. Moro Hurri Sungumnairkur had charge of Nevasa for many years. The country on the whole appears to have been then prosperous. In 1803-4 the farming system of Baji Ráo commenced, and the former rates and land measures soon became merely nominal. The country was almost depopulated in consequence of the disasters alluded to in my 12th paragraph, and on the return, by degrees, of the inhabitants, it would have been impossible under any circumstances to have placed things in the same state in which they were before Baji Ráo (Rugonath) commenced his reign. But no attempt was made to restore the old system of management. The farmer being only desirous of securing a profit, left all the interior arrangements to the village officers, and so long as a good round sum Vide Mr. Goldemid's Chandore was forthcoming from esch village, no inquiries were made Report and other Heports.

## Farming system.

 as to the extent of land under cultivation, or as to the assessment payable by each cultivator; the actunl crops when stacked and stored forming the best criterion of the paying capabilities of the village. Annual accounts, however, were cantinued to be made out by the village officers, but merely as a matter of form. In practice there was no regular system. The old rates were sometimes retained in the cases of miras or other holdings that bad been long cultivated in the vicinity of the village, but the remaining lands given out for cultivation on coule, ooktee, or other forms of reduced assessment, without reference to old established boundaries, rates, or land measures. At the settling day if the terms originally agreed on were considered too low, a larger amount of revenue was demanded from the village, and after a series of squabbles between the several parties concerned some agreement was arrived at by which the ryots were generally pretty well plundered. Occasional "puttees" were also imposed in addition to the revenue demands, one of which, an "aheer puttee" or tax leviable from the inhabitants on the occasion of the marriage of the great man of the district, I have observed being collected in some of the adjoining Nimbalkur's villages within the Nizam's frontier.29. Notwithstanding the bad effects of the farming system and the state of disorder thereby originated, the country perhaps made a greater advance in population and farming capital, from 1808 to 1818 , than it
has done siace. This may in part be attributed to the full

Farming system compared sith British management. rates having been exacted in the early part of our rule and to the assessment under us being generally much too heavy.
30. In the year following the introduction of the British rule, the "kumal" assessment which had long been virtually abolished, wae assumed to be
that by which the future revenue collections might properly

## British Revenue management.

 be adjusted, and the village officers were required to give in statements of the rates leviable from the bighas of each holding. Few authentic records, however, were procurable, and the ratés finally adopted were in many cases arbitrary, and probably of larger amount than had ever actually been in force. There were about 24 different rates for dry-crop lands, varying from $2-0-0$ to $0-2-0$ a bigha. In 6 villages there was only 1 rate; in 59 villages 2 rates; in 55, 3 rates; in 20, 1 rate; in 5,5 rates; in 1 village, 6 rates; and in 1 , 7 rates. In 11 villages the mundbundi system of assessment had hitherto prevailed, and on what data bighaoni rates for these villages were determined is not known. Indeed, from the absence of all trustworthy information, the whole plan of the distribution of the rates must hyve been mere guess-work. The garden rates varied from 3-8-0 to $1-0-0$ a bigha, being in number 11. Most villages had only 1 rate, and in some cases there was no garden rate. These rates remained in force until 1836-37, when the dry-crop rates of about 58 villages, and of a few holdings in other villages, were lowered by the Collector, Mr. Harrison, on anMr. Herrison's reduction of rates. and in this manner a reduction in the number of bighas, and. consequently, in the aggregate assessment, was effected. No systematic plan of lowering the rates appears to have been attempted. At the time it was generally acknowledged that the rates at first imposed were mach too high, and when any particular out-cry was made by the ryots, or when much difficulty was experienced in collecting the revenue, a reduction of assessment was allowed. Pending the introduction of a detailed survey of the lands, it was not considered expedient to undertake a general revision of the assessment, and Mr. Harrison's reductions, therefore, were only applicable to real or supposed cases of excessive, over-taxation. 'They were doubtless beneficial, but from their partial and irregular nature they
Aholition of Pan-bibureet tax and of otber taxes. appear to have been altered, but in the cases of 46 villages, readjustment was made of the bighas irrigated from each well, average about $0-4-7$ in the rupee. The garden rates do not taluka, Other remedial measures having a tendency to lighten assement, were aleo about the same time carried out. The "pan-bhureet" tax was abolished in $183 \overline{5}$. This tax was nominally leviable from dry-crop lands temporarily irrigated, but, in reality, ruany of the lands from which it was collected were garden lands assessed at dry-crop rates, and the entire remission of the tas ${ }^{\text {placed }}$ them in a much better position
than similar lands assessed at garden rates. It was, however, an obnoxious tax owing to its flactuating amount, and its abolition was probably productive of good. The abolition of the transit and town duties had also an indirectly beveficial effect on the condition of the táluka, and at the same time several hukp hitherto collected directly on account of Government were abolished. In one village the mundbundi assesement was still found to be in force at the time of settlement.
31. In 1827-28 the lands of 130 villages were measured by the former Deccan Survey

Mr. Pringle's operations. under Mr. Pringle, but the messurements were not made use of, and no changes in the revenue management of the taluka resulted from the operation.
32. Up to 1833-34, no complete returns of the "tickas," or holdings of each village were called for by the Collector's Department. Village registers were then prepared, containing the areas in bighus, rates of assessment, boundaries and tenures, of the several holdings,

Preparation of Jongul Rurdahs
or Vilage Registers in $1833-34$. and as no measurements were made for the purpose of defining the true area of each bolding, these registers were in many cases found to be incorrect, and at the time of survey, many of the "tickas" recorded in the accounts could not be identified in the field. Previously, however, at the time of Mr. Pringle's suryey, the areas of the several holdinge of each village had been, as far as possible, arranged in correspondence with the "rukba," and the papers then prepared by the village officers were made use of in filling in the registers, and probably most of the holdings that were under cultivation at both periods were entered with tolerable accuracy. But, even supposing that the holdings had all been correctly recorded,

Interior maste or Pot-Par sysand that there were no doubts regarding the former rates of tem. assesement, it would still be impossible to obtain a clear view of the actual state of matters in former years, owing to the methods of giving out the lands for cultivation then in vogue. On several occasions endeavours were made to enforce the cultivation of entire "tickas" or fields, but without success. Throughout the whole period of British rale it has been customary to allow the partial cultivation of holdings, and this method, however advantageous to the ryot in enabling him to take up the best portions of land, has been productive of much confusion in the accounts, and renders it quite impossible to ascertain, with any degree of accuracy, the actual extent of land annually cultivated: It has also been productive of many fraudulent practices on the part of the village and district officers, and of bad husbandry on the part of the ryots. This is clear, when it is considered that the bigbas of the several "tickas" do not correspond in size, and that the cultivated bighas of each ticka were not measured or ascertained according to any fixed standard, but were entered in the accounts according to the proportion they were found to bear, by a rough eye estimate made by the village officers, or by guess-work, to the entire recorded area of the ticka. In 1833-34 the uncultivated portions were brought to account in the annual statements, but the assessment was finally remitted. In general, only the portions of holdings actually taken up for cultivation were entered in the accounts. During the first years of our rule no test of the cultivation returns appears to have been taken. Subsequently, eapecially since $1833-34$, a test has been taken by the Mámlatdár's establishment, aided by the hereditary district officers, and, occasionally, in cases of doubt or suspicion of fraud, by the Assistant Collector or Collector.
33. The rates adopted in $1819-20$ proved, as has already been mentioned, much too

Other remedial measures.
high, and although they were considerably modified in practice from the partial cultivation of holdings being allowed, it was necessary to resort to other remedial expedients to save the ryots from ruin. In the first few years of our rule in cases where the assessment worked out by the rates was found to exceed the actual collections of former years, or of the first year of our rule, the excess was not at once imposed, but gradually, in the course of 3 or 4 years. It wasalso formerly the custom to give out waste lands for cultiration on cowles or agroements and to impose the full assessment at once, but by graduated scalen Cowles. ranging over various periods, say 6 or 8 years. This system was not much practiced in the first 4 years of our rule, but afterwards came pretty extensively into operation up to 1838, when it was abolished. I have already in my 30th paragraph alluded to the reduction in the rates effected by Mr. Harrison. The remissions of revenue have also been very large. The assessment of portions of land left uncultivated by

## Remissions.

 the ryots, of fields taken up by them for cultivation, has generally been entirely remitted. Many remissions were also given for bad crops, poverty, and other circumstances.34. I shall now proceed to show the amount of revenue formerly derived from the 148 Government villages into which revised rates were introduced in 1851-52.
35. The detailed figured statement, marked ( $\mathrm{N}, 1 \mathrm{~A}$ ) in the appendix, has been pre-

Revonuo Statement in Appen: pared aceording to the instructions contained in paragraph 75 of the Survey Soint Report. It contains full information relative to the bource and amount of revenue derived from land of every description, in the 148 villages, in the years for which cornplete accounts are forthcoming. Some of the villages were alienated during a portion of the period of British rule, but as they were then under Government management, they have been entered in all the
years for which full accounts regarding them have been procured. Owing to the territorial changes alluded to in my llth paragraph, the entries will not be found to accord with those in the taluka accounts for all the years of british rule, but; making the necessary deductions on account of three villages that were for a part of the time alienated, the oollections for the last 12 years entered in the statement correspond with those of the taluka kistbandi accounts in the Collector's office.
36. The accompanying Diagram (No. 1), which is illustrative of the fluctuatione in the past cultivation, assessment, remissions, and collections, of the Goverament arable lands of the 148 villages; and of the revised aseessment imposed on the taluka, has also been prepared in accordance with the instructions contained in paragraphs 71 to 73 of the Survey Joint Report, and a figured statement of the entries embodied in it, relative to the old assessment, is given in the appendix (No. 2 A ). The survey kumal, or maximum assessment imposed on the Government arable lands of the 148 villages, is $1,50,945$ rupees, snd including the assessment of the landa of the village of Dangaon subsequently settled, $1,53,212$ rupees. The revised rates were in operation in 1851-52 and 1852-53, and the entries for these years, therefore, refer to the new system,
37. The only point on which explanation regarding the entries in the diagram appears

Explanstion relative to informetion embodied in the dingram. to be called for is as regards the past cultivation. In the year of settlement both the bighas and acres of cultivation were entered in the acccounts, and the average size of the cultivated bigha of each village in that year was, therefore, ascertained from the proportion which the entire number of cultivated bighas bore to the entire number of cultivated acres. The average size of the cultivated bighas, so found, was adopted for the cultivated bighas of past years, in the case of each village separately, and the aggregate area of the cultivated bighas of all the villages ascortained in this manner, gives the estimated acres cultivated in each year of the former system. This is the most perfect method of converting the bighas into acres that the case admits of. But, owing to the former loose system, it is probable that the actual cultivation exceeded that recorded in the accounts, and the varying size of the bighs would render any method liable to error. The bighas entered in the accounts as being cultivated each year are shown in the Statement No. 1A. The portions of land left uncultivated, each year, of land taken up for cultivation of which the assessment was remitted, are also shown in the statement, though not in the diagram, as such portions of land have hitherto been regarded in the sume light as other waste lands.
38. It will be readily perceived from the information embodied in the diagram that Nevasa has hitherto suffered much from overtaxation. The very heavy rates, adopted at the commencement of British rule, soon began to press most severely on the resources of the tainka.
cedentedly low. The year, I believe, was one of unusual produc-

## Review of effecte or former ssessment

 In 1822-23 prices fell unprecedentedly low. The year, I believe, was one of unusual produc-tion, which partly accounts for the decrease in the value of the produce, and other operating tion, which partly accounts for the decrease in the value of the produce, and other operating
causes were also then at work in lowering prices. But the chief cause of the scarcity of money was that too much revenue was then exacted from the country in proportion to the farming capital and resources of the cultivators. No important remedial measures having been adopted and high rates having been maintained, the district appears to have been fast going to ruin; until 1832-33, when the cultivation and collections fell much lower than in any other years of our rule. In the two or three succoeding years the cultivation and collections somewhat rose, but it was not until the attention of the Government had been fully drawn to the depressed condition of the Collectorate, and the local officers were urged to carry out the improvements alluded to in the concluding part of my 30th paragraph, that there was a deeided tendency upwards in the scale of prosperity. From 1836-37 to 1846-47, whilst the rates of many of the villages had been lowered, the injurious effects likely to result from the still oppressive nature of the assessment, were much weakened by the granting of liberal remissions, and, although 1844-45 and $1845-46$ were not favourable years, the cultivation and assessment rose, in. 1846-47, higher than they had ever done before, In 1847-48, the cultivation had still further increased, but unfortunately, the year was one of much over-production, and few remissions were granted. Prices, therefore, partly in consequence of the excess of produce, and partly on account of the great drain of money from the district to meet the large revenue demands, fell very low, and many of the ryots, not being able to pay their rent from the profits of the season, had to resort to the moneylenders, and, in many cases, to dispose of their farming stock. Consequently, the cultivation and revenue immediately went down, and the following seasons not being favourable, the collections fell from $1,60,724$ rupees in 1847-48 to 82,155 rupees in 1849-50, a decrease of nearly one-half. In 1850-51 the anticipated early introduction of the revised rates caused an increase of cultivation and revenue, but, at the time of settlement, the district was etill suffering from the over-collections of 1847-48.
39. The injury, however, caused by over-taxation, is one of degree, and, in this respect Nevasa, although it suffered much, did not suffer to the same
 extent as the adjoining tiluka of Rahuri, into which a revised assessment was introduced in 1849-50. In the diagram submitted with my report on the latter district, the fluctuations of cultivation and revenue coliections were even greater than those of the Nevasa diagram now submitted. As Kahuri enjoys a somewhat superior climate, and as, in other respects,
. 1036-6
there is no very marked difference in the position of the two districts, it may be assumed that, under an equally favourable assassment, both districte would have been found in much the same state at the time of the introduction of the revised rates. That Nevisa is now in the least depressed condition is principally attributable to the old rates of Rahuri having been the most oppressive; the everage past assessment, in the latter tiluka, having been from 4 to 6 annas an acre higher, and the revenue collections from 2 to 3 annas an acre more, than in Nevása. Although Ráhuri, owing to superior natural advantages, is capable of paying a somewhat higher rate per acre than Nevasa, the difference above shown is out of all proportion to the different circumstances of the two taluks.
40. Thus Nevisa has not suffered in the same excessive degree from over-assessment as Rahuri, the old rates were still ruinously and oppressively
Purther consideration of the high. It will be seen from the diagram that throughout the Assessment of Nerasa. whole period of British rule it has never been possible, with safety, to collect the full assessment, and that, even leaving out of consideration the reductions of assessment made on account of interior uncultivated portions of land, the annual remissions of revenue on the land represented to be actually cultivated bave averaged 21,000 rupees, or about 18 per cent. of the revenue demands. The cultivation has also been most unsteady, and although the land is generally very fertile, not one-half of it has been cultivated throughout a series of years. That the country would have progressed more rapidly under a light assessment, is, I think, fully proved from the improvement that has reaulted from the few slight reforms and modifications of the assessment that have already been carried out. These remedial measures, however, merely sfforded relief in isolated cases of excessive over-taxation, end were undertaken, not so much with the view of placing the revenue system on a permaneutly sound and satisfactory basis, as of saving the district from absolute ruin, and Government from great loss of revenue. The extent of relief afforded by the revised assessment, though not more than is called for by the circamstances of the district, is considerable, and will hereafter be shown when I have alluded to the operations that preceded the introduction of the new rates.
41. The work of measurement was commenced in the month of October 1846, and

Preliminary Burvey operations of Measurement and Classification. was completed in most of the Government villages now reported on before July 1848. In the cases of a few villages, however, the operations connected with the measurements extended to August 1849. The work of classification was commenced about November 1847. and was completed in February 1849. The average error in the measurement, as discovered by the test, is $1 \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2}}$ per cent., and although this is not such a high degree of accuracy as has been attained in the subsequent operations of the department, and as the level nature of the district would admit of, still the results, viewed merely with respect to the revision of the revenue, are satisfactory. The error in the classification is only $4 \frac{1}{2}$ pies per field, which proves the attainment of a bigh degree of excellence in this important work. The classification scale made use of is the same as that of the adjoining districts of Patoda and Ráhuri.
42. The work of dividing the lands into survey numbers was proceeded with according to the same rules as those observed in Rahuri and other districte already reported on, but all numbers that had been retained of too large a size at the time of measurement, were bers. ess of the classification, or at the time of settlement. From a re-divided during the progress of the classification, or at the time of settlement. Froma
full and detailed inspection of them, I am of opinion, that the numbers are now of a suitable size, and that they do not require further alteration.
43. The boundaries of all the villages surveyed by the department have theen permanently defined, and have been marked off by double lines of boundary marks. The boundaries of the interior survey numbers of villages were defined by marks according to the system hitherto prevailing in the time of the former Superintendent, Captain D. Davidson, but in Nevasa they were generally got up with greater regularity, and were of a better description, than in the previously surveyed districts. They were in good order at the time of settlement, and as the printed rules relating to the maintenance of boundary marks have come irto operation, I do not apprehend that any difficulty will be experienced in preserving them. It think it would be advisable to instruct the local officers to induce the ryots to preserve the young babul trees which gencrally spring up in the unploughed strips surrounding each field. These trees, if allowed to grow, would form an almost exhaustless supply of wood for the use of the ryots in the making up of their carts and farming implements, and fresh trees would continually spring up to supply the places of those cut down ; but at present most of theno are cut down for firewood, or for other purposes, or are destroyed by goats and cattle before they attain a proper size. The ryots object to trees hecsuse they say they attract birds, and probably on account of there being so few trees that the birds congregate in large numbers about them. The birds would be more scattered were there more trees.
44. In assessing the district, the villages have been divided into three classes. The maximum dry-crop rates for the adjoining taluka of Raburi were 1-8-0, 1-6-0, and 1-4-0, and the revised assessment in that district has hitherto proved highly satisfactory. The
villages of the 1-8-0 division are at a considerable distance from Nevasa and are more favourably situated as regards climate. The villages of the 1-6-0 division also generally lie more towards the hills, though they come in contact with the more southern Nevasa villages. The Ráhuri 1-4.0 villages are those which are situated nearest to Nevása, but, as will be observed from the remarks contained in my 14th paragraph, I am of opinion that the climate of Nevasa geverally is not quite so good as that of Raburi, and that the fall of rain is most uncertain in the open plain at a distance from the hills. The Nevasa villages in the south, adjoining the hills, are, however, as well situated as the Kahari 1-4-0 villages, and they have therefore bean put in the same class. Besides having a somewhat superior

Dry-orop rates edopted. elinate, they are also nearer the Nagar market than the other villages of the táluka. One detached village is included in the same class. The remaining villages of the taluka are divided into two classes, having maximum 1-2-0 and 1-0-0 rates. The villages of the 1-2-0 class do not enjoy such a regular supply of rain as the villages of the lst class, and some of them, in the north-west, between the Godavari and the ridge of "mal" land to the north of the Pravars, are not quite so well situated with reference to markets. The villages of the $1-0-0$ class are at a greater distance from the Nagar market, by which the prices of grain, in this direction, are principally regulated, than most of those of the $1-2.0$ class, and their climate is perhaps somewhat inferior. The boundaries of the several groups are traced on the map by red dotted lines, and a list of the villages, arranged according to their distribution into groups, is appended (No. 3 A .).
45. The village of Dahigaon, alluded to in my 10th paragraph, as having lapsed to Village of Dahigaon.

Government during the year of Settlement, has been assessed and included in the 3rd class, and it is proposed to assess the surveyed alienated villages at similar rates to those of the groups of Government villages to which, from their several positions, they naturally belong.
46. The Rahuri maximam garden rate, namely $8-0-0$ an acre, has been adopted for Garden rate. Nevessa. The garden land is entirely irrigated from wells, and amounts to 2,947 acres. The aggregate garden assessment is $6,366 \mathrm{Rs}$., the average survey rate thus being, per acre, $2-2-7$; while the average old assessment on the garden land cultivated in the year of settlement was 8-13-3 an acre. The former rates were, however, very irregular, and some gardens were formerly assessed at dry-crop rates. Well irrigation might be very much inereased in this talaka, as, except in the vicinity of the Godavari, water, in the low grounds, in most of the villages, is plentiful, and found at moderate depths. Few of the ryots, however, are able to afford the outlay required for the digging of a new well,-probably, in Nevasa, not less than 150 or 200 Rs ., and, with the present deficiency of capital, a subsistence can be more easily and safely derived from the cultivation of dry-crop lands. In time, however, as population and capital increase, we may look for a great extension of motasthal garden cultivation.
47. The case is different with regard to pátasthal cultivation, as no great original Patasthal Irrigation. outlay of capital is required on the part of the ryots; that is, on the supposition that the original works are constructed by Government ; and the cost of cultivation is also much less, owing to no bullocks being required for drawing the water, \&c. None of the numerous streams which flow through the district are now made use of for purposes of irrigation, but the ryots are of opinion that they might be made to yield a large profit, and many favourable localities for the construction of bandháras or dams, might probably be found. The soil along the banks of both the Pravara and Mula rivers especially, is admirably well suited for garden cultivation, and could dams be built across these rivers so as to admit of the adjoining plain country being irrigated, a very large increase of revenue might be looked for near Ladgaon, in the Kahuri Taluka, where the bed of the Pravara is rocky, there is a good foundation for a masonry work, such as a bridge or bandhara Favourable site for a bindhara
at hadgandation for a masonry work, such as a bridge or
and to have the locality examined to ascertain whether the slope of the ground in that direction would admit of the irrigation of a sufficiently large extent of ground to render probable that a work of the kind, if undertaken, would yield a protit. An extra revenue of from $2-0.0$ to $4-0.0$ an acre might be derived from these fine lands were they brought under irrigation. I mention the locality near Ladgaon, because I have observed that the river there has a rocky bed, apparently suitable for the construction of a bandhara, but, higher up, there, may possibly be better sites, if not on the Pravara, at least on the Mula. The supply of water in these rivers, would, I should think, suffice for the irrigation of all the adjoinirg low lands. The l'ravara is not very deep, and the lands near it are generally flat and low. The Mula is deeper, and the adjoining lands are generally not so level as those near the Pravara.
48. The general results of the rates, as regards the three classes of villages, are shown in the subjoined statement, which is of similar form to that given in Captain Wingate's report on Badami and Bagalkot. The cultivated acres shown are those of the year of settlement:-

| $\frac{8}{6}$ |  | Accondiete to Oid Sviry. |  |  | Accolvire \%o Naw tonver. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Colkvited Aatros in Sotilament. | Asmeneminen. | Rube perAcres. | Land in Colltrution. |  |  | Wute. |  |  | Tomal. |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | Acrect. | Asmespent. | Rats port. | Aores. | Anoese | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Rate per } \\ & \text { Acro. } \end{aligned}$ | Acres. | Amone | $\begin{aligned} \text { Rete per } \\ \text { Acre. } \end{aligned}$ |
| 1 | \% | 8 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | - | 10 | $n$ | 19 | 18 | 14 |
|  |  |  | Bu, | $\mathrm{Ra} \mathrm{ma}_{4} \mathrm{p}$. |  | He. | 80. 2 P. |  | Ras. | Rstem. p . |  | 8. | Rs. A. p. |
| 2nt. | ${ }^{17}$ | 28,985 105,050 | $\begin{array}{r}19,100 \\ \text { 2, } 25.285 \\ \hline 2,285\end{array}$ | ${ }^{0} 1114$ | 28,985 <br> 105,050 <br> 8.050 |  | 0 7 8 <br> 8 8  <br>  8 6 | (29,779 | 9.1.188 42.197 | 0 6  <br> 0 8 5 <br> 0 8  | 49,785 | 1, 81,46898 |  |
| 3 rd | 88 | 25,811 | 27,662 | 110 | ${ }^{26,611}$ | 18,018 | 081 | 84,768 | 11,982 | 0 O 6 | 60,677 | 2t,955 | 088 |
| * | 148 | 167, 823 | 1,61,784 | 106 | 157,638 | 87,871 | 810 | 161,000 | 63,974 | 068 | 815,885 | 1,50,045 | 077 |

49. Abolished huks, for which a money compensation has to be given to the former Huks. recipients, are also included in the Survey kumal, and it is therefore necessary to mention their estimated value. The hereditary district officers of Nevasa, as well as of most other districts of the Nagar Collectorate, do not collect levies in kind from the ryots. The maximum value (much exaggerated) of those collected by the village officers, as entered by the recipients themzelves in the accounts for the year preceding the introduction of the revised rates, is-


This amount is of course liable to reduction, but as the settlement of the emoluments of these officers has not yet been completed, I am unable to say to what extent.
50. The hudola lands of the village Mahars, and a fow other inams, are subject to the Judi isade, payment of a "judi" essessment, but as this is generally less than the "surrey" assessment, it is only affected to a very slight extent by the introduction of the revised rates. In cases where the judi exceeds the survey assessment, the difference is remitted, but in this taluka it only amounts to an aggregate sum of 47 Rupees or thereabouts. The Mahars in the Nagar Collectorate are generally not well remunerated for the services performed by them on account of Government, and it would be well if some arrangements tending to place them on a better footing could be effected.
51. No survey assessment has been imposed on unarable lands which, in this taluka, Unarable or Gairan lande. generally consist of hills, or of flat tracts of "moorum" and
"kurkal" land. These lands, except in the cases of one or two detached kuruns on the tops of hills, have hitherto not been assessed; having been left open for the public use. They are not valuable and produce very little grass.
52. The general results of the settlement, as regards all descriptions of tenures are shown in the following statement to which explanatory footnotes are appended :-

| Years. | Cultivated lands. |  |  |  | Waebe and other Lands. <br> Collections. | Alienated Lands. <br> Collec. tions. | Total Lands. <br> Collections. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Acres. | Assessment. | Remis. sions. | Collections. |  |  |  |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|  |  | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. |
| A verage of past years of former system | 129,602 | 1,23,144 | 21,616 | 1,01,528 | 2,778 | 1,140 | 1,05,446 |
| $\begin{array}{ccr}\text { Last year of } & \text { former } & \text { eystem, } \\ 1850-51 & \ldots & \ldots\end{array}$ | 126,348 | 1,33,468 | 18,357 | 1,15,111 | 755 | 2,088 | 1,17,954 |
| First year of new system, 1851-52 | 157,826 | 87,671 | 18,604 | 69,067 | 1,468 | 1,021 | 71,556 |
| Second yerr of new system, $1852-53$ | 183,641 | 98,899 | 398 | 98,501 | 1,826 | 1,517 | 1,01,844 |
| Survey Kamal of 148 villages. | 318,835 | 1,50,945 | $\ldots$ | ... | $\ldots$ | 1,668 | 1,52,613 |

1. The average of past years is for the 33 years of British rale immediately preceding the introduction of the revised rates; a proportionate incresse haviag been made in the cases of the years for which accounts for all the villages are not procerable. Vide appended statement No. 2 A.
2. The cores of the years of the former system have been estimsted for cultivated lands in the manner explained in the 37th parrgraph of the report. The aures of waste and alienated lands, under the former system, cannot be correctly estimated, and are therefore omitted,
3. The scres of the Survey knmal, in column 2, are the entire arable Government lands and the rupess in column 3, the entire"assessment of those lands.
4. A few itoms, independent of the assessment of the Survey knmal, such as revenue derivahe from melon beds, patches of cultivated land in anarable waste, occ., are leviable under the new syatem, bat they are not iacladed in column 6 of the Sarvey kumal entries, as their amonnt canoot be estimated.
5. In judging of the financial results of the settlement, I am of opinion that the first year of the new system, $1851-\overline{5} 2$, shoold not be taken into consideration. In the Ahmednagar Collectorate, in consequence of the former system of remitting the assessment of waste and unsown lands, and also of the generally impoverished condition of the cultivators, it has been found necessary, in effecting the change from the old to the new system, in the several districts, to allow remissions, which are calculated upon the former assessment, and are given in cases where the amount leviable under the old, is found to be less than that leviable under the new rates; the difference only being remitted. The year 18a1- $\mathbf{2} 2$ was one of partial failure of crops, and the remissions required to be given were considerable. The revised rates, therefore, did not come into full operation vatil the following year, $1852-53$, and the subjoined table of percentages, which is of nearly similar form to that given in the 40 th paragraph of Captain Wingate's Bádámi and Bágalkot report, refer to the estimated, or actual revenue collections of former years of the old system, as contrasted with the collections realized in 1852-53 of the new system, and also with those ultimately realizable in the event of all the arable lands being brought under cultivation:-

| Survey Settlement. | For what lande. | Perceutages by which the Survey Settlement falls short of, or exceeds, the Net Revenue of the undermentioned period: previone to Survey. |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\qquad$ | Year immediately preceding year of Settlement. |
| The net Revenue of 1852-53 (being ? the first year in which the revised mates came into foll operation) is less per cent. than that of | Government lands | $3 \frac{3}{4}$ | 132 |
|  | Government and alienated lands together. | 31 | $13 \frac{3}{6}$ |
| The Survey Kumal or gross rental is more per cent. than the Net Revenne of. | Government lands | $44 \frac{8}{4}$ | 40 |
|  | Government and alieuated lands together. | 444, | 291 |

54. The financial results above shown are highly satisfactory. Supposing all the Government and rent-paying inam lands to be under cultivation, the future collections, under the operation of the revised survey rates, would exceed the estimated average collections of former years, by $44 \frac{3}{3}$ per cent. or 47,167 rupees; but even on the supposition that 10 per cent. of the lands remain ancultivated, the ultimate excess would still amount to upwards of 30,000 rupeees. As the collections in $1852-53$ were nearly equal to the average collections of former years, they may be expected soon to exceed the latter; but in such animpoverished district it will, I conceive, be found impossible, at once, to do away with the pernicious syotem of giving remissions, though of course it will not be found necessary to give them except in years of excessive failure of crops.
55. The relief afforded to the ryots is also considerable, but, owing to the former loose
Relief to Ryota,
system of cultivation, it ia rather difficult to judge of its exact amount. According to the entries in the diagram the average rate bitherto paid by the cultivated lands is $0-12-6$ an acre, whereas, the average aurvey rate per acre, for all the arable lands, is 0-7-7, and for the lands cultivated in 1851-52, 0-8-10. The reduction effected by the survey rates on the cultivated acres is thus shown to be 0.3-8 an acre, or about 29 per cent. I am, however, inclined to think that more land was cultivated under the former system than was entered in the accounts. The bighás also of the former cultivation cannot be converted into acres according to any infallible standard. Even making sllowances for these and other circumatances, which might tend to modify the exhibited results, I am of opinion that the actual relief to the cultivators is not less than 0-2-2 to 0-2-8 an acre, or about 20 to 24 per cent., which is sufficient to place this taluka on an equality with other previously-assessed districts.
56. The following table, the form of which also corresponds nearly with that in Area and Assessment. Captain Wingate's report, shows the entire area of the 149 Government villages now comprised in the taluka, and the survey assessment imposed on the several descriptions of land :-

H 1036-7

| Deecripiton of land. | Dry-Crop. |  | Garien. |  | Burrob, |  | Total. |  | $\left\|\begin{array}{c} \text { Deduct } \\ \text { Portion } \\ \text { of Akenton } \\ \text { ment } \\ \text { allenated. } \\ \text { Hupees. } \end{array}\right\|$ | Balance ol A кoeniment or Exsmey Numat.Rupees, киреен, |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Acreas | Rapees. | Aeres. | Rupees. | Acren. | Kupees, | Acres, | Rapees. |  |  |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 0 | 10 | 11 |
| Government | 315,888 | 1,44,579 | 2,947 | 6,366 | 41,958 | $\ldots$ | 360,793 | 1,50,945 |  | 1,50,945 |
| Ioám ... | 12,955 | 8,500 | 198 | 381 | 793 | ... | 13,944 | 6,881 | 6,881 |  |
| Judi Inám ... | 7,611 | 3,136 | 4 | 5 | 406 | ... | 8,021 | 3.141 | 1,473 | 1,668 |
| Total of 148 villages settled in 1851-52... | 336,454 | 1,54,213 | 3,143 | 6,752 | 43,157 | $\ldots$ | 382,754 | 1,60,967 | 8,354 | 1,52,613 |
| Covernment... | 4,827 | 2,196 | 29 | 72 | 103 | $\cdots$ | 4,858 | 2267 |  | 2,267 |
| Inám... ${ }^{\text {.. }}$ | 204 | 131 | 12 | 32 | 1 | $\cdots$ | 217 | 163 | 163 |  |
| Judi Inam ... | 84 | 35 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 84 | 35 | 23 | 12 |
| Total of 1 village mettled in 1852-53... | 5,115 | 2,361 | 41 | 104 | 103 | ... | 5,250 | 2,465 | 186 | 2,279 |
| Government... | 320,715 | 1,46,774 | 2,976 | 6,438 | 42,060 | ... | 365,751 | 1,53,212 |  | 1,53,212 |
| lnami... ... | 13,159 | 6,631 | 204 | 413 | 794 |  | 14,157 | 7,044 | 7,044 |  |
| Judi Inám ... | 7,695 | 3,171 | 4 | 5 | 406 | ... | 8.105 | 3,176 | 1,456 | 1.680 |
| Grand Total of 149 villages... | 341,560 | 1,56,576 | 3,184 | 6,856 | 43,260 | ... | 388,013 | 1,63,432 | 8,540 | 1,64,892 |

57. The rates were introduced into the district during the months of February and

Rates when introduced. March 1851-52, by myself, assisted by the Iste Mamlutdarr, charge of the district were present for a few days. During the greater portion of the period I was stationed at Nevása, but, on several occasions, I moved my camp to other places, in order that I might be able more freely to converse with the ryots relative to the work in progress. I was, on the whole, satisfied with the exertions of the Mamlatdar and his astablishment. In one instance, however, one of the Karkuns who had been employed in the preliminary work of inspection of fields, had made incorrect, returns, and his misconduct, on being brought to notice, was reported to the Collector. The work of introducing the rates was effected by myself, or under my immediate superintendence, and, should time permit, I will hereafter endeavour to describe the method of settlement followed by me in this and other districts now reported on.
58. The revised rates were generally much approved of by the ryots, and, so far as I

Rates approved of by Ryots. could judge, they were considered by them to be in all respects suitable. The old rates were, occasionally, raised, bot not to any great extent, and in most of the cases in which the old rates were enhanced, the villagers themselves allowed that the new assessment was an equitable one. Indeed, it is a matter of surprise, that with so many irregalarities in the old system, and with so many former reductions and modifications of rates, effected generally on incorrect or doubtful data, there were so few complaints. The irregularities alluded to were not always in favour of the ryots. Sumetimes a ryot would be found to be cultivating a much larger, and sometimes a much smaller extent of land than that entered in his name in the accounts, even after every reasonable allowance for difference of soil, and for the varying size of the bigha, had been made, and the old rate being on the bigha, his new assessment was increased or decreased proportionately. I have met with fields with an average size of bigha of 4 or 5 acres, and the areas of other fields, again, were much below the average of the entire lands of the village.
59. The greatest, and indeed the only prominent case of dissatisfaction was that of Vadali, a village situated in the north-west of the taluka, and as it exemplifies the former state of disorder and want of Complaints of Ryote of Vadali. as it exemplifies the This village was not settled in Nari system, I will enter into
Babajee's time. Up to $1802-3$ it is said to have been enjoyed, in jághir, by Daud Ali Khan; a Risaldar of the Mogulai or Nizam's Government. The jaghirdar appears to havedied about 1802-3, but the village was still entered in the acconnts as a jaghir of the Nizam's Government. The Paishwah, however, retained an amul or share of the revenue. Under our Governnent, also, until 1836-37, the jaghir share of the revenue still remaned alienated, but from 1837-38 to 1846-47, it was kept in deposit, and in the latter year the village was resumed. The village like many others under the Nizam's Goverument, had become very much impoverished, which led to the necessity of the lands being given out for cultivation on cowles and on the toke-bundi system. The old assessment which was found to prevail on our obtaining the village was, therefore, very low, and the size of the bigha very indefinite. The area of the Government arable portion of the village, as entered in the accounts, is 1,402 bighas, and the entire assersment thereon about 951 rupees. The area of the entire lands of the village, as ascertained by measurement, is 4,548
acres, sod of the Government araile portion, 3,825 saces. The survey assessment imposed on the later in 1,161 rapees. It will thus be seen that the average size of the old araile bigha in this village is abont $2 f$ acres, and that the old average rate of assessment is about $0-10-10$ per bigha, or 0-4-0 per acre. The average sarvey assessment imposed is 0-4-10 or an increase of $0-0-10$ per acre. Before the survey rates were made known in the district, the ryots petitioned that their old assessment should be continued, thus showing that they considered it very low, as, in geveral, a reduction of assessment is effected by the Survey Department. At the time of settlement their fears relatire to the assessment being raised were realized, aud they therefore reqnested me to proceed to the village to inspect their lands. 'This I did, but as my visit did not tend to corroborate the truth of the complaints of the villagers, I instructed my Assistant Mr. Davidson to re-test the classification in order that no doubt might remain. The result was that the original classification was found to be quite correct and there was no room for giving in to the wishes of the ryots as regards a reduction of the rates determined upon. There were no complaints (or at nuy rate no important complaints) in the neighbouring four Nevasa villages of which the average survey rates of the arable lands are, respectively, 0-7-9, $0-6-11,0-6-3$, and $0-5-4$ per acre, and the general average rate $0-6-7$ per acre. The old average rate in these villages was about $0-13-4$ per acre. The former very low assessment of Vadáli, as compared with that of nther villages, had indnced the ryots, whose stock and farming capabilities were very limiled, to cultivate the "mal" or easily uorked poor soils, in preference to the more heavily taxed good soits, or those in the cultivation of which a larger amonnt of farming stock is required. There is some improveable dry-crop land near the village which is now much neglected, and not only could the extent of garden land be increased, but many of the present wells (if I recollect rightly 9) are out of repair.

- 60. The ryots of Vadáli will, no doubt, be subjected to some inconvenjence at first from their assessment having been raised; this might be lessened by assisting them to dig and repair wells and to purchase a few sheep, and also by encouraging them to devote a little more labour to the cultivation of their fields.

61. Few other matters were brought to notice during the time of settlement that Wishes of the Ryots. require to be noticed in this report. The principal wish of the ryots, now that their assessment bas been equitably settled is that some satisfactory arraugement shonld be made relative to their money dealings with the Márwáris. Many villagers also applied for Government assistance towards the repair of their village chávdis and wells, but, as I could do nothing for then in the matter, I referred them to the Collector's Chavdis and Wells, department. When the villagers are well off, it appears to me that no money should be advanced to them for purposes connected with the improvement of their villages. They ought to build chavdis and wells for themselves, but the difficulty is to get them to act in concert. Sonnetimes a Patel, although the feeling of the body of the villagers is in favour of a local tas heing levied to defray the cost of works of the sort, is afraid to move in the matter throngh fear of being accused, by soune enemy, of attempting to collect money on his own account; but 1 think this might be remedied by the Assistant Collector giving orders, in favourable years, when the people are in good bumour, for the levs of a local tax for useful works in eny case in which he may find the principal persons in the village willing to co-operate, and by his defining the amount of the tax, and from whom it is to be levied. In such cases iudividual complaints should not be listened to, and appeals from quarrelsome persous against the orders of the Assistant Collector should not be allowed to go further than the Collector.
62. In the present condition of the tajuka there are, however, many villages

Proposals in relation to wells in Nexask and Reshuri. where the ryots, even if willing, are too poor to construct wells or repair old ones, and I think a sum of abont 3,000 rupees might be very profitably invested by Government in Nevása aud a similar amount in Báhuri, in construoting wells, where there is now a defieiency of drinking water, aud where the circamstances of the villagers do not admit of their providing a remedy. Several villages have only recently become inhabited, and the cultivation and increase of live-stock in them are impeded by a want of water. Wells are not otily required near the village site, but, also, when the lands run out far, at a distance from the village; as without water for the ase of the working cattle, the more distant lands must remaiu uncultivated. There is so much room for improvement and consequent increase of revenue in both the Ráhuri and Nevása talukas, that the money laid out in this way would be, indirectly, more then repaid. Many villagers also preferred petitions that a piece of inam land should be given to the person who draws water for the village cattle, but these of course conld not be listened to.
63. In concluding my remarks on Nevasa, I beg again to recommend that the Conelusion. cuustruction of the roads mentioned in my 18th paragraph be iumediately commenced. It is shown in my 54 th paragraph that the new rates imposed admit of a large increase of revenue being derived from the taluka; and the construction of these lines of road would mach aid in bringing about this desirable result. The roals alluded to are of even more general, than local importance. In the present season, owing to the tailure of the last rains, many of the ryots must be very bady off, and would be glad t, obtain employment as labourers. The works would thus not only be of permanent atility, but, if undertaken quickly, would also afford the meacs of subsistence to many who will otherwise have to seek employment elsewhere.

Detailed Figured Statement exhibiting the source and amount of every item of Revenue hitherto derived from Land of every description, whether Government or Alienated, within the limits of the 148 Villages forming the Nevása Taluka, in A.D. 1851-52, for the years of British Rule preceding ihe introduction of the revised Survey rates of Assessment, for which full information for each Fillage has been obtained from the fecords, prepared according to the instructions contained in paragraph 75 of the Survey Juint Report.



G. S. A. ANDERSON,

Superintendent, Ahmednagar Revenue Survey and Assessment.

No. 2 A.-(Paragraph 36.)
Figured Statement of such of the entries in Diagram No. 1 as relate to the past " Cultivation, Assessment, hemissions, and Collections of the Government Arable Lands of the Nevàsa Táluk:.. :


- 1036-8

No. 2A - (Paragraph 36)-continued.


No. 2 A.-(Paragraph 36)-continued.


The entries for each year, or where there are three lines, the upper entries refer to the villages for which full information has been obtained from the accounts, and correspond with similar entries in columns 6,9, 10 and 11 of Statement No. 1 . In the divisions having

Vide intiructions contained in para 73 of the Survey Joint. ieport.
three lines, the central entries refer to the villages for which a proportibnete increase has been made in consequence of no data being procurable, and the lower entries give the corresponding tutals of each year.
G. S. A. ANDERSON,

Superintendent, Ahmednagar Revenue
Survey and Asse日sment.

## No: 3 A.-(Paragraph 44).

List of the Government Villages of the Nevása Taluka, referred to in the 44th Parggraph of the Report.


No. 3 A.-(Paragraph 44)-continued.


Detached or outlying villages are included in the groaps whose villages are similarly rated.
G. S. A. ANDERSON,

Superintendent, Ahmednagar Revenue
Survey and Assessment.

STATISTICAL Table No. III.
Details of Cultivation in A.D. 1880-81.

| District. | Surreyed Fillages. | Cropes | Pricentan of woral Colitivitom on <br>  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Total. | Fharts | Rabl. |
| Nevask Taluka of the Nagar Collectorste. | 118 Goverament and 18 Inam Villages. | Bajri ... ... ... ... | 27.9 | 27.9 | 00 |
|  |  | Jspari ... ... ... ... | 40.2 | 00 | 40.2 |
|  |  | Whent ... ... ... ... | $5 \cdot 8$ | 00 | 5.8 |
|  |  | Gram $\quad .$. | 4.2 | 00 | 42 |
|  |  | Garden ... ... ... | 0.5 | $0 \cdot 0$ | 0.5 |
|  |  | Kardai $\ldots$ $\ldots$ $\ldots$ $\ldots$ <br> TIL $\ldots$ $\ldots$ $\ldots$ $\ldots$ <br> 1     | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.1 0.0 |
|  |  | Tobaces .... $\quad . .$. | 0.2 | 0.0 | $0-2$ |
|  |  | Tar... | 0.5 | 0.8 | 00 |
|  |  | Cothon | 13 | 1.9 | 00 |
|  |  |  | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.0 |
|  |  |  | $0 \cdot 1$ | 0.0 | 0.1 0.0 |
|  |  | Total |  | 31.9 | $51 \cdot 1$ |
|  |  | Oceupied waste or fallow ... | 17.0 |  |  |
|  |  | Grand Total ... | 100. | ... | $\cdots$ |

STATISTICAL TABLE No. IV.
Detail of Population.


- The upper hine of figures is that of the previous sethiement.

STATISTICAL TABLE No. V.
Occupation of the People.

| Districto | Surveyed Villages. | Occupation, | Namber. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Nevass -Talaka of the Nagar Collectorate. | 118 Goverbient and | Agricultural ... $\ldots$ : | $\begin{aligned} & 24,512 \\ & 24,660 \end{aligned}$ |
|  |  | Partly Agricultural ... $\{$ | -1.127 |
|  |  | Non-Agricultural... ... $\{$ | $\begin{aligned} & 24,782 \\ & 25,717 \end{aligned}$ |
|  |  | Total ... $\{$ | $\begin{aligned} & 49,294 \\ & 58,510 \end{aligned}$ |

The apper line of figaree is that of the previoas settlement.
G. A. LAUGHTON, Colonel,

Superintendent, Revenue Survey and Assessment,
Poona and Násik.

## STATISTICAL TABLE No. VI.

Return of Houses, Chávdis, Wells, \&cc., and of Live and Dead Stock.


Tho upper Hine of ligures in that of the previous netienent.
A.

Statement showing the number of Survey Nos. culivated entirely by the holders in whose names they are entered in the Village Accounts, or in partnership with others, as well as the Survey Nos. sublet for Money or Grain Payments and those that are Waste.

| Surveyed Villages. | Number of Survey Numbera cultivated ontirely by the holders in whose names they are entered in the Village Acoounts. | Number of Survey Numbers not cultivated entirely by the holdere in whone namea they are entered but cultivated by them in partnership with others. | Namber of Survery Numbers sublet for Money Payments. | Number of Survey Numbers sublet for grain Payments. | Number of Survey Numberm Waste. | Grand Total. | Remarks. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 118 Government and 19 Inám villages | 12,929 | 225 | 1,767 | 2,782 | 1,255 | $18,958$ |  |

G. A. LAUGHTON, Colonel,

## APPENDIX B.

Statement showing Mortgages in the Villages of the Nevása Táluka of the Ahmednagar Collectorato.



APPENDIX B-continued.



APPENDIX B-continued.


G. A. LAUGHTON, Colonel,

Superintendent, Revenue Survey and Assessment,
Poons and Nasik.

## APPENDIX $\mathbf{C}$.

Statement showing Sales in the Villages of the Nevasa Talulca of the Ahmednagar Collectorate.


## AFENDIX C-continued.


G. A. LALGHTON, Colonel,

Superintendent, Reveuue Survey and Assessment,
Poona and Nás:k.

## APPENDIX $D$.

Statement showing Sub-letting in the Villages of the Nevisa Triluha of the dhmednagar Collectorate.


## APPENDIX D-continued.


G. A. LADGHTON, Colonel,

Superintendent, Revenue Sarvey and Assessment,
Poona and Násik.

Statement showing the average yearly Price of the principal Grains and Oil-seeds in Seers of 80 Rupees in weight for the last 30 years.
Information obtained through the Mámlatdar of Táluka Nevása and the two adjoining settled Talukas Ráhuri and Kopargaon.


## APPENDIX F．

Revenue Statement for 1 village，Shiregaon，siturted in the Nevása Taluka of the Ahmednagar Collecterate，into which the Survey Settlement was intruduced in 1S49－60．
［The years above the black line are those antecedent to the Survey Settlement．］

| Tears． |  |  |  |  |  |  | Unogenpitue <br>  Gоverıийт Latid． |  |  | Eato the fivinum es WHICR 18 ALIBNATEIE <br>  （相和．） |  |  | Tornlarm，Goyermanat Cocuribs，Uxocoevixi ard lixiy， |  |  |  | 荤 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 若 } \\ & \text { 飠 } \\ & \text { E } \end{aligned}$ | 景 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 宫 } \\ & \text { 品 } \end{aligned}$ |  | $\frac{5}{3}$ |  |  | 若 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | 5 | $*$ | 4 | 6 | 6 | 7 | 0 | － | 10 | 11 | 12 | 18 | 14 | 15 | 18 | 17 | 18 |
|  |  | 星 | Pa | Re | B． | Rs． |  | Tus． | Re |  | B4． | Rs． | Acres | Rg． | Ru， | R ${ }^{\text {a }}$ |  |
| 2839－40 | 773 | 1，115 | 70 | 898 | 488 | 867 | 481 | 01 | $\cdots$ | 109 | 158 | 8 | 1，313 | 1，872 | 688 | $\cdots$ |  |
| 1810.41 | 625 | 808 | 86 | 189 | 2＊＊ | 678 | 579 | 818 | $\cdots$ | 109 | 156 | 6 | 1，318 | 1，872 | 684 | ．．． |  |
| 1841－4 | 688 | 085 | 15 | 689 | 558 | 438 | 521 | 731 | ＊＊ | 108 | 150 | 4 | 1，818 | 1，872 | 430 | 76 |  |
| 1818－43 | 841 | 086 | 12 | 107 | 178 | 748 | 668 | 700 | $\cdots$ | 100 | 150 | 7 | 1，315 | 1，872 | 765 | 648 |  |
|  | 658 | 960 | 11 | 482 | 478 | 477 | 548 | 760 | $\cdots$ | 109 | 156 | 4 | 1，818 | 1，872 | 481 | $\cdots$ |  |
| 1844－46 | 685 | 988 | 5 | 452 | 407 | 881 | 519 | 12s | $\cdots$ | 109 | 166 | 4 | 1，818 | 1，872 | 885 | $\cdots$ |  |
| 1845－46 | 707 | 1，081 | 6 | 781 | 788 | 285 | 497 | 095 | 0 | 100 | 156 | 4 | 1，319 | 1，878 | 248 | $\cdots$ |  |
| 1846－57 | 705 | 1，019 | 5 | 419 | 42 | 585 | 490 | 697 | 12 | 109 | 358 | 4 | 1，819 | 1，872 | 611 | ＊＊ |  |
| 1857－48 ．． | 792 | 1，142 | 11 | 9 | 82 | 1，110 | 412 | 374 | $\theta$ | 100 | 168 | 7 | 1，313 | 1，872 | 1，120 | $\cdots$ |  |
| 1848－69 ．． | 888 | 1，204 | 5 | 558 | s6s | 861 | 380 | 518 | 14 | 100 | 150 | 8 | 1，818 | 1，872 | 668 | ＊＊ |  |
| 1840．50 ．． | 645 | 699 | $\cdots$ | 817 | 217 | 882 | 908 | 174 | 16 | 84 | 78 | 10 | 282 | 840 | 408 | $\cdots$ |  |
| 1860－63： | 629 | 585 | ${ }^{*}$ | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | 585 | 849 | 183 | 4 | 84 | 18 | 11 | 838 | 846 | 600 | 160 |  |
| 1851－68 ．． | 68 | 650 | $\cdots$ | B5 | 65 | 595 | 360 | 123 | 8 | 84 | 78 | 1 | 038 | 545 | 008 | ．．． |  |
| 1862－59 ．． | 800 | 788 | $\cdots$ | ．．． | $\cdots$ | 788 | 57 | \％ | 4 | 75 | 68 | 11 | 085 | 846 | 758 | $\cdots$ |  |
| 1888－34 ．． | 827 | 758 | ．．． | 10 | 10 | 748 | 80 | 28 | $\cdots$ | 75 | 65 | 4 | 988 | 846 | 789 | $\cdots$ |  |
| 1854－85 ．． | 887 | 768 | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | ．． | 758 | so | 29 | ＊＊ | 76 | 6 | 4 | 889 | 846 | 802 | $\cdots$ |  |
| 1855－56． | 887 | 758 | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | －．．． | 768 | 80 | 23 | $\ldots$ | 78 | 65 | 44 | 082 | 846 | 808 | $\cdots$ |  |
| 1850－67 | 887 | 768 | ＂ | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | 758 | 80 | \％ | 1 | 76 | 65 | 45 | 982 | 84 | 808 | $\cdots$ |  |
| 1867－58 ．． | 827 | 768 | $\cdots$ | － | $\cdots$ | 768 | 80 | 93 | 1 | 76 | 65 | 4 | 933 | 846 | 84 | ＊＊ |  |
| 1888．59 ．． | 850 | 780 | ．＊＊ | $\ldots$ | $\cdots$ | 780 | 1 | 1 | $\cdots$ | 78 | 65 | 4 | 98 | 846 | 824 | $\cdots$ |  |
| 1858．0e ．． | 856 | 780 | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | 780 | 1 | 1 | $\cdots$ | 76 | ＊ | 4 | 858 | 846 | 63 | $\cdots$ |  |
| 188061 ．． | 856 | 780 | m | ＊ | ＊＊ | 780 | 1 | 1 | ．．． | 78 | 5 | 4 | 688 | 846 | 86 | $\cdots$ |  |
| 1881－89 ．． | 866 | 78 | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | ．．＊ | 780 | 1 | 1 | $\cdots$ | 76 | 68 | 48 | 935 | 846 | $8 \%$ | $\cdots$ |  |
| 1806－69 ．． | 856 | 780 | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | 780 | 1 | 1 | ＊ | 76 | 66 | 45 | 089 | 84 | 888 | ＊＊ |  |
| 1888－61 ．． | 850 | 780 | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | 780 | 1 | 1 | $\cdots$ | 76 | 85 | ${ }^{*}$ | 438 | 840 | 85 | $\cdots$ |  |
| 1804．86 | \＄58 | 780 | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | 780 | 1 | 1 | $\cdots$ | 76 | 65 | 45 | 88 | 840 | 848 | ．．． |  |
| 2065－58 | 850 | 780 | $\cdots$ | ．．． | ＊＊ | 780 | 1 | 1 | $\cdots$ | 78 | 68 | 5 | 898 | $8 \times 8$ | 825 | $\cdots$ |  |
| 1886－6 ．． | B56 | 780 | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | ．．． | 780 | 1 | 1 | $\cdots$ | 78 | 05 | 45 | 888 | 848 | 885 | ＊＊ |  |
| 1807－8 | B56 | 780 | $\cdots$ | $\ldots$ | $\cdots$ | ． 780 | $\cdots$ | ＊． | $\cdots$ | 76 | 65 | 65 | 092 | 845 | 68 | $\cdots$ |  |
| 1868－68 ．． | 858 | 780 | ＊＊ | $\cdots$ | $\ldots$ | 780 | ＊＊ | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | 74 | 6 | $\omega_{5}$ | 932 | 845 | 860 | $\stackrel{ }{*}$ |  |
| 1800－70 | 850 | 780 | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | 780 | $\cdots$ | s＊ | $\cdots$ | 76 | 65 | 16 | 188 | 845 | 828 | $\cdots$ |  |
| 1870－71 ．． | 854 | \％ 780 | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | ．．． | 780 | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | ．．． | 78 | 68 | 48 | 939 | 845 | 88.6 | $\cdots$ |  |
| 187－78 ．． | 856 | 780 | $\cdots$ | ．． | ．．． | 780 | $\cdots$ | ＊＊ | －．＂ | 76 | 65 | 4 | 85 | 845 | 625 | $\cdots$ |  |
| 1872－78．．． | 858 | 790 | $\ldots$ | $\cdots$ | ．．－ | 780 | $\cdots$ | s．0 | $\cdots$ | 76 | 65 | 4 | 088 | 845 | 80\％ | ＂－ |  |
| 1878－74 ．． | 856 | 780 | $\cdots$ | ＊＊ | ．．． | 780 | $\cdots$ | ＊＊ | $\cdots$ | 76 | $\omega$ | 45 | 0.82 | 835 | 8\％5 | $\ldots$ |  |
| 1874－76 ．． | 856 | 780 | $\cdots$ | $\ldots$ | ．．． | 780 | ．．． | － | ＊ | 76 | 65 | 络 | 6ss | 845 | 828 | $\cdots$ |  |
| 1876－26 ．． | 858 | 780 | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | 780 | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | ．－1 | 76 | ＊ | 45 | 039 | 845 | 8\％ | $\cdots$ |  |
| 1876．77 ． | 850 | 780 | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | ．．． | 780 | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | ．．． | 70 | 65 | 48 | 982 | 845 | 896 | 696 |  |
| 1877－78 ．． | 850 | 780 | $\because$ | ＊＊ | ．．． | 780 | ＊＊ | ．．． | $\cdots$ | 76 | 58 | 45 | 089 | 845 | 825 | 887 |  |
| 1878－75 ．． | 856 | 780 | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | 780 | ．．＊ | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | 76 | 65 | 45 |  | 845 | 885 | ＊＊ |  |
| 1070－80 ．． | 858 | 790 | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | 780 | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | 76 | 65 | 4 | 838 | 96 | 825 | $\cdots$ |  |
| 1880－81 ．． | 856 | 780 | $\pm$ | －＊ | $\cdots$ | 780 | －＊ | ．＊＊ |  | 70 | 65 | 4 | 989 | 囦5 | 885 | $\cdots$ |  |



Soperintendent，Revenue Survey and Assessment，Poona and Násik．

## APPENDIX G

Revenue Statement for 110 villages, situated in the Nevasa Taluka of the Ahmednagar Collectorate, into which the Survey Settlement was iniroduced in 1851-6思.
[The years above the black liue are thoze antecedent to the Survey Settlement.]

 the bighas reserded in the Tatuk accounte. The proportion assimed is i Bigha, equals so Gonthat,
G. A. LAUGTHTON, Colonel,

Superintendent, Revenue Survey and Aseessment, Poona and Nasik.

## APPENDIX H.

Revenue Stutement for 1 Pillage, Nagapur, situated in the Nevtsa Taluka of the Shmednagar Collectorate, into which the Survey Settloment was introduced in 1852-6s.
[The years above the black line are thoee atwoedent to the Surrey Settlement:]


G. A. LAUGHTON, Colonel,

Superintendent, Reveaue Survey and Assessment, Poona and Násik.

## APPENDIX I.

Revenue Statement for one Inám village, Dahignon, situated in the Nevása Táluka of the Ahmednagar Collectorate, into which the Survey Settlement was introduced in 18520-6s.


G. A. LAUGHTON, Colonel,

Superintendent, Revenue Survey and Assessment, Poons and Násik.

APPENDIX J.
Revenue Statement for 1 Village, Malewadi, situated in the Nevása Táluka of the Ahmednagar Collectorate, into which the Survey Setllement was intraduced in 185s-64. [The years above the liack line are those natecedent to the Survey Settlement.]


APPENDIX K
Revenus Statement for 15 Inám Villages situated in the Nevasa Táluku of the Ahmednagar Collectorate into which the Survay Settlement was introduced in 1859.54

G. A. LAUGHTON, Colonel,

Superintendent, Revenue Survey and Assessment, Poona and Naik.

APPENDIX L.
$\pm$ RevenuaStatement for one Inám Village, Bhenda Khurd, situated in the Nevása Tálulaa of the Ahmednagar Collectorate; into which the Surbey Settlement wat introduced in $1854-65$. [The yeara above the black line are those antecedent to the Buryey Settlement.]


Revenue Statement for one Inám Village, Khedla Parmanand, situated in the Nevása Táluka of the Ahmednagar Collectorate, into wheth the Survey Settlement was introduced in 1856-56. [The years above the black line are those antecedent to the Survey Settiement.]

| Years. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Unoocupind asarbasd amabui Kindiá Land. |  |  |  |  |  | Total Lasd, Kha'laa Ocoupind, Unoocypid amp Lna'm. |  |  | Heimnesoutetandrogat ologeof jear. | Rhuatra, |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \frac{1}{\text { Occuppaed }} \begin{array}{c} \text { Acreas. } \end{array} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\underset{\substack{\text { gitandird } \\ \text { Atacament. }}}{\text { Fint }}$ | Rerntmiona. |  |  | Balance orllected | Acras. | Fol$\begin{gathered}\text { Atandard } \\ \text { Assamament. }\end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Realizntions } \\ \text { fromAnemifom } \\ \text { malle of } \\ \text { Grozing. } \end{gathered}$ | Acreed. | $\begin{gathered} \text { Full } \\ \text { Atandand } \\ \text { Ascepsment } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Collections, } \\ & \text { Quitremt, } \end{aligned}$sec |  |  | Collectionn. Totarnal of 10 and 18. |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Permb:- } \\ \text { nent: } \end{gathered}$ | Canual. | Total. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 1 |  | 2 | 8 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 0 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
|  |  |  |  | $\mathrm{R}_{3}$. | Rs. | Re. | Rs. | Re. |  | Ra. | Ras. |  | Re. | R. | Acres. | Ra. | Re. | Ra. |  |
| 1845-46 | ... | $\cdots$ | 1,681 | 1,762 | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | 1,752 1,808 | 3332 | 768 710 | $\ldots$ | 560 560 | 747 | 18 | 2,573 <br> 2,573 <br> 2.58 | $\mathbf{3 , 2 6 5}$ 3,265 | 1,770 1,826 | ... |  |
| $1846-47$ 3847 | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | 1,681 1,599 | 1,808 1813 | $\ldots$ | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | 1,818 | 4 | 705 | $\ldots$ | 560 | 747 | 18 | 2,573 2,573 | 3,265 | 1,826 1,831 | $\ldots$ |  |
| 1848-49 | $\ldots$ | $\cdots$ | 1,466 | 1,708 | $\ldots$ | 384 | 384 | 1,322 | 547 | 812 | $\ldots$ | 560 | 747 | 18 | 2,573 | 3,265 | 1,940 | $\ldots$ |  |
| 1849 -50 |  | $\cdots$ | 1,522 | 1,752 | 808 | 666 | 974 | 778 | 491 | 766 |  | 560 | 747 | 18 | 2,673 | 8,265 | 796 | ... |  |
| 1850.51 | ... | $\cdots$ | 1,489 | 1,999 | $\ldots$ | 905 | 905 | 1,088 | 524 | 525 | 4 | 560 | 747 | 18 | 2,577 | 3,265 | 1,110 | ... |  |
| 1851.62 | ... | $\ldots$ | 1,258 | 1,712 | ... | 1,872 | 1,372 | 340 | 755 | 806 |  | 560 | 747 | 18 | 2,573 | 3,265 | 358 | ... |  |
| 1853.54 1854.55 | $\cdots$ | $\ldots$ | 1,838 | 2,285 2,363 | 303 | 266 | 286 303 | 2,060 2,080 | 117 | 155 | 28 29 | 560 | 747 | 18 | 2,573 2,573 | 3,268 3,265 | 2,0144 | $\ldots$ |  |
| 1855-56 |  |  | 1,795 | 1,438 | $\cdots$ |  | … | 1,433 | 20 | 7 |  | 380 | 311 | 18 | 2,195 | 1,766 | 1,456 | ... |  |
| 1856-57 | ... | ... | 1,795 | 1,438 | $\ldots$ | ... | ... | 1,438 | 20 | 7 | $\ldots$ | 330 | 311 | 18 | 2195 | 1,756 | 1,456 | ... |  |
| 1857-58 | ... | $\ldots$ | 1,795 | 1,438 | ... | ... | ... | 1,438 1,438 | 20 20 | 7 | ... | 380 380 | 311 | 18 | 2,195 <br> $\mathbf{2 , 1 9 5}$ | 1,756 <br> 1,756 <br> 1 | 1,466 1,456 | $\ldots$ |  |
| 1858.59 | ... | $\cdot$ | 1,795 1,795 | 1,438 <br> 1,438 | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | $\cdots$ | 1,438 <br> 1,438 | 20 | 7 | $\ldots$ | 381 | 311 | 65 | 2,200 | 1,766 | 1,503 | ... |  |
| $1859-60$ $1860-61$ | $\ldots$ | $\cdots$ | 1,795 1,795 | 1,438 1,438 | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | 1,438 | 20 | 7 | $\ldots$ | 391 | 311 | 65 | 2,206 | 1,756 | 1,503 | $\ldots$ |  |
| 1881.62 |  |  | 1,795 | 1,438 | $\ldots$ | ... | $\ldots$ | 1,438 | 20 | 7 | $\ldots$ | 391 | 311 | 137 | 2.206 | 1,756 | 1.675 | $\ldots$ |  |
| 1862-63 | ... | $\ldots$ | 1,795 | 1,488 | $\cdots$ | ... | $\ldots$ | 1,438 | 20 | 7 | $\cdots$ | 391 | 311 | 137 | 2,208 2,206 | 1,756 1,756 | 1,575 <br> 1,575 <br> 1,55 | $\cdots$ |  |
| 1863 -64 | ... |  | 1,795 | 1,438 | ... | $\ldots$ | $\cdots$ | 1,438 1,438 | 20 20 | 7 | $\ldots$ | 3391 | 311 | 137 137 | 2,206 2,206 | 1,756 $\mathbf{1 , 7 5 6}$ | 1,575 | $\ldots$ |  |
| 1864n65 | ... |  | 1,795 | 1,438 | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | ... | 1,438 | 2 | 7 | $\cdots$ |  |  |  |  |  | 1,50 | ... |  |
| 1865-66 | ... | $\ldots$ | 1,795 | 1,438 | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | $\cdots$ | 1,438 | 20 | 7 | $\cdots$ | 391 | 311 | 137 | 2,206 | 1,756 | 1,575 | ... |  |
| 1866.67 | ... | $\cdots$ | 1,795 | 1,438 | $\ldots$ | $\cdots$ | $\ldots$ | 1,438 1,438 | 20 20 | 7 | $\ldots$ | 391 391 | 311 | 137 137 137 | 2,206 2,206 | 1,756 1,756 | 1.575 1.575 | $\ldots$ |  |
| $1867-68$ $1868-69$ | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | 1,795 1,795 | 1,438 1,438 | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | 1,438 | 20 | 7 | ... | 391 | 311 | 137 | 2,206 | 1,756 | 1,575 | ** |  |
| 1869-70 |  |  | 1,795 | 1,488 | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | 1,438 | 20 | 7 | $\ldots$ | 391 | 311 | 137 | 2,206 | 1,756 | 1,575 | $\cdots$ |  |
| 1870.71 | ... | ... | 1,795 | 1,438 | $\ldots$ | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | 1,438 | 20 | 7 | ... | 391 | 311 | 137 | 2.206 | 1,756 | 1,575 |  |  |
| 1871.72 | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | 1,795 | 1,438 | ... | ... | $\ldots$ | 1,438 | 20 | 7 | . | 391 | 311 | 137 | 2,206 | 1,756 | 1,575 | 10 |  |
| 1879-73 | $\ldots$ | ... | 1,795 | 1,438 | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | $\cdots$ | 1,438 | 20 | 7 | $\cdots$ | 391 | 311 | 137 | 2,206 <br> 2,206 | 1,756 1,758 | 1,575 1,575 | 10 |  |
| $1879 \cdot 74$ $1874-75$ | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | 1,798 1,795 | 1,438 1,438 | $\ldots$ | ... | ... | 1,438 1,438 | 20 20 | 7 | $\ldots$ | 391 391 | 311 311 | 137 | 2,206 2,206 | 1,756 | 1,575 | 27 10 |  |
| 1874.75 | $\ldots$ |  | 1,795 | 1,438 | ... | $\ldots$ | ... | 1,438 | 2 | 7 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ${ }^{187575}$ | ** |  | 1.756 | 1,404 | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ |  |  |  |  |  | 311 | 137 | 2,2060 2,206 | 1,758 1,756 | 1,541 | 10 |  |
| $1878-77$ 1877.78 | .... | $\cdots$ | 1,795 1,795 | 1,438 <br> 1,438 | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | 1,438 1,438 | 20 20 | 7 | $\ldots$ | ${ }_{391} 391$ | 311 | 137 137 137 | 2,206 <br> 2,206 | 1,756 1,766 | 1,575 1,575 | ... |  |
| 1878.79 | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | 1,795 | 1,438 | $\cdots$ | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | 1,438 | 20 | 7 | ... | 391 | 311 | 137 | $\stackrel{2,208}{ }$ | 1,756 | 1,575 | ... |  |
| 1879-80 | ... | ... | 1,795 | 1,438 | $\ldots$ | ... | $\ldots$ | 1,438 | 20 | 7 | ... | 391 | 311 | ${ }_{137}^{137}$ | 2,206 2,206 | 1,756 1,756 | $\xrightarrow{1,575}$ | $\cdots$ |  |
| 1880.81 | ... | .. | 1,795 | 1,438 | ... | ... | $\ldots$ | 1,438 | 20 | 7 | ... | 891 | 311 | 137 | 2,206 | 1,756 | 1,575 | $\cdots$ |  |

APPENDIX N.
Revenue Statement for 5 Villages situated in the Nevása Tailuka of the Ahmednagar Collectorate, into which the Survey Settlement was introduced in 1869-70.
[The yeara above the black line are those antecedent to the Survey Settlement.]


APPENDIX 0.
 \%. . 4 \& wos introduced in 1869-70.
[The years above the black fine are those angtecedent to the Survey Settlementy].


G. A. LAUGHTON, Colonel,

Superintendent, Revenue Survey and Assessimpot, Pepra and Násik.


Gih Ganuary 188\%, far 157 Villages (including Government and Inam) situated, in the Noyasa Taluka of tho
Collectorate.



P-continued.

G. A. LAUGHTON, Colonel,

Superintendent, Revenue Survey and Assessment, Poona and Násic.

## No. 332 of 1882

From

## J. ELPHINSTON, Esquire, <br> Acting Collector of Ahmednagar ;

To

T. H. STEWART, Esquire,<br>Survey and Settlement Commissioner.

Ahmednagar, 13th January 18S․

## Sir,

I have the honour to submit the report of the Superintendent of Revenue Survey and Assessment on the revised rates for 126 villages of the Nevása Táluka, for which the sanction of Government is requested.
2. You are well acquainted with the taluka, and $I$ as yet have no knowledge of it beyond the facts stated in Colonel Laughton's report. You are therefore in a better position to advise Government as to the introduction of the revised rates into the Nevása Taluka.
3. I, however, submit the following remarks for your consideration as they have been suggested to me by reading the report of the Survey Superintendent and looking at the map received with it; to begin with the latter, I see that many of the villages which it is proposed to assess at a maximum dry-crop rate of Rs. 1-4-0 are in the belt to the north of the taluka which has this year suffered from drought very severely. This drought is, I am informed, of frequent occurrence in a tract of land comprising the north-eastern part of Nevasa, the north of Rathuri, Kopargaon, and parts of the Sangamner Táluca. If the fact is so, it is evidently one which should necessitate great caution in increasing the rates of assessment for the next 30 years, at all events for the present and the next few years till the people have recovered from the combined effects of the loss of crop by drought and of the general fall in the prices of agricultural produce which prevents even men who have raised fair crops from making much profit.
4. A comparison of Statement $P$ with the map shows that the old maximum dry-crop rates have rarely been exceeded by the rates now proposed after revision, and that even that increase is slight for a re-settlement after a lapse of thirty years since the first settlement; but no doubt the facts mentioned in my last para have been duly weighed by the Superintendent of the Revenue Survey, and they have been allowed by him to influence his judgment as they ought to do in classifying and assessing land in a district so situnted as to be liable to constant droughts, while at the same time its proximity to the line of rail enables grain-dealers to import jowari from Nagpur at a cheaper rate than will give the cultivators a profit. Still the question remains, has sufficient allowance in all cases been made for this condition of things in the present assessment $?$ The reason for the large increase of assessment in. some villages, notably in Ladmod, No. 41 of Statement $P$, of which the assessment is raised 95.2 per cent., is an increase of cultivation; but when the newly cultivated land is poor, the assessment on it should be proportionately low, and the reason given for the proposed increase in the Survey Superintendent's 37th para. is not convincing to my mind, for land subject to floods is sometimes as much injured as benefited by them. I would therefore suggest the lowcring of the rates proposed, especially ax it is, I understand, within the arid beit wbich has this year suffered very severely from drought. The Survey Superintendent in his 7th para. points out that in the Rahuri and Kopargann Talukas, which also have suffered from the same cause both this year and last, have alrenly had the newly revised rates introduced into them. Government would, in my opinion, exercise a wisediscretion were the levy of these revised rates postponed in these three talukas (or at least in those villages which brave suffered from drought) for the next five years, so as to give the ryots time to recover from its effects by a few good harvests.
5. The fact pointed out in the conclusion of Colonel Laughton's 9th para., vie., that the soil of the villages near the Godarari is clayey and requires a plentiful rainfall to make it productive, is one which deserves consideration in a tract of country at all liable to, drought; and I submit it to you whether under those circumstances it should be assessed as highly as the land in the nala which Colonel Laughton states is not liable to the same deteriorating influence. I would for this reason like to see it assessed at the lower maximum rate of Rs. 1-2-0 if practicable.
6. The fact noted in the concluding part of the Survey. Superintendent's 11th para. is not to my mind so conclusive a proof of the prosperity of the district as Colonel Laughton appeass to think, for in an exclusively agricultural district where the people do not migrate,
the tendency with increasing population must be to take up the lands hitherto left waste owing to their sterility for agriculture; the present cheapness of grain, if it continue, will soon however make such cultivation unprofitable, and then it will be a problem how to find employment for the population which will have lost their present settled occupation.
7. In his 12th para. the Survey Superintendent remarks on the very small propartion of garden cultivation in the taluka. I fear from this that the recommendation of Colonel G. S. A. Anderson in the 62nd para. of his report, dated the 31st of January 1854, were never attended to. Were the sum asked for then, vis., Rs, 3,000 , expended in this taluka and in Rihuri, as then recommended, in constructing wells, there is no doubt but that the comfort and health of the people" would be materially increased and the district would thereby be pro tanto rendered safe against famine. You from your superior knowledge of the district will be in a better position than myself to judge of the truth of the information I have received that guinea-worm is very prevalent in many villages of these tallukas which are not on the banks of running rivers; if it is true, both improved health and security against famine would be followed by constructing these wells, and the costRs. 3,000 in each taluka-would be insignificant compared with the results. If Government are disposed to attend to this repetition of Colonel Anderson's request, I would submit there is no time for commencing the wells so good as the present dry season when the agricultural classes are in want of labour to support them.
8. The state of communications in the taluku appears to be pretty much in the same condition as when the survey assessment was introduced 30 years ago, that is to say, no new roads have been made though the two old roads then existing have been improved. The manufacturing resources of the villages here reported on are described in Colonel Laughton's 15th para., as 145 looms for cotton fabrics and 158 for weaving coarse woollen blankets and the manufacture of seltpetre to the extent of Rs. 17 a year in 8 villages. The statistics given in the 18th para. of the Survey Superintendent's report do not give so favourable an impression as is desirable of the growth in prosperity of the population. During the last 30 years the population has increased only 18.7 per cent. and the thatched houses have decreased 39.5 per cent. This cannot be altogether owing to the agriculturists having built tiled houses instead, because the increase in these is only $22 \cdot 5$. It is possible that the incrense in good houses is limited to the moncy-lending classes, while the tenants of many thatched houses have either died or left the country in the famine of 1876-77.
9. The increase in agricultural cattle is strikiugly small when taken in connection with the fact that much more land is under cultivation now than 30 years ago. It must be difficult to keep this extended area in a proper state of cultivation with so few plough bullocks, the small increase in which is in all probability caused by either cattle-disease or it is due to the fact of the agriculturists' cattle having been sold to satisfy the demands of either Government for land revenue, or of their creditors. A kind of cattle-disease new to me was described to me lately by Dr. Fuirbank, who has a farm at Vadála in the Nevása Taluka, as the 'swelled shoulder disease.' It would be well were simple treatises on cattle disease distributed in these agricultural villares and read in their schools. I see no reason why the Superintendent of the Survey should doubt the accuracy of his own returns which give a decrease in the number of sheep and goats since the original survey settlement though time has elapsed since the famine of 1876-77 to allow of the sheep recovering from the effects of it; the people in the taluka have in all probability not done so, and consequently the shepherds have had to migrate to other more favoured localities where the people are in a position to pay a remunerative price for matton.
10. The figures given in para. 19 of the Survey Superintendent's letter show that $25 \cdot 60$ per cent. of the land is sublet. Were the lessees the same parties in whose names the lands were entered at the original survey settlement, or their descendants, that is not a matter to call for any special comment; but as in all probability the fact is that the lessees are now money-lenders who have as purchasers or mortgagees come into possession of the agricultarists fields, the fact is one which does not give a favourable impression of the ryots' condition. I infer that this is not at all an improbable view of the case from the concluding words of Colonel Laughton's 19th para. His 20th para: shows the sinall increase of $\mathbf{3 . 7}$ in population to be only in the non-agricultural or partly agricultural classes, and not among pure agriculturists.
11. I do not draw the same deductions from the facts stated by the Survey Superin. tendent in his 21st para. That the money-lenders required the mortgagors of the 2,383 acres mortgnged to them to pay so high an interest, as 18 times the assessment of the land, is merely a proof that they were very usurious and relied upou the ryots straining every nerve to pay as much of this high rate of interest as was realizable. The fact that 1,140 acres were sublot at 18 times their assessment is so extraordinary as to lead to the conclusion that the original cultivators have become rack-rented tenants of their mortgageelandlords.
12. The incresse of 14 schools in the 180 villages reported on during the last decale does not show any very marked increase in the spread of education.
13. In his 24th para. the Survey Superintendent points out that there is an increase in the price of jowari and bajri, the staple grains of the district, during the last of the three
decades since the first survey settlement, riz., of $22 \cdot 4$ for jowari and of $12 \cdot 2$ in hajri. This; last decade, it shoald be remembered, iucludes the 3 years following the frunine when the price of jowari was as high as 10 or 12 sers the rupee. Looking to the figures in Stateruent E, which accompanies the Survey Superintendent's report, the prices of grain last year and this appear to have returned to the standard prevailing in the years 1864-65 and 1807-68. The fact (reported in the 26 th para. of the Superintendent's report) that the collections of last year only amounted to what was realized in 1861-62 (or twenty years ago) indicate either that last year whs one of much distress when the ryots could not pay up the Govermment demand or that at the present low state of prices much land was thrown out of cultivation. I am inclined to belicve from what I hear that both causes were at work for last year as in this : the villages near Rahuri are said to have had scanty rain and poor crops; some villages in this taluka also suffered severely from danage cauned by locusts two years ago.

The small area of unoccupied assessed, pointed out in the 20 th para. of the Survey Superintendent's letter, goes to show that the first mentioned theory is probably the correct one; that in the face of these reverses the agriculturists still keep so much land in occupation, is only to be accounted for by the absence of any manufactures, so that ryots have to choose between working on their own lands or as Inbourers and cartmen. The fact noticed in the 2Sth para. of Colonel Laughton's report that in the 15 sales of land in the past three years the price realized loy the sale is less than the assessment, is to my mind a proof that the agricultural population are now driven to cultivate land which at present price of grain cannot give a good return. This would throw a doubt on the accuracy of Colonel Laughton's view of the steady improvement in prices of the principal products (see para. 30). The effect of the railway, so tar as I ean learn, has hitherto been to lower prices in this district; when, however, the ryots learn to grow exportable produce, such as wheat, cotton and indigo, this may be expected to cease. I have great hopes that by the introduction of the two latter products into this district by the agricultiral school farm and ly enterprising farmers (such as Doctor Ballantine at Ráhuri, who has been successful in growing sea island cotton) sufficient exportable produce may be raised to give employment to the labouring classes who have now no other resource but to labour on public works or on the fields of other people.

In conclusion, while re-considering the facts reviewed above, I venture to ask Govern. ment if they consider that the imposition of any increased rates of assessment is justifiable in the present state of the country, to remember the limits of inereased assessment which were fixed by Sir P. Wodehouse's Government in Government Resolution No. 5789 of 1874, dated the 29th October 1874. It has been since held that the limits had reference only to the Sholápur District; but as Nagar suffered in precisely the same way from the famine of 1876-77, and has since been a sufferer in subsequent years, the same rule might fairly be applied here also. In the event, however, of this view not meeting approval, I would at any rate plead that any increase on the assessment of villages which have suffered from drought both this year and last be held in abeyance for a period of five years to allow of the cultivators recouping themselves for past misfortunes by good crops at the old rate of assessment for that period, if indeed they are so fortunate as to have good seasons.

> I have, \&c.,
> Sig ned) J. ELPHINSTON, Acting Collector, Ahmednagar.

No. 337 op 1882.

## From

## T. H. STEWART, Esquire, <br> Surfey and Settlement Commiseioner;

To
The SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, Revenue Department.

Survey Commissioner's Office,
Poona, 23rd February 1889.
Sir,
I have the honour to forward the appended report* from the Superintendent, Poona and Násik Survey, together with the remarks of the Collector of Abmednagar on the subject of the revision settlement of the Nevása Taluka. The report treats of altogether 118 Gorern.
2. It is a matter of congratulation to me that the first settlement report which $I$ have to consider bears referonce to a thluks with which I have been intimately connected as Collector of the district in 1878-79, and in which I have taken considerable interesti. Since receipt of Colonel Laughton's report I have seized an opportanity to re-visit the taliaka, and by personal observation and enquiry have verified those ideas I had formed of it before and have acquired a better insight into the condition of the people and the resources of the country.
3. At the time of the introduction of the survey settlement in 1851-52 the boundaries of the taluka were very irregulaf, and intricste. Since then a very material adjustment has taken place and, with the exception of one village, the taluka now comprises a fairly compact block with the Godavari river for its boundary to the north and north-east. The one village referred to is Malnnja, situated about 12 miles from the northernmost limit of the taluka surrounded by villages of His Highness the Nizam and in a position where its administration cannot be satisfactorily carried on from Nevása. I would strongly recommand that some arrangement should be come to with the Government of His Highness the Nizam to obviate this inconvenience by exchange of territory. A reference to the map will show that there is a Nizami village called Bhamathan to the north-west of the taluks, which is on the Nevasa side of the Godavari and to some extent breaks the continuity of the bonndary line. An arrangement based on an interchange of this village for Malunja would probably commend itself equally to the Government of His Highness the Nizam as an essential for proper administration in every particular.
4. The re-sarvey of the talaks had been nearly brought to a conclusion before the orders of the late Survey Commissioner regarding partial re-measurement were issued The result of the re-survey is that the area of the villages ander report is less by 1,282 acres, or 044 per cent. than that recorded by the former survey. The small difference in tctal area speaks well for the general territorial accuracy of the former survey, but the differences in the areas of individual fields shown in para. 5 of the Superintendent's report, althongh not so many as have been discovered in other groups of villages, sro still numerous and important. The smaller differences can readily be accounted for by eacroachments on waste lands, changes cansed by the action of rivers and streams, more oareful measuring np to natural boundaries on the part of the surveyors, and other canses. To account satisfacto rily for the larger differences is a matter of greater difficalty. It must not be forgotiten, however, that the benefits of a re-survey, whether partial or total, are not limited to the correction of areas in individual fields. The breaking up of unwieldy numbers is of itself an advantage which must tend to increase the value of land. It used to be a reproach against the Bombay survey system that the nnit of assessment, i. e. the survey number, was an arbitrary and artificial one. This has now been practically removed by the separate recognition and definition as far as possible at the re-survey of all independent occnpancies. Finally, maps on a scale sufficiently large to show the exact configuration of fields and exhibiting accurately the position of boundary-marks will render encroachments easily detectable and will be of great assistance in revenue administration generally.
5. The classification of the taluka was brought to a close in June 1881, only a few villages remaining to be tested at the commencement of this season. The valuation scale used is that prescribed by the late Survey Commissioner for revision operations generally. I am aware that the Secretary of State for India has lately reiterated his objections to alterations of valuation, nuless unavoidable, and every attention will be paid to those orders in future; but in the case of Nevasa it would not have been possible to apply the old scale to the present classification without tinkering at it to some extent, as the present system prescribes ten classes, whereas the original classification had but nine. The addition of a tenth class within a compass of 16 annas must necessarily affect the general graduation of the intermediate classes and a scale founded upon a classification embracing nine classes could not be fitly applied. I would urge, however, with the greatest deference, the claim of the valuation scale prescribed by the late Survey Commissioner to superiority over the original one for a tallaka like Nevasa in which the productiveness of the better soils is relatively far superior to that of the poorer. It will be remembered that the scale recently adopted for revision corresponds entirely with the seale of the joint report down to the 6th class, but in order to ease the poorer soils there is a gradual dimination in the valuation of the 7 th, 8 th, and 9 th classes as compared with that scale, and in the 8 th and 9 th classes as compared with the scale of the original settlement. With the exception of the clayey soil near the Godávari, the value of which is reduced at the actual field classification, the better soils of Nevása are usually easily woskable, retentive of moisture and very productive, while the "Barad" lands which comprise the poorer soils are stony, irretentive of moisture and unable to support their crops during the protracted breaks in the rains, which are of frequent oecurrence in the Deccan. A scale, therefore, which has a relative difference of valuation on 16 annas of 25 per cent. between the 1st and 3rd classes and of 22 per cent. between the 6th and 8th classes commends itself to me more than one which shows a relative difference between those classes of 31 and 12 per cent. respectively. There are tracts of country, and some not far distant from Novása, where in all probability Colonel G. S. A. Anderson's original scale may be found more suitable, but it will be time enough to decide the question when the classification is about to be commenced.

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6. It would be a mistake to sappose that the increases which result from the revised classification are attributable to the nse of an amended scale of valuations only. It has been pointed out by my predecessor that there was a strong teadency among the comparatively inexperionced classers of the early settlements to unduly depreciate the better soils and to over-estimate the value of the poorer. Old classers who remember the days of the infancy of the system will be found to admit that there was a great besitation, especially among the young hands, to use the extreme classes of the scale, the consequence being that the best soils were frequently kept down as low as they could be kept with any show of reason, while the poorer soils were not treated in the same scrupulons manner. The tendency is observable even among native classers of the present time, and unless the European classing assistant is constantly at hand to keep them to the correct standard and unless the tendency is checked by the application of immediate and independent test it infallibly leads to error. As ag illustration of this I may mention that the Assistant Superintendent of Survey who superintended the classing operations in this very taluka fell ill towards the end of last season, and being compelled to leave his men for a while was not able to resume test until after the rains. On examination of the work he found that the younger classers had fallen away to a great extent from the correct standard during his absence, and that the direction of their error was "to placing the poorer soils too high and the good soils too low." If this tendency prevails now with all the admonitions to special care in avoiding it which the classers receive and with a complete test on the independent system by Assistants specially trained and devoting their energies to this one branch of duty, what must its extent have been at the original settlement when both measuring and classing were superintended by the same Assistant and when the test was non-independent and on a system justly described by Government as "a faulty system under which there is no adequate guarantee of exact and trustworthy work" (vide Government Resolution in the Revenue Department, No. 4640, dated 10th August 1881). The standard now followed by the classers is one which has been fixed by a larger and wider experience than the early authorities on classing possessed, and has been prescribed and approved by officers who have deroted their special attention to the subject. It may not be out of place to mention that during my late visit to the Nevása Táluka I spent much time in classifying verious kinds of soils and comparing with my results those of both the old and the new classifications, and I am able from observation to add my testimony to the generally superior correctness of the new. So relatively low was the classing of the better kinds of soils under the old system that the only inference which can be drawn is that they have not borne their fair share of the general burden duriog the years of the expired settlement. I had expected to find that in the middling and inferior soils the classification had been somewhat tightly drawn, and I was prepared, if I had found it so, to recommend a small general reduction of the valuation of all soils ranging from 10 to 6 annas, but I found nothing to justify such a step. I cousider, moreover, that due attention has been paid to the owering of the classification of the poorest soils, which above all need protection, as they are the first to bear the brunt of a decline in the value of produce.
7. In considering the settlement proposals for the Nevasa Taluka, the mistake must be avoided of cumparing it with the typical Ahmednagar Taluka, of which so much has been said and written both during and after the famine. Considerable tracts of country surrounding the town of Ahmednagar and to the south and west of the district have obtained an unenviable notoriety for sterility of soil combined with precarions rainfall, and ideas regarding the rest of the district are apt to become colored by impressions drawn from the condition of those tracts. I think it right to sound a note of warning on this head, as it appears to me that the Collector's remarks are in some measure colored by the prevailing misconception.
8. To show how misleading such ideas are likely to be I need only quote a few remarks made by the Assistant and Deputy Collectors in charge of the táluka of Nevása in the administration reports for 1879-80 and 1880-81, in which they contrast Nevasa and the neighbouring sub-divisions of Shevgaon with the two talukas of Shrigonda and Karjat, which are types of the poverty-stricken tracts with which the Ahmednagar district generally is credited. Mr. Candy, au officer of great experience of the district, writing in 1880, says: "There are strong contrasts in the general condition and prospects of my charge, for while the Shevgaon and Nevása Tálukas are prosperous and prodnctive, the Karjat and Shrigonda Talukas are miserably poor. In the former as much land as possible is taken up, the villages look thriving, and the ryots are fairly clad and nourished. In the latter you may walk for many miles and not see a cultivated field or a human being." The Deputy Collector, writing last July, says, "The Shevgaon and Nevasa Talukas are rich and productive, and do not appear to have been much affected by the late famine, and the cultivating classes consist of well-to-do ryots. Shrigonda and Karjat are poor and they have not yet recovered their normal condition. Some villages are in ruins and almost deserted and numbers of houses are seen tenantless. In Shevgaon and Nevasa the population and agricaltural stock have increased and this fact shows that they are in a prosperous condition."
9. The distinction to which I have drawn attention above lies not so mach in the difference of climate as in the character of the soil. Nevasa is by no means beyond the region of ancertain rainfall; it bas its scanty as well as its heavy rainfalls and its unseasonable as well as seasonable downpours. With the exception, however, of a few villages to
the north-west it has a variety of rich-textured soils which return a fine harvest in seasons of favorable rainfill. Large tracts of level plain, separated in many parts by ridges of bare mat lands, must of which are now included in forest reserves, form the chief characteristic of the tálaka. Towsards the north-west frontier only is there any continuons block of stony and sterile soil, and with the villages embraced in this tract we shall have to deal fally hereafter in considering the question of imposition of rates.
10. I observe that in the original settlement report of this taluka Colonel G. S. A Anderson statos that "the rainfall of Nevasa is slightly inferior to that of Rahuri." A comparison, however, between the two talukas is misleading, as they themselves embrace gronps of villages with very varying circumstances of rainfall. Thus, although the southern and central villages of Nevasa may have a-rainfall equal to that gauged at Rahuri, there is no doubt that the villages on the north-west border have a deficiency of rain such as is experienced in no portion of the Ráhuri Taluka. The actual average fall of rain gauged at Nevasa for the past 12 years is 31 cents in excess of that measured at Ráhuri, but the accuracy of the retarns cannot be fally relied on. The statement given in para, 10 of the Superintendent's report shows how great are the vicissitudes of the seasons. In 1870 and 1871, when the rainfall was very scanty in Nevása, that of Rahuri was nearly double; while in the famine year Nevasa had the advantage by more than 3 inches. In 1879 Nevása is returned as having a rainfall of 16 inches in excess of Raburi.
11. Statistical Table III. appended to the Superintendent's report gives the details of cultivation for 1880-81. Rabi crops predomiaate, the principal of which are jowari, wheat and gram. The chief kharif crop is bajri, buta little cotton is grown in the central and eastern villages of the táluka. Jowári and bájri were produced in 68.1 per cent. of the whole cultivated area. The excessive cultivation of the coarser food grains must give way in time before the increasing demand for exportable produce such as wheat and oil-seeds, and it may be expected that the present low prices of the common food grains will drive the cultivators to leave the beaten paths and seize the adrantages which the railway offers for the export of products, which are in demand for foreign sonsumption. Mnch of the soil of Nevasa is admirably suited for the raising of wheat, gram, cotton and linsead, and is to an extension of the caltivation of these crops that we mast look for permanent agricultural improvement in the future. Both teaching and example are much needed to direct the attention of the people to higher agriculture, but such is the tenacity with which the present cultivators stick to their overswollen holdings, that the price asked for good land is prohibitive of enterprise from without. There are few of the well-to do cultivators who have not more land than they can carefully cultivate. A ryot will frequently be found occupying, say, three survey numbers. Of these he devotes his attention to two only, while the third is kept on as a kind of adjunct and is cultivated in a slovenly and haphazard manner just on the chance of the senson being favourable and some amount of profit being obtained. To this may be attributed the fields which are to be seen here and there overrun with "Kunda" grass. There is no doubt that very much more could be made out of the land under cultivation by careful and improved husbandry.
12. In para. 6 of his forwarding letter I observo that the Collector has drawn an inference unfavourable to the prosperity of the district from Statistical Table III. to which Colonel lianghton's 1lth para. refers. I cannot understand, however, the grounds upon which his opinion is based. The table referred to simply records the percentage of occupied land which was under actaal cultivation in $1880-81$ and the percentage which was fallow. It is possible that the Collector has misunderstood the table and imagined that the 17.0 per cent. not under crops represents the area of nnoccupied arable land in the táluka. Upon this he expresses a fear that increasing population will lead to the taking up of the poorer lands, and consequently to cultivation, which a contination of low prices may render unprofitable. The fact is, however, that ouly a few years after the settlement before popolation could have materially increased cultivation which has proved fairly permanent had extended so enormously that the inferior soils had been trenched upon to as greatan extent as they are at the present time when only $4^{\prime} 62$ per cent. of the whole arable area is ont of occapation. The facts regarding Nevása vould seem to oppose Mr. Elphinston's theory that increase of population causes the cultivation of the poor soils and to favor that of economists who hold that increase of population is the effect and not the cause of such cultivation. "There is not," writes Professor Rogers, "a shadow of evidence in support of the statement that inferior lands have been occupied and cultivated as population increases. The increase of population has not preceded but followed this occupation and cultivation. It is not the pressure of population on the means of subsistence which has led men to cultivate inferior soils, but the fact that these soils being cultivated in another way or taken into cultivation an increased population became possible. "*
13. It will be seen from para. 12 of the Superintendent's report that the proportion of garden cultivation is only 0.5 per cent., and although wells have increased since the introduction of the settlement by 518 or $44 \cdot 2$ per cent., it does not appear that the progress in this direction has been so great as was anticipated. The Collector, in commenting in his 7th para on the small amount of garden cultivation in the taluka, considers it a proof

[^1]that the recommendation of Colonel G. S. A. Anderson in the 62 nd para. of his report has not been attended to. The recommendation, however, made by that officer had no connection whatever with garden cultivation and only referred to an expenditure of 8,000 rupees, which he urged should be incurred in increasing the supply of drinking water. It will doubtless be found that since the establishment of the Local Fund systeni the wants of the people in this respect have not been neglected. The local explanation of the fact that more wells for irrigation have not been sunk by the cultivators invariably is that the soil is generally so productive of itself that the process of irrigation with its attendant expenses of higher cultivation, manuring, \&c., is not understood by the ryots to be profitable. The experience of the Lakh Canal also and the difficulty with which the people are induced to avail themselves of the advantages for rabi cultiyation which it offers, tend to confirm the possibility of this explanation being a true one.
14. The statement of the Superintendent upon which the Collector has relied that with respect to communications the táluka seems to be mueh in the same state as in $1851-52$ is a very misleading one. The fact is that at the original settlement no roads at all existed; there were merely two cart tracks for which, although not altogether following the same lines, good metalled and bridged roads have since been substituted. The ascent of the Imámpur Ghat was formerly made by a steep and rough road which must have been a serious obstacle to laden carts, whereas it is now crossed by a fine broad road with easy gradient. There is no connection at all between the state of the main communications as they were at the original settlement and as they are now. Not only have the roads been improved, but by the opening of the Dhond and Manmád line which runs from north to south at an average distance of about eight miles from the western frontier, the advantages of railway communication with large centres of trade have been superadded. The Superintendent is right in stating that great facilities for communication between villages exist in the cross-country roads which are fairly passable in the dry season of the year. In the north-west corner of the taluka the country is more broken and the tracks are consequently more difficult for cart traffic.
15. The population of the táluka is shown by Statistical Table IV. to have increased by 18.7 per cent. during the period of settlement. It must not be inferred from Statistical Table V. that agricultural population has been almost at a standstill since the settlement. At the original settlement census, the population was divided simply into two heads -agricultural and non-agricultural-consequently in the cases of those who exercised some trade or profession and farmed land as well, the enumerator had to exercise his discretion as to which head to enrol them under. Many of those who partly practised agriculture must have been placed under the head of "agricultural" to be withdrawn now that a separate heading has been formed for "partly agricultaral." The pressure of population to the square mile is at present only 110, or 29 less than the average for the Bombay Presidency as a whole, and there can be no question that this comparatively faroured Deccan táluka could meet demands for export and provide subsistence for a much larger population without any economic danger.
16. As regards the increase in tiled and flat roofed houses of 22.5 per cent. and the decrease of 39.5 under the hend of thatched, the Collector appears to have fallen into the error of estimating the general result from the percentage only without consulting the figures of Statistical Table VI. It is there shown that the actual decrease of thatched houses is only 869 , while the increase in tiled and flat roofed houses is 1,339 . There is therefore good reason to believe that many tenants of thatched houses have constructed buildings of the better sort. The Collector's supposition that the increase in good houses is limited to the moneylending classes is a random one, which facts can be cited to disprove. A reference to para. 360 of the General Report on the Census of 1872, Part II., page 174, will show that in the whole Ahmednagar Collectorate there were only 886 persons carrying on the various branches of moneydealing, and as Nevása forms but one-eleventh part of the collectorate, it may be inferred that the number of its moneylenders could not have much exceeded 80. It is impossible to believe that they could have bocome so numerous in nine years as to build and occupy 1,839 substantial houses. The fact is that the multiplication of moneylenders is not necessary to account for the mischief attributed to the class. One moneylending firm usually works a small circle of villages and spreads its web over them as effectually as ten could do. There is so much already to be deplored in the dealings of ${ }^{-}$ the moneylenders aud the influence they bave gained over the peasantry that hasty nissumptions of this kind are greatly to be deprecated.
17. The increase in agricultural cattle during the period of settlement of 17.8 per cent. is considered by the Collector to be 'strikingly small when taken in connection with the fact that much more land is under cultivation now than 30 years ago.' It must be remembered, however, that the very fact of cultivation having made so great an inroad upon the lands formerly available for pasturage would be in itself a reason why enormous increases would not be expected. If, as may be judged from the figures of waste and unarable land in this taluka, pasturage is comparatively scarce and the necessity for stallfeeding the working cattle at certain seasons of the year imperative, the number of such cattle could not be expected to go beyond that which is sufficient for the individual cultivator's needs as fixed by his standard of husbandry. I find that taking into calculation.
the whole occupied area, there is on an average one pair of bullocks to every 26 acres which, considering that the irrigated area is insignificant and that much of the dry-crop. soil is light and easily worked, does not show any surprising deficiency. There is no doubt, however, that a farther increase in the number of agricultural cattle must be looked for before the slovenly husbandry which has been remarked on in the 11th para. of this report can be expected to disappear. There is reason to believe that a considerable check to increase under this head was experienced during the famine in the north-west villages, and some mortality may have occurred from want of fodder. It must also be considered that although great efforts have been made to secure correct agricultural statistics for settlement reports, and although I havereceived assurances that in this particular branch of the survey great attention is paid to the subject, the general tendency of the enumeration invariably is to show smaller numbers of live stock than do really exist. The process of stock-taking is a difficult and tedious one in which the enumerator is very liable to be over-reached by the villagers.
18. All the remaining facts shown in pars. 18 of the Superintendent's report are indicative of general prosperity, the only decrease being in the number of sheep and goats. Cows and buffaloes have inereased 35 per cent., ploughs $33 \cdot 2$ per cent., and horses and ponies 29.6 per cent. Of carts there was a larger number at the original settlement than has been usually found to be the case in other tálukas; nevertheless in the 30 years they have increased from 1,641 to 2,558 , or by $55^{\prime} 9$ per cent. The diminution in the number of sheep and goats does not cause me any surprise. In a taluka where cultivation has enormously increased and where the uplands upon which grazing was formerly practised have mostly been taken over by the Forest Department, the decrease under this head was to be expected : and it is unnecessary to resort to surmises for explanation thereof. I have ascertained that out of a total forest area of 22,146 acres in the taluka, 8,118 are now closed to grazing. Tsken in connection with the cultivation of almost the whole available area and an increase in horned cattle, a decrease in the number of sheep and goats might be regarded rather as a sign of agricultural prosperity than the reverse.
19. The figares given in para. 19 of the Superintendent's report show that of the total number of survey and pot numbers, deducting waste, 73 per cent. are cultivated by those whose names are entered in the village records as occupants. Of the remainder 25.6 per cent. are sublet on money and grain payments. The Superintendent has very properly pointed out that of the 73 per cent. of survey aumbers entered as cultivated by the occupants, it is probable that some are in the hands of moneglenders who merely keep the occupants' names in the village records and the occupants themselves as field-laborers on their behalf. From this simple statement the Collector has drawn the inference that it is probable the 'lessees', by which I presume he means "lessors" of the 25.6 per cent. of sublet numbers are moneylenders who have as mortgagees or purchasers come into possession of the agriculturists fields. This is, however, a sweeping assertion, for I know cases myself, and such instances might be multiplied, in which bond fide agriculturists have sublet portion of their holdings. It would be greatly to the benefits of agriculture in general if the practice became more extended in respect to the larger holdings.
20. In para 11 of his report the Collector appears to have fallen into two extraordinary misconceptions. A reference to Appendix $\mathbf{B}$. will show that 18.5 times the assessment was the amount for which the 2,383 acres were mortgaged, and that it had no connection with the interest which varies according to the bond. The inference, therefore, regarding the usuriousness of moneylenders cannot be supported. It is only shown that they were willing to advance Rs. 27,077 at various rates of interest on the security of 2,383 acres of land assessed at Rs, 1,460. The facts regarding sales given-in Appendix C. are important, as they show that the sverage value of the occupancy of land is about 20 times the Government demand, and it is well known that this is the price which Government have usually to pay if sequisition of occupied land for a public purpose is necessary. Settlement Officers and others vainly endeavour to read the economic indications of the future, but here in the matter of these sales we have direct evidence of what the people themselves think of the probable tendency of prices and the value of land as an investment. Again, the fact which is noted as extraordinary with regard to the subletting of land is really no fact at all, because 18 times the assessment simply represents the total consideration entered in the leases which are for varying terms of years. Mr. Elphinston appears to imagine that 18 times the assessment is the annual rent of the lands, whereas a reference to Appendir D. will show that it is a lumped rent for periods of years varying according to the lease. The land must be assessed lightly indeed if even a rack-rented tenant could pay its assessment to Government and 18 times that assessment to the lessor as well.
21. I am also at variance with the Collector regarding his appreciation of the statistics of progress of education. Those who have experienced how difficult a matter it is to establish a school in a village and what guarantees the Educational Department usually require before a schoolmaster is appointed, will not, I think, draw an unfavourable inference from the fact that; notwithstanding the famine, 14 new schools were established in this talluka during the last ten years. I can vouch at least for the fact that to build one schoolhouse in each taluka every year on the standard plan would be a task beyond the means of any Deccan Local Fund Committee with which I have yet had to deal.

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.22. The atatistics of increase in the occupation of land during the settlement, as aiso of remissions and outstanding balances, are given for the total number of villages in ten statements-F. to 0 .--the reason of thier not being shown in one statement being that some villages were brought under settlement at various dates subsequent to 1851-52 when the táluka genereally was settled. Appendix $G$., however, gives the facts relating to 110 Gowernment villages, which may fairly be taken as representative of the whole. In these villages it will be seen that in the year of settlement 118,966 acres were occupied and 119,612 acres were ander the head of arable waste. The advantages of the survey rates commenced very quickly to be understood, for we find that in the year following about 20,000 acrea were taken up and cultivation increased by upward bounds averaging 16,500 acres per annum for the four years following. In 1858-59 the occupied area bad reached 213,312 acres, the arable waste area having fallen to 27,700 . In $1859-60$ and $1860-61$ there was a slight falling off, but in $1861-62$ progress re-commenced and continued steadily on until 1871-72 when 233,248 acres were under occupation and only 7,743 acres unoccupied. Remissions, which previous to the settlement had been heavy aud of annual occurrence, had only been granted to any extent in one year 1868.69 and outstanding balances were unknown. In 1871-72 we find remissions were granted to the amount of Rs. 9,523 and an outstanding balance is recorded of Rs. 11,329. For an explanation of this falling off it is only necessary to refer to the Superintendent's 10th para., in which it is shown that in 1870 only 5.87 inches of rain were returned at Nevása-san amount indicative in itself of failure of crops. Since then there has been a falling off in the occupied area except in 1878-79, the year of high prices following the famine, when 221,469 acres were occupied and 19,854 acres unoccupied. In 1880-81 out of 224,277 arable acres, 214,357 were occupied and only 9,920 waste. The difference, therefore, between the occupied area in $1851-52$ and $1880-81$ is 95,391 acres in these 110 Government villages only.
23. In the Superintendent's report I observe that no explanation has been given of the fact which must strike all careful observers of Appendix $G$, that whereas in 1878-i9 there were 19,854 acres of arable waste with an area occupied of 221,469 acres, in 1880-81 there are only 9,920 acres of arable waste with a decreased area of occupation of about 7,000 acres. This is of course due to the assumption for "forests" in 1878-79 of a very large proportion of the arable waste lands of the taluka. In considering the statistics of the last two years as regards the taking up and resigning of land, the fact must not be lost sight of that in these 110 villages alone the area available for occupation had been limited by this cause to the extent of about 17,000 acres. The Collector hes not recognized this great reduction of possible arable area for occupation and has formed a theory of his own upon the small area of unoccupied assessed in the concluding para of his report.
24. I cannot pass over the consideration of Appendix $G$ without reference to the year 1877-78 at the close of which there was an outstanding balance of Rs. 17,435 . This was the result of the famine which prevailed throughout a large portion of the Presidency, a calamity which was felt in the Nevása Táluka, but to a less extent than in any talloka of the Ahmednagar District except perhaps Shevgaon. In Nevasa about five-sixths of the Government demands were collected during the year and the amount outstanding at the close thereof has for the most part been realized. The rainfall of 1876 at Nevasa, which is not by any means the most favoured spot in the taluka, was 13 inches 62 cents against 10.57 in Ráhari and 6.59 in Sangamner. I myself travelled in Nevasa in 1878-79 and am able from personal observation to say that it was only in the north-west villages of the taluka that the experience of the famine had been sharp and sustained. In the main portion there had been defective crops, but as any surplus crop fetched a bigh price and even straw was in immense demand, I caninot think that the agriculturists were generally great safferers. The stroke fell hardest on the poor non-agricultural and labouring classes. The somewhat large balance which was outstanding at the close of the year does not in any way represent the amount which the cultivators were unable to pay. Before the instalments of the year fell due there were rumours from all quarters of probable remissions and postponements and the hope of obtaining, some benefit from withholding payment was very prevalent. ?There is much reason to fear that a demoralization of the cultivating classes would have resulted and the realizations of the succeeding year would have been seriously affected had not the Government of Sir R. Temple by firmness in insisting upon collections being made where possible without undue pressure, saved not only the revenue from unnecessary loss, but the self-respect of the ryots themselves from undergoing diminution. It was subsequently found that the smaller ryots had for the most part paid up and that:most of the outstandings were due by persons whom no ingenuity could excuse from satisfying the Government demands. I have ascertained that of the total outstanding balances of the years 1876-77 to 1880-81 only Rs. 1,419 have had to be remitted and bat Rs. 1,367-1-9 remained to be collected at the end of July last.
25. The amounts realized by sales of land in default of payment of land revenue are shown for the last three years in para. 28 of the Superintendent's report. It appears that the occupancy of 523 acres 12 gunthas assessed at Rs, 200-0-0 was sold for Rs. 171-12-9, the total arrears due on the lands sold being Ra. 184-2-3. The fact that the average assessment of this land is only about 6 annas per acre shows that it was of inferior soil, nevertheless persons have been found willing to pay down an average aum of 5 annas per acre for the mere occnpancy right thereof. I campot think that these facts support the Collecter's
idas that the agricultaral popalation is driven to cultivate land which at the present price of grain osnnot give a good retarn. A glance at Appendix G. will show the Collector that in 1861-62 when the price of jowari had become established through a course of years at low prices ranging from 66 to 55 seers per rupes, coltivation was about 3,000 acres in excess of what it was in 1880-81 with grain at 29 seers per rupee.
26. Before considering the Superintendent's proposals for revision of rates, I have yet one snbject to disonss, viz. that of prices which although coming last is by no means the least important. $\Delta$ ppendix E. gives in detail the seers per rupee at which the varions articles of produce were sold during the last thirty years. During the first decade prices were uniformly low, while during the second decade, which ineluded the period of high prices resulting on the demand for cotton, prices were well sustained. The third decade opened with high prices in 1871-72, undoubtedly caused by local failare of crops and not actributable to the American war, as the Superintendent, from an error in chronology, has asserted in his 26 th para. It was marked by grest variations, the first five years having an average of 31 seers per rupee and the second five of about 16 seers. Comparing the last decade with the first as regards the staple food grain, jowari, we have the following result:-

| Average of first decade ... Average of third decade ... | ** | ... | ... | $\begin{aligned} & 55 \\ & 24 \frac{1}{8} \end{aligned}$ | seers, |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Difference... |  | ** | ** | 301 | " |

27. I am aware that objections have been raised by critios of our settlement system to the arbitrary use of the first years of the settlement for comparison with present rates, it being contended that the comparison should be made with prices ruling daring that period when circumstances show indisputably that the cultivators bad obtained the amonnt of capital which was requisite for the proper caltivation of the land. Reverting, however, to Appendir G., I think there are good grounds for believing that in the first five years succeeding that of settlement the ryots were in a position to pay with ease the share of the produce which was represented by the Government demand. This may be judged from the extension of cultivation which kept continuously on the increase, from the sbsence of outstanding balances and the comparatively small amount of remissions. If we seek for a period, however, in which cultivation kept steady, in which there were no outstanding balances at all and in which remiasions were almost nil, we find it is the five years from 1856-57 to 1860-61, during which there were no special causes to disturb prices as there were in the five years which followed. Taking these years for comparison we find the following result:-

28. To still further meet objections which may be raised on the ground that the last decade is too favourable to be taken for purposes of comparison as it contains the? prices of the years following the famine, I propose to include with the ten years the average of the current year, which is one of exceptionally low prices, and I will talke the rate given by the Superintendent as that prevailing at Nevass in November last, namely, 40 seers, although I know that a reaction has since commenced and that jowari was selling last month in the Nevása bazár at 36 seers per rupee and is now quoted at 30 seers in the neighbouring taluka of Kopargaon. This will give for the past 11 years an avarage a little short of 26 seers, and thus even at this liberal competition an improvement is shown in the price of jowari of 334 seers since the period specially selected for comparison. It is very probable that prices which are rising perceptibly towards harvest time may rise still further owing to the failare of crops in the northern talukas of the district. The unespected fall of the Inst year has been due in a great measure to excessive production in certain parts of the Presidency, auch as Sholápur, which are not ordinarily fapoured with bamper harvests and to importation from the Central Provinces, where, according to the official administration report for $1880-81$, "the prodace was so abundant that the cultivators found difficulty in disposing of their grain at anything like remnnerative prices."
29. Although I have had to point out a great many satisfactory resalts of the settlement in this taluka and have had to combat many objections and doubts of the Collector which have strack me as misleading or farfetched, I trust I may not be considered to hold the opinion that the settlement has been marked from beginning to end by unfailing bounds in prosperity. On the contrary the history of the period of settlement is to some extent a checkered one. There have been good seasons and indifferent ones, and there has been at least one season in which a "catastropbic failure" was only just averted. There have been seasons like the two last in which falling prices combined to soras extent with deficient production have caused temporary disheartenment to the cultivator. It is only a pessimist, however, who could predict a continuance of unfavourable conditions in the face of the spread of railways, the constraction of feeder roads and the increasing demand for exportable produce to which Nevisa is able to respond largely. Although there have beeu checks to
advancemont at various stages of the settlement, it is only necessary to reed the original settlement report and to consider the facts now disclosed to see that general progrees has been most material, and that the face of the conntry has been vastly changed for the better during the thirty years which have elapsed.
30. It will be seen that for the purposes of revision settlement Colonel Langhton proposes to retain exactly the grouping of villages which was arranged by Colonel G.S. A. Anderson in 1851-52, on the groand that except the improvement of commonications nothing has occarred within the limits of the district to justify its alteration. I am of opinion, however, that during the past thirty years we have obtained a considerable addition to our experience of the climate of at least one portion of the talluka which calls for some slight modification of the Saperintendent's propossls.
31. In keeping intact the first groups of villages as arranged by Colonel G. S. A. Anderson, the Saperintendent has, I think, exercised a wise discretion. The villages shown in red on the map are nearest the great market of Ahmednagar, and being under the hills have a better and ateadier rainfall than those farther inland. The preference given to these villages has stood the test of time, and it has been frequently remarked to me by villagers further north that when they have been anxiously looking out for rain they have been tantalized by seeing showers skirting the hills and descending on these villages only.
32. It is in the second group of villages shown in blue on the map that I propose to make some modification by removing from it 19 villages which. lie in the north-western corner of the taluka and placing them in the 3rd class. These are the villages to which 1 have had to make constant reference in the pages of this report. It is probable that at the original settlement their unfavourable condition as regards climate was not thoroughly appreciated. They have, however, become notorions from the experience of many years past as possessing a capricious and uncertsin rainfall, the consequence of which is that their crops are rarely up to the average of the rest of the taluka and not unfrequently nader it. This re-arrangement of grouping will meet the objections made by the Collector in para. 3 of his letter in which his reference to the "north-eastern" villages is clearly intended for the north-western.
33. The placing in the third group of the villages to the north and north-east of the taluka, shown in green on the Superintendent's map, appears to me to be noobjectionable. Their rainfall does not vary much from that of the central and sonthern villages, but they are more unfavourably situated as regards railway and markets. I have thought it right to remove one village, Jalka Budrukh, from this group and to place it in the second, as it lies on the high road between Ahmednagar and Aurangabad, along which an immense cart traffic passes, at certain seasons of the year and is therefore very favourably situated for the disposal of produce, especially straw and grass, which are in constant demand. By the addition to the third group of the villages in the north-west corner the whole of the villages along the Godavari from west to east are placed in that group, there being only a small hiatus where the villages of Malwadi, Pravara Sangam and Jalka Budrukh intersect it. The first is a Government village and the second an Inam village settled on a Rs. 1-4-0 maximum subsequent to the general settlement, and the third is the village which I have specially placed in thẹ second group.
34. The arrangements proposed by Colonel Langhton for the Inám villages coming

## - Appendix $B$. under revision and scattered over the taluka appear to be

 judicions. I append a map* which shows clearly the general result of the alterations in the grouping which I have proposed. The Inam villages for revision are not colored in on this map, but the marimum rates ander which they are proposed to be settiled for the next 30 years are marked in red ink.35. According to the Superintendent's proposals the first group of villages will be increased froth. Rs. 1-4-0 to Rs. 1-6-0, the second group from Rs, 1-2-0 to Rs. 1-4-0, and the third group from Re. 1-0-0 to Rs. 1-द्य-0. The increase proposed in the maximum rates for each group is small and may, I think, be sanctioned.
36. "Before proceeding farther $I$ woald wish to anticipate by explanation two objections which I feel sure will be made to my grouping in the third class of the nineteen villages in the north-west corner of the taluka. It will be asked in the first place why these villages should be kept back from enhancement of their maximum rates when a station of the Dhond and Manmád Kailway has been opened within a few miles of their limits. To this I can only reply that had it not been for the advantage of railway communication placed within their reach, I would unbesitatingly have recommended the formation of these villages into a fourth groop on a maximum rate of Re. 1. The second objection will probably be that bordering on these villages are villages of the Ráhuri Taluka which are settled on a maximum rate of Rs. 1-8. I admit that a difference of 6 annas in the maximum rates of villages contiguous to each other is somowhat anomalons, but it is not nnexplainable in this case. The line of the railway at this part is carried along the edge of a ridge; on one side the Ráhuri villages slope gradually down to the Pravara valley, and on the other side is a continuation of uplands with here and there patches of good land in tollows which is the characteristic of the 19 villages of the tract under consideration. The Ráhuri villages extend in stripa to the very bank of the Pravara river
and inte a country comparatively well wooded and moch more favored by passing showers. Indeed, it may be remarked that at this particular limit of Neváea a decided change sots in, in all the charaoteristics which are usually taken into consideration in forming groups or assessment circles.
37. The following statement exhibits the general result in Government villages: of the alterations I hare recommended in the Superintendent's grouping, but full particulars for each Government and Inam village will be found in the statement $A$ appended to this report:-

| Group or Class |  |  |  | Number of viluget in esch group. | Percentage increme. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1st | $\cdots$ | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | 5 | $17 \cdot 5$ |
| 2nd | ... | ... | $\ldots$ | 70 | 29.6 |
| 3 rd | ... | ... |  | 43 | 26.4 |
| Total |  |  |  | 118 | 97'9 |

Some idea of the relief which will be given to the 19 north-western villages may be judged from the fact that their percentage enhancement according to Colonet Laughton's scheme was ( $35 \cdot 4$ ), whereas an enhancement of ( $22 \cdot 5$ ) per cent. only will result from the modification I have recommended. The average rate per acre becomes ten annas instead of eleven.
38. Looking at the proposals as a whole, it will be seen that by the adoption of my arrangement the enhancement on the Government villages of the taluka is reduced from 30.3 per cent. proposed by the Superintendent to $27 \cdot 9$ per cent., a measure of increase which must be allowed to be moderate when compared with the rosult of the sanctioned rates in neighbouring talukks. Recent experience of prices, however, calls for great caution in fixing the future demand. It has been shown that the price of the staple food grain of the taluka has increased so greatly since the first decade of the settlement, that the Government domand could be paid taking the average of the past 11 years with a sacrifice on the part of the cultivator of less than half the amount of the produce he had formerly to part with to satisfy it. It is far from my intention to argue for an enhancement of assossment in arithmetical proportion to rise in priess. The experience of the lost two years has shattered the opinions held by the best informed as to the possibility of preseribing any limit beyond which prices will not fall. We must still anticipate oscillations and those of no mean compass, and in recommending 27.9 per cent. as the measure of enhancement for Nevása, I think I may claim to have made ample allowance for all reasonable contingencies in the future. There is little likelihood of a moderate increase such as this encroaching upon the share of the produce which an increased standard of comfort during the past settlement has established as that necessary fo the maintenance of the cultivator.
39. I must now deal with the case of the village of Ladmod,* which is referred to in - No. 41 of Appendix A. para. 37 of the Superintendent's report. The increase in this animedverted in his para. 4. It appears to me, however, that the eircumstances which have brought about this large increase are completely exceptional, and I cannot concur with the Collector that any modification is called for. Ladmod is a small uninhabited village about a mile west of Nevasa Khurd. It is not in the "arid belt," as stated by the Collector, for it is close to the headquarters of the Mamlatdar, where an average annual rainfall of 20 inches 98 cents has been registered during the past 12 years. The lands of the village have been formed entirely by the silting up of a backwater of the river Pravara, and so rapid is the process of alluvion that in the last 30 years no less than 21 acres have been added to the 41 acres which formerly constituted the village. To this cause alone ebout 50 per cent. of the increase may be attributed, and the rest is due to the incresse of the maximbm eate of the village and to an increased classification to which the hands have been subjected owing to the advantages they receive from annual floods. The river Pravara rises in the Western Ghats and becoming swollen in the early part of the monsoon by the heavy rains which prevail near its sources, it floods the lands of Ladmod and retires, leaving the soil thoroughly saturated and covered with a fine fertilizing deposit. These floods hever recur after the time of sowing the winter crops, and from seed time to harvest the cultivator is independent of rain. While excellent lands on a higher level efre suffering from want of moisture he has certainty of an abundant crop. To class these lands in the same category as lands dependent on rainfall would be continuing a manifest inequality, hence it has been usual on revision to assign them a higher classification yalue. To say that these lands are injured by the floods is as reasonable as to say (magnis componere parva) that the great Egyptian Delts is injured by the inundations of the Nile.
40. A reference to the Statement A appended to this report, will show that whereas the increase on no single group of villages exceeds 29.7 por cent., the enhancement of no village except Ladmod is in excess of 49.7 per cent I cannot perceive the necessity for the Collector reminding Goverament of the Resolution of the dovernment of Sir P. Wodehouse in 1874, as even in Colonel Laughton's proposals the spirit of that Resolution is not
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contravened. His highest percentage for any group of Government villages was 31.5 per eent. and that for any single village, with the one exception referred to above, 50 per cent. The moderation of the rates may also be to some extent judged from the figures on the map showing the maximum rates which heve been applied by the Revenue Survey Department of His Higness the Nizam to the villages on the north of the Godavari.
41.
41. The recommendation made by the Collector in the concluding sentence of his letter will doubtless attract the attention of Goverament, and I may be expected to say something on the subject. It is of course a question which Government will decide as to whether some temporary remission is to be given, as in other cases, in consideration of hard times experienced by the agriculturists. Any fixed postponement, however, of the introduction of the revision rates appears to me unnecessary and inadvisable. The rates introduced at the original settlement, when the people were in a prostrate condition owing to over-assessment and low prices and when more than half the arable area was out of cultivation, were purposely fixed on a standard which at the time gave rise to criticism and even ridicule on account of its lowness. The object, however, which the early Settlement Officers kept in view was to coax cultivation and thereby to ensure progress, and this object was quickly attained, for at an unusually early period of the settlement the full benefit of the low rates was reaped by the cultivators. The result has been a considerable and satisfactory progress, notwithstanditig the occasional checks which are, and must always be, inseparable from a Decean settlement. Although it would be a suicidal policy to impose any rates which would be likely to act in themselves as checks to this progress, I venture to think that the time has now arrited when Government may begin to claim some portion at least of that share of the economic rent which has been foregone for many years past, and my proposals have been based on the principle that as steady progress is gradual, so the attainment of the full share - which Government might fairly claim at once, should be gradual also. There is no reason why Government should stay its hand for any fixed period in levying enhanced rates founded on this principle, however wise it may be to watch the opportune time for introducing them in their entirety. In recommending rates which bind Government for thirty years, although the indications of the present cannot be kept out of view, the Settlement Officer would be wrong to permit himself to be ayduly swayed by immediately existing conditions, the very memory of which hif experience tells him would be effaced by one or two good seasons.
42. If these proposals are approved, I request the sanction of Government to the introduction of the settlement on any date before the 5th June into all the villages under report, with the exception of one Government and 15 Inám villages specified in the postscrip to Colonel Laughton's report. If sanctioned, the rates will be introduced into these villages from the dates of expiry of their guaranteed periods.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,
T. H. STEWART, Survey and Settlement Commissioner.
Theovari the Coxursalonfr, C. D.

## APPENDIX A.

to Survey Commissioner's letter No. 337, dated 23rd February 1882, showing the modifications proposed to be made in the grouping of Villages proposed by the Superintendent, Poona and Nisik Revenut Survey.


APPENDIX A-continued.


APPENDIX A-continued.

T. H. STEWART,

Survey and Settlement Commissioner.

No. $\frac{8}{1128}$ of 1882.

## Reyenot Departyent.

## From

## E. P. ROBERTSON, Esquiri,

Commissioner, C. D.;
To
The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT,
Bombay.
Sdidura District, Camp Ving,
20th March 1858.

## Sir,

I have the honour to submit, for the orders of Government, an exceedingly able and exhaustive settlement report by Mr. Stewart, the Survey and Settlement Commissioner, on 119 Government and 19 Inam villages of the Nevása Taluka of the Ahmednagar District.
2. Mr. Stewart having been Collector of Ahmednagar for some time, his personal experience and knowledge of the taluka is considerable and has stood him in good stead.
3. The Collector, Mr. Elphinston, has made a number of errors in commenting on Mr. Stewart's report. These errors are, no doubt, due to the fact that Mr, Elphinston is entirely without any Decean experience, and that he has attempted to criticise minutely a settlement report regarding a portion of the country of which he is entirely ignorant. Mr. Stewart has so ably reviewed Mr. Elphinston's criticisms that I deem it unnecessary to say more than that I entirely concur in the comments made by Mr. Stewart.
4. Whenever I have had any opportunity I have always endeavoured to impress upon the Settlement Cornmissioner the great importance of carefully noting that the rates are not placed unduly high on the lower qualities of soil in comparison with the better class of soil. It is satisfactory to find from Mr. Stewart's 5 th and 6 th paras. that this most weighty consideration has not only not been lost sight of, but that it has received every attention at the hands both of the Commissioner and the Survey officers,
5. Mr. Stewart's remarks as to the general character of the rainfall of the Nevara Táluka are perfectly correct. My own experience from 1876 beare out Mr. Stewart's statement that it is the north-eastern villages chiefly which have, when there has been a scanty fall of rain, given cause for concern. On the whole, however, the Nevasa Táluka has been fortunate in escaping the very severe pressure of the bad seasons which have affected other parts of the Ahmednagar District.
6. Ifully approve of the grouping proposed by the Survey Commissioner. It eases off the settlement in the one quarter where the lands are poor and the pressure of bad seasons has been invariably felt. When Mr. Stewart was preparing his proposals I had a long personal conference with him as regards the grouping and rates now proposed, and I am sutisfied with the settlement submitted, and recommend both the rates aud grouping for the sanction of Government.
7. When I conferred with Mr. Stewart on the question of grouping and rates I drew his attention to the fact that in the neighbouring villages of the Rahuri Taluka, settled in June 1881, the maximum rates ran up to Rs. 1-8-0. The settlement for Ráhuri, though sanctioned, has not as yet been brought into force, and I desire now to recommend to Government that the Survey and Settlemeut Commissioner should be requested to report whether a sensible reduction of from 2 to 4 annas in the rates of this part of the R'huri Taluka would not be advisable.
8. Ráhuri is now again suffering from an exceedingly unfavourable and deficient rainfall, while further the Radhuri Táluka has, each year, since the famine, suffered more or less from insufficient rainfall. On this ground it world be well if, before the sanctioned rates are finally introduced, the Survey Commissioner were required to submit a further report with an expression of opinion as to whether any reduction should be made, and, if so, what reduction.
9. I do not consider that any modification is required in the proposed settlement for Ladmod. As explained by Mr. Stewart in his 39th para. the case of this uninhabited village is peculiar; the lands are exceedingly rich and there has been a large increase in area owing to alluvion during the term of the settlement.
10. On the whole, the proposed settlement is moderate and fair, giving an average of not more than 27.9 per cent. Mr. Stewart has asked for its introduction on any date before 5th June next. As the neighbouring Tálukas of Ráhuri and Kopargaon have, under the
terms of Government Resolution No. 3545, dated 21st June 1881, had a concession, the introduction of their revised rates having been deferred till 1883-84, I would suggest that as the last season has been exceedingly unfavourable in the north-western villages of Nevass, the introduction of the rates of the present revised settlement should, if sanctioned, be deferred till 1883-84 and that they be introduced at the same time as the Ráhuri rates.
11. Mr. Stewart in his 3rd para. makes a very sensible proposition that endeavour should be made to come to terms with the Government of His Highness the Nizam for an exchange of the villages of Malunja and Bhamathan. Itrust that Government will feel disposed to communicate with the Resident at Hyderabad with the object of having this proposal considered by the Government' of His Highness the Nizsm.

I have the honour, \&o.,

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { (Signed) } \quad \text { E. P. ROBERTSON, } \\
& \text { Commissioner, C. D. }
\end{aligned}
$$

## Revenue Survey and Assessment: Nevása Talıken, Ahmednagar Collectorate.

No. 2985.

## Rgvente Defartarnt.

## Bombay Castle, 6th May 1882.

Latter from the Commissioner, C. D., No. R.- 1123, dated 2Cth March 1882 -Submitting, with his remarks, a report (No. 337, dated 23rd Febraary 1882, with accompaniments, from the Survey and Settlement Comminsioner on the revision settlement of 118 Government and 19 Inám vilages of the Nevisa Taluka of the Ahmednagar Collectorate.
Regoldtion.-The original Survey Settlement was introduced into different villages of the Nevása Taluka in different years from 1849-50 to 1809-70. But 110 villages, constituting the greater part of the taluka, were settled in 1851-52. The present proposals for revision settlement relate to all the Government villages, which now number 118, and to 19 alienated villages. The period for which the original settlement was guaranteed expired at the end of last year in 117 Covernment and 4 alienated villages; in 1 Government and 4 alienated villages it will expire in 1882-83, in 1 alienated village in 1883-84, and in another in 1884-85. There are 7 alienuted villages to be settled for the first time, but proposals regarding them are not now before Government. Four alienated villages remain, of which one has been settled, but the Inámdárs of those villages refuse to have new rates introduced.
2. In 1851-ธ2 the conformation of the talluka was very irregular. This defect has 'been generally remedied, and the Godátari now forms the boundary on the north and northeast with the exceptions that one village of the taluka (Malunja) is isolated amongst the villages of His Highness the Nisam at a distance of about 12 miles from that river, and that one of His Highness' villages is on the south of the river and breaks the continuity of the boundary line. The Survey and Settlement Commissioner and the Commissioner, C. D., recommend an exchange of those villages, which appears to be very desirable. The Resident at Hyderabad might be requested to ascertain whether His Highness the Nizam takes a favourable view of the proposal, in which case instructions regarding the arrangement of the terms can be issued hereafter.
3. An interesting account of the condition of the taluka in 1854 is given in a report by Colonel G. S. A. Anderson, then Superintendent of Revenue Survey and Assessment. From a comparison of the facts stated by him with those now reported it appears that in many respects there has been material progress, while in others the advance has not been so great as might have been expected. The soil is generally good except on high lands, which have now been mostly tuken up for forest; that in the vicinity of the Pravara and Mula rivers is particularly rich, but that along the Godávari is of a clayey composition, and in the north-west of the tilukathere is much stony land. During the currency of the settlement wells have increased $44 \cdot 2$ per cent. and the irrigated area from 3,026 to 7,195 acres. The latter area is but a small proportion of the total cultivated area, but the explanation given is that owing to the richness of the soil the agriculturists do not care to resort to irrigation, which involves the more liberal use of manure and higher cultivation. The system of husbandry generally continues to be slovenly. $68 \cdot 1$ per cent. of the cultivated area is devoted to the coarser food grains, though much of the soil is suitable for wheat, gram, cotton, linseed and other exportable produce. Colonel Anderson calculated that in 1854 about $\frac{3}{3}$ of the cultivators were in the bands of money-lenders, with an average debt of about Ks. 100 . No estimate has been made of the present extent of indebtedness, but the inquiries of the Committee on the Deccan Riots tended to show that only ubout $\frac{1}{\frac{1}{2}}$ of the agricultural population of the Deccan are in debt. There is no reason to suppose that this proportion is exceeded in the Nevása Taluka,
and there is a general consensus of opinion amongst officers who have personal knowledge of the taluka that the people are well off as compared with those of other parts of the Ahmednagar District. Even during the time of famine the agricultural population did not suffer severely in this taluka; they paid up nearly the whole of the arrears of revenue without resort to compulsory processes. Many of the crops did not fail entirely, and high prices were obtained for the produce they were able to raise. Statements prepared by the Superintendent of Survey and Assessment from the records of the registration offices show that land is mortgaged for 18.5 times and sold for 20.4 times the present assessment. These facts afford strong evidence of the lightness of the rates now in force. About 73 per cent. of the land in cultivation is cultivated by the occupants, but it is possible that a considerable portion of such land may be mortgaged.
4. A comparison of the present population, houses and agricultural stock with those of the time when the original settlement was introduced is made in the following table:-

\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|}

\hline \multicolumn{5}{|c|}{Iteme.} \& \begin{tabular}{l}
According to hirst <br>
Settlemen <br>

 \& 

Acearding to revision <br>
Burvey
Bettlement.

 \& Increasa, \& Decrease. \& 

Persentage <br>
Increase <br>
or Docrcase.
\end{tabular} <br>

\hline \multicolumn{5}{|l|}{} \& 49,294 \& 58,510 \& 9,216 \& .. \& +18.7 <br>
\hline Hopalation \& \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{Flat-roofed and tiled} \& \& \& 5,962 \& 7,301 \& 1,339 \& \& $+22.5$ <br>
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{\multirow[t]{3}{*}{Agricultaral cattle Cows, buffaloes, and their young Sheep and goats}} \& ... \& .... \& $\ldots$ \& 2,200 \& (1,331 \& 3,118 \& 869 \& -39\% <br>
\hline \& \& ... \& $\ldots$ \& $\ldots$ \& 18,188 \& 24,556 \& 6,368 \& ... \& +178
+350 <br>
\hline \& \& \& ... \& ... \& 40,114 \& 32,029 \& \& 8,085 \& ${ }_{-20.2}$ <br>
\hline \multirow[t]{2}{*}{} \& $\cdots$ \& $\ldots$ \& ... \& ... \& 2,949 \& 3,928 \& 979 \& \& +33-2 <br>
\hline \& ... \& \& \& \& 1,641 \& 2,558 \& 917 \& \& +55.9 <br>
\hline Horsen and ponies \& ... \& \& \& \& 1,748 \& 2,266 \& 518 \& ... \& +29.6 <br>
\hline
\end{tabular}

5. The Survey and Settlement Commissioner states that great efforts are made to secure correct statistics but the general tendency of the enumeration is to show smaller numbers of live stock than do really exist, the enumerator being very liable to be overreached by the villagers. If, however, the same tendency existed at the time of the original settlement-and there is no apparent reason why it should be more prevalent now than then-it cannot be taken into account as an explanation of a small increass in, or an actual decrease of, live stock. The increase of agricultural cattle is not proportional to the increase of cultivation, and Mr. Stewart admits that a further increase must be looked for before slovenly husbandry can be expected to disappear, although he considers that the fact that there is on an average one pair of bullocks to every 26 acres of accupied area does not show any very marked deficiency. The curtailment of pasturage lands through the extension of cultivation as well as on account of forest conservancy has no doubt retarded the increase, and considerable mortality is believed to have resulted from scarcity of fodder in the famine years. It is probable that in the original census of cattle, large numbers of pack bullocks and cattle that were grazing on the extensive waste lands were included. Government, however, consider that a pair of bullocks for every 26 acrea is not much below what is required for the light lands of this taluka. The decreuse in sheep and goats is probably also due in a great measure to the diminution of pasture, and is not so much a matter of regret. The other statistics, including those which show, a decrease in , thatched houses through the substitution of flat-roofed and tiled houses, indicate that the prosperity of the people has advanced very considerably since the original settlement was introduced.
6. At the date of Colonel Anderson's report the only communications were two cartroads and a few cross-roads "principally traversed by Brinjáris." The cart-roads have now become good metalled roads, and many cross-roads fit for cart traffic in the fair season have been made. And the Dhond and Manmád Railway runs at an average distance of twelve miles from the western frontier.
7. The rainfall varies much both in different years and at different places in the same years. At the Mámlatdar's headquarters, $36 \cdot 86$ inches were measured in 1879, but in 1870 only $5 \cdot 37$ inches. In 1876 and 1877 the quantities measured were respectively 13.62 and 13.30 inches. The villages in the south of the taluka, which adjoin the hills, have the steadiest rainfall.
8. There have been violent fluctuations in the prices of food grains during the ourrenog of the original settlenent. The Superintendent of Survey and Assessment shows the average price of jowari, the staple food grain, to have been 55 seers per rupee in the first decade, 30 in the second, and $24 \frac{1}{2}$ in the third. The arerage of five years from 1856-57 to 1860-61, in which there were no special canses to disturb prices, was 594 seers. In comparing that average, however, with the average of the last decade of the settlement, it must not be forgotten that the latter includes the famine years. To meet this objection, Mr. Stewart has included in another calculation the price of the current jear, 40 seers for the greater part of the year, which is exceptionally low. The average of the last eleven years is given as 26 seers. But the objection is not fully met thus. There were four years of exceptionally high prices, viz., from 1876-77 to 1879-80, in nove of which more than ló seers of jowári coulda be purchased for a rupee. In only one of the other 11 gears was the price op to the average given above. It may be expected that with improved commani-
cations prices will remain steadier, but the experience of the current year tends to diminish confidence in any prediotion regarding the fature conrse of prices. Here, however, the probable effects of the railway in equalising prices is stated to have been neutralised by the unusually large harvests in neighbouring districts.
9. The following statement shows the variations in the extent of land occupied and in the collections daring the currency of the original settlement as compared with the previons decade, in the 110 villages settled in 1851-52:-

| Years ${ }^{\text {\% }}$ |  | Government Oconpied Land. | Collectionar |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Acren. | Rs. |
| 1841-42-1850-51 | ... | 123,385 | 84.713 |
| 1851-58-1860-61 | ** | 181,195 | 92,049 |
| 1861-62-1870-71 | ... | 227,387 | 1,10,986 |
| 1871-72-1880.81 | ** | 221,373 | 1,09,212 |

The marked extension of cultivation in the years following the settlement is evidence of the lightness of the rates. This extension on the whole continued till 1870-71, when 233,088 acres were occupied, and Rs. $1,13,688$ were collected. In that year the rainfall was not mach over 5 inches, and in the next it was not quite 10. In 1871-72 the occupied area was 233,248 acres, but Rs. 9,823 had to be remitted, and the collections amounted to Rs. $1,03,865$ ouly. Since that time there has been on the whole a steady decline in cultivation. There was a recovery in 1878-79 owing to the high prices which continued to prevail after the famine, but after that year cultivation again fell off, and in the last year it was less than in 1861-62. Before the introduction of the Survey rates large remissions had to be annually granted, but during the currency of the settlement they have been considerable in 2 years only, 1868-69 and 1871-72. Until the latter year there were no outstanding balances, and of outstanding balances pertaining to the famine years and succeeding years only. Rs. 1,419 had to be remitted, and only Rs. 1,367-1-9 remained to be collected at the end of July last. There have been only 15 sales of the right of occupancy for arrears of revenue in the last 3 years, and as the average assessment of the land sold was only 6 annas per acre, the soil must have been mostly of a poor description.
10. A consideration of the above facts leads to the conclusion that the district can well bear an increase of rates, snd it would not be equitable in consideration of the necessity of as far as possible equalizing the burden of taxation to leave the assessment unchanged. At the same time the capricious nature of the rainfall, and the uncertainty of prices, are reasons for the exercise of great moderation in the enhancement of the rates. These reasons have not been lost sight of by the Survey and Settlement Commissioner in framing his proposals.
11. For the purpose of the original settlement Colonel Anderson divided the villages into 3 groups, of which the maximum rates were Rs. 1-4-0, Rs. 1-2-0, and Re. 1-0-0 respectively. The villages in the first group are in the south of the taluka, adjoin the hills, and have a more favourable rainfall and are nearer the large market of Ahmednagar than the rest. Those in the second gronp are in the centre and extreme north-west, with a less favourable rainfall, and at a greater distance from the market. Those in the third group are in the north-east of the taluka, and are considered to be least favourably situated as regards climate and markets. The Superintendent of Survey and Assessment proposes to retain that groaping, but to increase the maximam rates by 2 annas in each class, except in the case of 3 Government and 5 Inám villages, the present maximum rates of which he considers sufficient. The Survey and Settlement Commissioner conours in the suggestion regarding the maximum rates, but thinks that owing to the uncertainty of the rainfall 19 villages in the north-west should be transferred from the second to the third group. The effect of Mr. Stewart's proposals is shown in the following table :-

Government Villages.

| Group. |  |  |  | Number of Vilagen. | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Old } \\ & \text { gerease } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Yow } \\ \text { Revemue. } \end{gathered}$ | Persentige Incresee |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { 1st... } \\ & \text { 2nd } \\ & \text { 3rd } \end{aligned}$ | ...$\cdots$$\cdots$ | $\cdots$$\cdots$ | $\begin{aligned} & \cdots \\ & \cdots \\ & \cdots \\ & \text { Total } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 5 \\ 69 \\ 44 \end{array}$ | Re.$\begin{array}{r} 5,724 \\ 69,945 \\ 37,171 \end{array}$ | Rs.$\begin{array}{r} 6,7,76 \\ 90,850 \\ 46,969 \end{array}$ | Rs. <br> 17.5 <br> $28 \cdot 6$ <br> 26.4 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | 118 | 1,12,840 | 1,44,345 | 27.9 |
| Inám Villages. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total |  |  |  | 19 | 23,568 | 29,184 | 23.8 |

In no village does the proposed increase of assessment amount to 50 per oent, except in Ladmod, where it is 95.2 . But more than 50 per cent. of the inoresse in that village is due to an increase of area through allution, and the land is annally submerged by floods which leave a fertilizing deposit.
12. Mr. Stewart's propasals are fully concarred in by the Commissioner, C. D. The Collector has eriticized the report of Colonel Laughton at some length, but, as pointed out by the Survey and Settlement Commissioner, he has fallen into some singular misconceptions as to the bearing of the statistics appended to the report. Mr. Eiphinston finally asks Government if they consider that the imposition of any increased rates of assessment is justifiable in the present state of the country to remember the limits fixed in Government Resolution No. 5739, dated 29th October 1874. If he had examined the increases which result from even Colonel Laughton's proposals, he would have seen that they in no case come up to the limits referred to except in the village of Ladmod, for the high increase in which there is, as above stated, a satisfactory reason. Mr. Stewart's proposals have been framed with studied moderation, and His Excellency the Govarnor in Council thinks they are jastified by the facts which have been detailed above, and may with safety be sanctioned.
13. The result of the revision settlement proposed varies very largely in different villages, and no doubt varies still more in the case of individual holdings. The valuationscale adopted is that prescribed by the late Survey and Settlement Commissioner for revision operations generally. Mr. Stewart reports that the old scale could not have been applied to the present classification withont some modification, as the present system prescribes 10 classes, while the original classification had but 9. He also thinks that owing to the great difference in the productiveness of soils in the Nevass Taluka the new scule is better suited for that táluka than is the old one, and points out that the increases are not so much the result of an amended acale of valuation as the transfer of soils from ove class to another. Even now there exists a tendency among classers to rate the poor soils too high and the good soils too low, and there is reason to believe that the tendency prevailed to a greater extent at the time of the original settlement.
14. The Secretary of State has, however, objected not merely to an alteration of the scale, but to changes in the relative valuation of lands, in whatsoever manner these changes are brought about, and in his desparch No. 14, dated 31st March 1881, commanicated to the Survey and Settlement Commissioner with Government Resolution No. 2516, dated 5th May 1881, it has been directed that there shall be no re-measurement or re-classification except where Government are satisfied that sach operations are necessary. In the Nevása Táluka the re-measurement was completed and the re-classification was nearly completed before the receipt of those orders. Thers can be no objection to abiding by the results of the re* measurement, now that it has been carried out. The difference in the total area as shown by the two measurements is very slight, but there are large differences, amonnting in some cases to over 30 per cent. in individual fields, and there is also a manifest advantage in holdings as they now exist being separstely marked off. The question whether the results of the re-olassification should be accepted depends on the comparative weight of different considerations. The harassment, trouble and expense, regarded by the Secretary of State as one objection to re-classification, have already been undergone. The objections on the grounds of uncertainty in the assessment, the transfer of lands withont regard to a possible change in valuation, and the chance of taxing improvements, still remain in force. On the other band, Mr. Stewart shows that under the original settlement good lands do not bear their fair share of the burden of assessment, and this is a defect which it is very important to remedy. It is only reasonable to suppose that' great improvementa in classification have resalted from wider experience, and as the classes are determined on a consideration of texture and depth of soil only, it should be possible to re-classify without taxing improvements. As the reclassification has bean effected, and as the Sarvey and Settlement Commissioner has devoted much personsil attention to $i t$, it should be accepted, bat Mr. Stewart should be reminded that the operations of re-measnrement and reclassification are not to be carried on in other talukas without the special senction of Government and, when he finds this to be necessary he should make an early application for sanction.
15. Mr. Stewart asks for sanction to the introduction of the settlement on any date before 5th June nezt in the villages for which the period of gaarantee has expired. The Collector pleads that any increase in the assessment of villages which have suffered from drought should be held in abeyance for five years. The Commissioner, Central Division, thinks that the introduction, by which he apparently means collection, of the revised rates should be deferred till 1883-84 as in Ráhuri and Kopargaon, the last season having been unfsvourable in the noth-pest of Nevass. Mr. Robertson's suggestion should be sdopted; the rates should be announced next year for the villager for which the period of guarantee has expired and levied from 1883-84; in the remaining villages the revision settlement should be introduced when the period of guarantee expires.
16. The Commissioner, Central Division, points out that in the neighbouring villages of Rahuri settled in June 1881, the rates are much higher than those proposed for Nevisa, and he suggests that the Survey' and Settlexdent Commissioner might be asked to propose whetber a sengible reduction in those Ráhuri villages is not desirable. Mr. Stewart has
aseigned sowe reasons in his report for having higher rates in those Rahari villages than in the adjoining Nevass villages and Government are of opinion that a re-opening of the question of settlement would only nusettie the minds of the people. If the Rafhari rates are found in practice to be too high, remissions can be granted, but there is no necessity to reduce the rates for the sake of niformity when the circumatances of the two trilukas differ.
17. In these conclusions, Government have in several instances been unable to adopt the recommendations of the Collector. Mr. Elphinston has been but a short time in charge of this district: he has waken an acive interest in examining the condition of the people, and has shown himself anxions to bring to the notice of Government the hardships ander which thes have labonred owing to the Ficissituder of the climate. In the present case Government must adopt the resvits of the large and special experience possessed by the Commissioner, Central Division, and the Survey and Settlement Commissioner, and believe that on perasing their reports, Mr. Elphinston will see cause to modify his present opinions.
18. Mr. Stewart should be thanked for his very able and claar report. His personal knowledge of the taluka has been of much service to him, and he has with great care examined all the facts which relate to the question of a revision of ratea, and placed them very lucidly before Government. Colonel Laughton's report is also creditable to bim,
J. MONTEATH,

Acting Under Secretary to Government.
To
The Commissioner, Central Division,
The Survey aud Settlement Commissioner,
The Collector of Ahmednagar,
The Resident at Hyderabad (by letter),
The Public Works Department of the Secretariat, Irrigation (with copy of the Survey Commiasioner's report and sccompaniment).

Revanue Survey and Assassment: Nevasa Tálukt, Ahmednagar.
No. 8702.

## Revenue Department

Bombay Castle, 12th December 1882.
Despatch from Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, No. 19, Revenue, dated 19th October 1882 :-
"I have considered in Council the report and accompanying papers on the revision of assessment in the Nevdsa Taluka of the Ahmednagar District, transmitted with your Secretary's letter No. 35, Revenue, of 27th June last.
*2. The revenue history of the taluka is briefly this. The assessments introduced when it came under British rule in 1818 A.D., which were founded upon the old Maratha ' kamal ' assessment, proved injuriously heavy, and prevented the advance in prosperity which ought to have followed on the establishment of peace and security. When, in 1851-52, the settlement which has just expired was introduced, the nominal everage rate of assessment per acre was nearly one rupee, but the rate actually realized about $12 \frac{1}{2}$ annas. The settlement reduced the average rate to about $8 \frac{5}{3}$ annas an acre, and the good effect of moderation in assessment immediately became apparent. Although prices remained very low for several years cultivation increased rapidly, while the Government revenue began to be recovered punctually and with ease. Taking the villages for which a comparison is possible the cultivated area, which in the decade preceding the settlement had averaged about 123,000 acres, rose in the ten years ending 1870 to an average of 227,000 acres, while remissions and balances, which had averaged about 35 per cent. of the demand, almost entirely disappeared.
" 3 The statistical returns show that, notwithstanding the occurrence of the fanine, from which, however, Nevasa suffered less thau some other talukts, there has been a considerable increase, and one exceeding the proportion of the increase of the population, in almost all kinds of agricultural stock during the term of the scttlement. The construction of the Dhond-Manmad Railway has lately much improved means of communication. Average prices have risen very greatly. And land appears to have a high saleable value.
"4. On the other hand, cultivation has failen off somewhat since the famine, while the re-appearance of remissions and balances shows that there is more diffculty"in collecting the revenue than in the prosperous years, $1805-70$. And although the average price of produce for the last decade, which includes the famine years, has been extremely high, yet a considerable fall has lately oceurred.
"5. In these circumstances yon consider that, although the district can well bear an increase of rates, and that it would not be equitable to leave the old very light assessments unchanged, yet the capricious nature of the rainfall and the uncertainty of prices are ressons for the exercise of great moderation in enbancement. I see no reason to dissent from these conclusions.
"6. The total enhancement effected by the proposals you have sanctioned is, for the 118 Goverament villages, from Rs. $1,12,840$ to Rs. $1,44,345$ or 27.9 per cent. The new average rate per acre, including Local Fund, appears to be about 103 annas, that is, 5 annas or about 32 per cent. lower than the rate in force before 1850. Considering the improvement in prices, in means of communication, and in general prosperity since the low rates of the original settlement were fixed, an enhancement of 28 per cent. may not be perhaps excessive, though it is by no means inappreciable.
"7. It appears that the re-classification of Nevisa had been nearly completed before the receipt of my despatch of the 31st March 1881, and as Mr. Stewart was satisfied that the new valuation was superior to the original valuation you have permitted its adoption as the basis of the revised assessment. To this, under the circumstances, I will make no objection. But I am glad to observe that, for the future, neither re-measurement nor re-classification is to be undertaken without your special and previous sanction.
" 8. Appendices B, C and D to the Settlement Report contain information regarding the sale, mortgage, and letting value of assessed land, which would be of great interest if it did not appear from paragraph 11 of Colonel Laughton's letter that the instances given are selected ones. Colonel Laughton should be reminded that not only does the selection of instances deprive information of this kind of all statistical value, but also that a complete abstract of the information which the Registration Offices supply would throw much light upon the subject of the extent and nature of transfers of land, one of great interest and importance in connection with the revision of a settlement.
"9. I have much plessure in expressing my full concurrence with your Excellency's opinion of the merits of Colonel Laaghton's and Mr. Stewart's interesting reports.
"10. I observe that, in accordance with the recommendation of the Commissioner, C. D., you have directed that the revised rates for Nevása shall not be collected till 1883-84, to which year you have postponed the collection of enhanced rates in the neighbouring tálukás of Rahuri and Kopargaon. Mr. Robertson points out that the Rahuri rates are a good deal higher than those now sanctioned for Nevasa, and proposes that they shall be proportionately reduced. You are aware that in my despatch of 11th November 1880, No. 45, Revenue, I expressed some doubt whether the revised rates adopted by Colonel Anderson for Ráhuri were not higher than is desirable, and, although I have no objection to the decision contained in the 16th paragraph of your Resolution, I shall be glad if your Excellency will reconsider the circumstances of Ráhuri before the revised rates are actually levied in that táluka."
Resolution.-A copy of the despatch should be forwarded to the Survey and Settlement Commissioner, whose particular attention should be called to paragraph 8, and who should be requested with reference to peragraph 10 to report after consultation with the Commissioner, C. D., and the Collector of Ahmednagar whether in consideration of existing eircumstances he would recommend any modification of the rates already sanctioned for the Rahuri Taluka.

## J. MONTEATH, Acting Under Secretary to Government.

 ToThe Survey and Settlement Commissioner,
The Commissioner, C. D.,
The Collector of Ahmednagar,
The Public Works Department of the Secretariat (Irrigation).

Extrast from Bombay Gorernment Gazette, dated 1sth March 1884, pages 182 and 183, Pavt I.

No. 2171.-A Revised Survey Settlement having been introduced ander the provisions of Bombay Act $\bar{\nabla}$. of 1879 into the below-mentioned villages of the Nevása Taluka of the Ahmednagar Collectorate, it is hereby notified for general information that in exercise of the power conferred by Section 102 of the said Act, His Excellency the Governor in Council has been pleased to declare the assessments imposed under the said Settlement fixed for a period of 29 years commencing with the Revenue year 1883-84, and ending with the Revenue year 1911-12 :-

Names of the Dillages above referred to.

| 1. Kadgaon. <br> 2. Lohogaon. |
| :---: |
| 3. Hingoni. |
| 4. Lohárvadi. |
| 5. Máhálakshmi Hivra. |
| 6. Dhorjalgaon. |
| 7. Bhaygaon. |
| 8. Vadula |
| 9. Telkadgron. |
| 10. Jeur. |
| 11. Tarsvdi. |
| 12. Gondegaon. |
| 13. Maktápur. |
| 14. Nevase Khurd. |
| 15. Khopti. |
| 16. Nipáni Nimgaon. |
| 17. Hándi Nimgaon. |
| 18. Nagápur. |
| 19. Fatepur. |
| 20. Chánda. |
| 21. Támasvádi. |
| 22. Pánegraon. |
| 23. Nimbari. |
| 24. Punadgaon. |
| 25. Taklibhan. |
| 26. Nipani Vadggon. |
| 27. Málvadgaon. |
| 28. Ghumandev. |
| 29. Suregaon. |
| 30. Dhamori. |
| 81. Khalálpimpri. |
| 82. Murma. |
| 33. Vásim. |
| 34. Suregaon. |
| 35. Wákdi. |
| 36. Sukeli Budruk |
| 37. Mejreshahar. |
| 38. Sultanpur. |
| 39. Babhulkhedon |
| 40. Malunja Budrul. |

41. Rajegaon.
42. Morya Chinchora
43. Kangoni.
44. Mándegavhan.
45. Nimba.
46. Akhatvide.
47. Dautpur.
48. Chilekhánvádi.
49. Páchunda.
50. Kukána.
51. Bhends Budruk.
52. Mhasla.
53. Makundpur.
54. Ladmod.
55. Dhangarvádi.
56. Málichinchora.
57. Bhánashivza.
58. Koregaon.
59. Sahápur.
60. Mhálespimpalgaon.
61. Vitśpur.
62. Amalner.
63. Gonegaon.
64. Chinchban.
65. Bhokar.
66. Wadála.
67. Khánápur.
68. Jainpur.
69. Borgaon.
70. Bahirvadi.
71. Malevádi.
72. Bhalgaon.
73. Khedla Kánjli.
74. Varkhed.
75. Gáygawhan.
76. Sukeli Khurd
77. Nandurshikári.
78. Gavrai.
79. Salábatpur.
80. Yadála.
81. Shingva Tukái.
82. Sonai.
83. Barhánpur.
84. Morgawhán.
85. Nándur.
86. Bhâtkudgaon
87. Baktapur.
88. Devsada
89. Dedgran.
90. Antarváli Budruk.
91. Saundala.
92. Piehadgaon.
93. Khadka.
94. Málimoho.
95. Náráyanvádi.
96. Babhulveda.
97. Khunegaon.
98. Rastápur.
99. Kautha.
100. Kharvandi.
101. Shiregaon.
102. Gomalvadi.
103. Imámpur.
104. Belpimpalgaon
105. Khokar .
106. Muthevadgaon.
107. Kamálpur.
108. Belpandhari.
109. Usthal.
110. Madki.
111. Jalka Budruk.
112. Godhegron.
113. Galnimb.
114. Shirasgaon.
115. Pimpri-Sháháli.
116. Shahar-Takli.
117. Pátharvála.
118. Dighi.
119. Gogalgaon.
120. Tuljápur.
121. Prayrásangam.
122. Baku-Pimpalgaon.
123. Manglapur.
124. Khámgron.
125. Dev-Takli.
126. Shingya-Keshav.
127. Karanjgaon.
128. Bhend Khard.
129. Toka.
130. Málvádi.
131. Dahigson.
132. Ghodegaon.
133. Ghogargaon.
134. Gumpha.
135. Máhâlápur.
136. Gopálpur.
137. Najik-Chincholi.

[^0]:    9. At the time of settlement the taluka contained 148 Government, 14 partially alienated, Distribation of Villages. and 18 wholly alienated villages. These are under the charge of a Mámlatdár stationed at Nevása, and of a Mahálkari stationed at Sonai as shown in the sab-joined statement :-
[^1]:    - Political Economy by Thorold Rogers, 2nd edition, page 155.

