Report of Mr. F. N. Maltby, Principal Collector on the Settlement of the Land Revenue of South Canara District

1259

Hs(D) 194

Selections

From the

Records of the Collection
of
South Kanara

SELECTIONS FROM THE RECORDS

OF THE

COLLECTOR OF SOUTH CANARA

Published by Authority.

REPORT

OF

Mr. F. N. Maltby,

PRINCIPAL COLLECTOR

ON THE

SETTLEMENT OF THE LAND REVENUE

OF

SOUTH CANARA DISTRICT

FOR

FASLI 1259.

(These papers are printed for convenience of reference and do not acquire any authority from their being printed in this form.)

MANGALORE:
PRINTED AT THE SOUTH CANARA COLLECTORATE PRESS.
1907.

No. 74.

COLLECTOR'S CUTCHERRY,
Mangalore, 7th October 1850.
Despatched 11th do.

FROM

F. N. Maltby Esquire,
COLLECTOR OF CANARA.

To

W. H. Bayley Esquire,
Secretary to the Board of Revenue,
FORT ST. GEORGE.

Sir,

English and Hinduvi No. 1 to 15.
Hinduvi No. 16 to 33.

1. I have the honor to report upon the Land Revenue Settlement of this District for the past Fasli $\frac{1259 \text{ A. D.}}{1849/50}$ and to forward the accounts and statements noted in the margin.

2. The several Taluks were settled in the following manner *viz.*, Udipi, Barkur, Cundapoor and Honore by Mr. Blane the late Collector, Supah, Soudah and Bilghi by the Acting Sub Collector Mr. Silver; Mangalore, Bekal, and Buntwal by the Acting Additional Sub Collector Mr. Fisher, and Ankola by the Acting Head Assistant Collector Mr. Chamier.

3. Having myself only taken charge of the District after the conclusion of the Fasli year, my report is necessarily founded entirely upon an examination of the records and the accounts of a settlement in which I took no personal part. This examination has naturally led me through the reports of many past years, and I find that they have for the last 10 years exhibited a revenue increasing year by year beyond the amount ever before realised with many signs of advancing prosperity. In his report of last year Mr. Blane observed "on the whole the Board will observe with satisfaction that in nearly all the points above noticed, being those of most importance, the District is in a flourishing and satisfactory condition." In the present report I have the gratification of showing that the prosperity of the District has steadily advanced.

4. The fall of rain was on the whole sufficiently steady and abundant to produce a full harvest. At one period only there was a slight deficiency, but this was compensated by a heavy fall at the season when it is most important for perfecting the first, and for securing the second crop.

5. I have been favoured with the following record of the fall at Mangalore during a portion of the season. September was an exceedingly wet month. A good deal of rain fell in October, and in November up to the 25th occasional falls occurred.

	In. Cs.
May 1849	3—10.
June „	45—25.
July „	38—38.
August „ to 19th	13— 9.
	99—82.

6. The season was decidedly a healthy one. Cholera prevailed to some extent in the Taluks of Mangalore and Bekal towards the end of the Fasli, and the returns show a slight increase in the number of casualties from this disease over those of last year; but when compared with several years it will be seen that this epidemic was far from being severe, while small pox was less prevalent than it has been for many years.

	From Cholera.	From small-pox.
1255....	4,376.	5,433.
1256....	1,433.	637.
1257....	92.	197.
1258....	157.	153.
1259....	276.	145.

7. The Cattle suffered from murrain more severely than in the last year. But taking a series of years I am inclined to think that the mortality is not beyond the ordinary loss to be expected where little care is taken to counteract the effects of an unfavourable climate, which changes suddenly from extreme drought and scarcity of pasture, to extreme moisture.

1254——18,139.
1255——25,631.
1256—— 8,798.
1257—— 5,021.
1258—— 8,910.
1259——12,386.

8. The Census of population not having been taken during the past season the statistics remain as before, the number being 9,94,656.

9. The prices of rice were favourable, being slightly in advance of those obtained in the previous year, though in the case of Mascati and Jeera rice they are slightly below the average prices of the last 5 years. The fluctuations are shown below:—

Prices.

	Payenghaut Taluks.									Balaghaut.		
	Average per Corgee of Jeera rice.			Average per Corgee of Mascati rice.			Average per Corgee of Rassi rice.			Average per Corgee of paddy.		
	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
Fasli 1258.	74	7	5	64	7	10	57	0	7	20	13	3
1259.	75	5	6	64	8	2	58	11	8	19	12	11
	Inc.			Inc.			Inc.			Dec.		
Difference	0	14	1	0	0	4	1	11	1	1	0	4
Percentage	1	3	0	0	0	6	3	0	0	4	15	0
Average of the past 5 years. ..	76	1	10	65	5	5	58	1	10	20	6	7
	Dec.			Dec.			Inc.			Dec.		
Difference in 1259..	0	12	4	0	13	3	0	9	10	0	9	8
Percentage	1	2	6	1	4	0	1	1	0	3	0	0

10. The slight decline in the price of paddy is attributable to an abundant harvest, and most probably to increased importations from Mysore. This is evinced by the fact that the decline in price has been coincident with a large export to Goa as shewn in the margin.

		Corgees. M.
In Fasli	1255.	1,652—12.
	1256.	1,506— 2.
	1257.	1,858—32.
	1258.	2,397—27.
	1259.	2,285— 6.

11. The price of Betelnut was lower in the past than in the preceding year, while that of Cardamoms and pepper was higher. The increase in the price of Cardamoms is very remarkable. Compared with the average of the past 5 years, the prices of Betelnut and pepper fluctuate but slightly, while Cardamoms continue to advance. But it is interesting to compare these prices with those which prevailed for five years before the Hawlut duties were abolished, and I think it is satisfactory to observe that in the article of Suparee the advantage of the reduction has been pretty equally divided between the grower and the consumer. While with regard to Cardamoms the whole would appear to have fallen to the producer. It may be expected that this stimulus should tell most favorably on the cultivation of the Balaghaut taluks, and I have every reason to believe that this is the case.

12. With regard to Pepper there are evidently some circumstances which have influenced the market which are independent of this district and its produce, and it is probably most fortunate that the decline in the demand for our produce has found the trade relieved from a heavy impost.

	Average per Candy of Betelnut.			Average per Candy of Pepper.			Average per Candy of Cardamoms.		
Fasli 1258. ..	42	11	5	36	15	0	575	6	8
" 1259. ..	40	9	5	41	7	5	600	14	2
Difference. ..	Dec. 2	2	0	Inc. 4	8	5	Inc. 25	7	6
Percentage. ..	5	0	0	12	4	0	4	7	0
Average of the past 5 years. ..	39	10	11	41	14	7	582	2	1
Difference. ..	Inc. 0	14	6	Dec. 0	7	2	Inc. 18	12	1
Percentage ..	2	5	0	1	1	0	3	4	0
Average of 5 years previous to the reduction of the Hawlut duties. ..	35	11	2	50	13	3	379	6	9
Amount of duty ..	11	4	0	9	0	0	125	0	0

13. Cocoanuts have, as in the previous year slightly declined in price; and th average of 5 years past shows the falling off to have been progressive. The extensio of cultivation in Malabar and consequent increased import into this district and n doubt a considerable increase of production in this district itself, may be considere the satisfactory causes of this decline of price:—

Price of Cocoanuts per 1000—

In 1258.	.. ..	13— 7— 6
„ 1259.	.. ..	12—11— 7
Decrease.	..	0—11—11
Percentage.		5— 8— 0
Average of past 5 years.		15— 5— 3
Decrease.	..	2— 9— 8
Percentage.		19— 3— 0

14. There has however been a serious falling off in the staple trade of the district, the export of rice during the past year being considerably below that of the previous and below the average of the past 5 years. This will appear from the subjoined statement which distinguishes the Canara from the Mysore produce:—

	Canara.		Mysore and Coorg.		Total.	
	Corgees.	Moora.	Corgees.	Moora.	Corgees.	Moora.
Fasli 1258. ..	28,228	$40^{3}/_{4}$	4,515	$10^{3}/_{4}$	32,744	$9^{1}/_{2}$
„ 1259. ..	23,653	23	4,871	$28^{1}/_{2}$	28,525	$9^{1}/_{2}$
Difference. ..	Dec. 4,575	$17^{3}/_{4}$	Inc. 356	$17^{3}/_{4}$	Dec. 4,219	0
Percentage. ..	16	$10^{1}/_{2}$	8	0	13	0
Average of the past 5 years.	27,398	18	5,194	9	32,592	27
Difference. ..	Dec. 3,744	37	Dec. 322	$22^{1}/_{2}$	Dec. 4,067	$17^{1}/_{2}$
Percentage. ..	13	28	6	0	12	21

15. The fact that in a year of abundant harvest our trade has received so serious a check, has led me to examine the statistics of some years past, and there are some circumstances connected with this fact to which it appears to me to be necessary to call the attention of the Board of Revenue, and which find a place more properly in this report than in that on the Extra sources of Revenue from the immediate connection which exists between the sate of our rice trade and the prosperity of our cultivators.

16. On examining the reports I find that after a series of years of unusually large exports we have exactly fallen back to the exports of 1253 and to the average of the five years preceding 1255. The returns for the years 1250 and subsequently are as follows:—

	Corgees.	
1250	20,950.	Average 23,687.
1251	23,109.	
1252	25,715.	
1253	23,623.	
1254	25,040.	
1255	28,300.	
1256	26,738.	
1257	28,684.	
1258	28,228.	
1259	23,653.	

17. The fluctuations observable in previous years prevent the necessity of attaching any great importance to the fact that in a year of abundance the demand for our produce has been suddenly checked, and the way in which prices have been upheld proves the confidence of the merchants that the check is only a temporary one, but there are at the same time one or two circumstances connected with the present state of the trade which I think are deserving of watchful attention.

18. The annexed Statement shews that the principal decline has occurred in our most important market that of Arabia.

	Corgees.	Muras.
1848—49 ..	.. 11,707	— 0
1849—50 ..	.. 7,850	— 41
Decrease ..	3,856	— 1

The demand for our produce in this market is generally most steady, while the following table will show how very sudden the falling off has been. It follows upon a long series of years of active trade and reduces the export to a smaller amount than has been known for 16 years. It is also coincident not only with an abundant harvest in this district, but with a very productive date season in Arabia which has generally, as would appear from this table, the effect of stimulating the trade in our rice.

YEARS.		Total Export of Rice in each year.		Portion exported to Arabia.		Dates imported from Arabia.
		CORGEES.	M.	CORGEES.	M.	CANDIES.
1833—34	..	24,855	8	6,875	33	958
1834—35	..	25,931	3	10,311	33	1,208
1835—36	..	25,033	33	9,127	15	1,152
1836—37	..	25,665	19	10,057	30	1,073
1837—38	..	26,308	20	11,184	39	1,352
1838—39	..	32,423	1	10,856	34	1,154
1839—40	..	22,571	36	9,441	10	1,290
1840—41	..	24,276	1	9,001	4	1,697
1841—42	..	26,099	30	10,150	15	1,831
1842—43	..	29,420	28	11,608	31	1,427
1843—44	..	29,913	6	11,385	22	1,552
1844—45	..	29,709	9	12,367	39	1,568
1845—46	..	34,914	3	11,943	36	1,542
1846—47	..	31,847	20	10,562	40	1,345
1847—48	..	30,514	38	12,277	1	2,171
1848—49	..	31,581	17	11,707	0	1,049
AVERAGE	..	28,254	3	10,553	31	1,398
1849—50	..	27,502	10	7,850	41	2,825
		DECREASE.		DECREASE.		INCREASE.
DIFFERENCE	..	751	35	2,702	32	1,427

19. Two causes have been assigned to me by the Merchants of this District for this result. One is the bad name which our ports have acquired in consequence of the frauds which have been practised since the Government has ceased to weigh the rice exported—the other is the cheapness of Bengal rice and its consequent import into Arabia. I believe that both of these have had very considerable effect.

20. It has long been the impression of the Merchants of Canara that they have a monopoly of the Arabian Market. That the rice of this province will always be preferred to any other and that it is a matter of indifference to them whether a high or low duty is imposed upon it, and they seem to think that any amount of fraud may be practised with impunity. There has however been a very serious outcry raised in foreign markets by the frauds which have taken place.

21. This however is a matter rather of local management and will during the season now opening occupy my best attention. A subject of more general importance is the impression that we are undersold by Bengal. If this is founded upon fact the present check to our trade may not prove only temporary.

22. In connection with this subject it is important to remark that a brisk trade appears to have sprung up between Muscat and Calcutta in Salt. Several large Vessels have already touched on the Coast on their way from Muscat to Calcutta with cargoes of Salt and the Captain of one of these Vessels reports that he sailed on the same day with 9 others. I believe that some alterations in the Bengal rules have lately considerably increased the imports of foreign Salt into that presidency and it is not improbable therefore that these alterations may have already affected and may continue to affect our rice Market. That these Salt Vessels frequently return direct to Muscat with rice. I know to be the case but whether there has of late been the increase in the trade, which I am led to suspect, it will be in the power of the Board to ascertain, by reference to the tables showing the imports of Salt and exports of rice in Bengal. If so it will be important to enquire whether the Bengal rice is allowed any advantages over our own, and it may perhaps be also necessary to compare our own Salt regulations with those of Bengal with a view to assimilation.

23. With reference to the garden produce of this district little reliance can be placed upon the returns received from the taluks since the abolition of the Hawlut duties, these returns are made on mere guess. The quantity of Pepper produced is shown to have exceeded that of the previous year while Betelnut and Cardamoms have slightly fallen off. The subjoined statement shows the extent of the alleged fluctuations in each of these articles:—

		1258.			1259.			Increase.			Decrease			Per Centage
		Candies.	M.	lbs	Candies.	M.	lbs	Cs.	M.	lbs	Cs.	M.	lbs	
Balaghaut.	Betelnut...	11,859	15	25	11,859	17	9	0	1	12	0	0	0	0
	Pepper....	1,232	1	16	1,296	13	4	64	11	16	0	0	0	5
	Cardamoms	184	4	26	179	0	14	0	0	0	5	4	12	3
Payenghaut.	Betelnut...	5,289	0	18	5,281	13	9	0	0	0	7	7	9	1/8
	Pepper....	173	17	8	169	9	27	0	0	0	4	7	9	2 1/4
	Cardamoms	2	10	15	2	9	1	0	0	0	0	1	14	3
Total....	Betelnut...	17,148	16	15	17,141	10	18	0	0	0	7	5	25	0
	Pepper....	1,405	18	24	1,466	3	3	60	4	7	0	0	0	4 1/2
	Cardamoms	186	15	13	181	9	15	0	0	0	5	5	26	3

24. On comparing the average of five years previous to the abolition of the Land Customs, with that of a similar subsequent period an apparent falling off to a considerable degree is the result as shown in the margin. This result is not borne out by facts which on the contrary are opposed to it and as above observed, no reliance can be placed on the Shanbhogues' returns.

	Betelnut. *Candies.*	Pepper. *Candies.*	Cardamoms. *Candies.*
Average of 5 years *viz.* from Fasli 1249 to 1253.	22,076.	2,295.	219.
Do. of 5 Do. do. 1255 to 1259.	17,386	1,443.	180.
Decrease.	4,690.	852.	39.

	Garces.
1258	2394.
1259	3408.
Increase.	1014.
Percentage . .	$42^{3}/_{8}$
Average of 5 years.	2218.
Increase.	1190.
Percentage . .	$53^{2}/_{3}$

25. The last season may be considered as a most favorable one for the manufacture of Salt, which is higher than the preceding year and the average of the past five years as shown in the margin.

26. The settlement of Land Revenue with the additions and reductions in each Taluk is exhibited in the subjoined Statement which shows an increase in the past over the preceding year, amounting to Rs. 11,127—10—9:—

Settlement.

Taluks.	Settlement of 1258.			Alterations in 1259. Additions.			Productions.			Settlement of 1259.			Difference between 1258 and 1259. Increase.			Decrease.		
Mangalore . . .	2,16,270	15	7	197	0	1	47	12	8	2,16,420	3	0	149	3	5	...	...	...
Bekal	2,04,422	15	2	244	15	0	14	5	7	2,04,653	8	7	230	9	5	..	...	...
Buntwal	2,70,065	14	3	2509	15	8	140	1	8	2,72,435	12	3	2369	14	0	...	...	..
Udipi	1,76,611	11	3	226	13	11	0	12	0	1,76,837	13	2	226	1	11	...	...	...
Barkur	1,89,639	8	10	378	9	5	49	1	3	1,89,968	1	0	329	8	2	..	...	..
Coondapoor .	2,33,546	14	0	382	10	9	147	14	10	2,33,781	9	11	234	11	11	...	...	...
Honore	1,87,131	8	1	1120	13	3	389	15	3	1,87,862	6	1	730	14	0	..	..	..
Ankola	1,21,124	3	0	1360	9	2	128	6	5	1,22,356	5	10	1232	2	10	..	...	...
Supah	91,209	8	0	3757	0	10	152	10	5	94,813	14	5	3604	6	5	...	...	...
Soudah	1,35,590	13	7	1923	5	1	344	7	7	1,37,169	11	1	1578	13	6	...	...	...
Bilghi	59,863	2	10	595	13	2	154	8	0	60,304	8	0	441	5	2	...	.	...
Total . .	18,85,476	2	7	12,697	10	5	1569	15	8	18,96,603	13	4	11,127	10	9	...	...	..
Quit Rent. . .	348	1	10							348	1	10	...	...	...	...	...	...
	18,85,824	4	5							18,96,951	15	2	11,127	10	9	...	...	...

27. Of the above additions Rupees 9,300—15—4 are on account of Land Revenue and Rs. 3,396—11—1 on account of Coomeri cultivation. The excess under the latter head is not attributable to an extension of that species of cultivation over the former year but firstly to a rigid supervision which has been lately introduced by Mr. Blane requiring the Shanbhogues to furnish both Coolawar accounts and extent of land cleared, and by which evasion and fraud on the part of ryots and shanbhogues are now checked and secondly to a standard rate being fixed for each class of cultivators throughout the District, whereas formerly no Coolawar accounts were called for, and no rate of assessment fixed, but each case was assessedaccording to its circumstances. The increase is chiefly in the Taluks of Supah, Ankola and Buntwal where the thick forests stand, as shown in the margin. The excess under the head of Land Revenue is to be attributed partly to the regular collection of the instalments due on Vydah Estates, and partly to increased produce, and waste brought under cultivation during the year under report, the result of a favourable season. Out of Rs. 9,300 the amount of increase, Rupees 3,448 were collected in the Tarao Taluks of Bantwal, Honore and Bilghi where a larger amount was due by Vydah and Tunki Estates than in the other Taluks, and Rs. 4,437 in the Supah and Soudah Taluks consequent on the use of the survey accounts according to the mode introduced by Mr. Blane in Fasli 1257.

	Rs.
Supah	1,110
Ankola	1,077
Bantwal	738
	2 925
Other Taluks. . . .	471
	3,396

28. The several items of additions and reductions made in the course of the Settlement are shewn with the amount under each in the subjoined statement:—

Additions.

By instalments.	2,274—10—11
Monasib or discretionary	3,249—15—11
Cultivation of waste . .	3,448— 8— 8
Hossagame	327—11—10
	9,300—15— 4
Coomeri	3,396—11— 1
Total	12,697—10— 5

Reductions.

Destruction of crops. . .	42— 0— 0
Waste	873—11— 2
Poverty and other causes.	238—14— 0
Loss by fire.	106— 0— 0
For lands taken for roads.	3— 4— 0
	1,353—13— 3
Coomeri	216 — 2— 5
Total. . .	1,569—15— 8

29. The amount of remissions made in the year under report falls considerably below that made in any of the last five preceding years as shown in the margin, and is I believe below the amount shewn in any previous year. Considered with reference to the advance which cultivation has made in late years upon the lands long waste and on those redeemed from the jungle it appears to me to be a most satisfactory proof of the increasing value of landed property. The first, third, fourth and fifth items of remissions are either trifling or of an ordinary nature and do not call for any particular explanation. The second consists of remissions allowed for waste in lands under yearly examination of

Remissions granted	Rs. A. P.
in Fasli 1254. .	6,797— 9—11
1255. .	7,007—10— 2
1256. .	5,502— 5— 8
1257. .	3,440— 1—11
1258. .	2,705— 7—11
1259. .	1,569—15— 8

which Rs. 807 were allowed in the Bantwal, Honore, Ankola, Supah, Soudah and Bilghi Taluks, and Rs. 76 in the remaining Taluks on account of lands given up or only partially cultivated owing to their being overgrown with jungle.

30. The amount of Vydahs or Instalments as previously settled to be brought up in the year under review was Rs. 2,377—1—1 of which Rs. 2,274—10—11 were brought to account being a balance of Rs. 102—6—2 which it was considered inexpedient to enforce in reference to the particular case of each estate on which it was due. This amount has been withdrawn from the head of Vydahs or Cowls the lands having been thrown up by the holders who found themselves from various causes unable to comply with the conditions of the Cowl. Owing to an exact scrutiny into the condition of these estates the remissions made under this head have greatly decreased from year to year as shewn in the margin.

	Rs. A. P.
1254 ..	1,109— 7—10
1255 ..	714—13— 9
1256 ..	469— 0— 3
1257 ..	396— 6— 1
1258 ..	293—14—11
1259 ..	102— 6— 2

31. The particulars of the Instalments are given in the subjoined table:—

	No. of Wargs.	Beriz.			Permanent remission.			Remaining: Jammabandi of Fasli 1258.			Remaining: Instalments actually realized in Fasli 1259.			Remaining: Future Instalments		
Kadeem Wargs as per statement No. 4.	553	26,443	0	6	1,327	10	7	18,252	2	10	1,877	7	2	4,985	11	11
Hossagame or newly cultivated Wargs as per statement No. 5.	352	3,716	10	3	...	...	...	1,335	8	3	499	9	11	1,581	8	1
Total. ..	905	30,159	10	9	1,327	10	7	19,587	11	1	2,377	1	1	6,567	4	0
Deduct withdrawn. ..	18	760	9	8	34	3	7	429	9	3	102	6	2	194	6	8
Remaining. ..	887	29,399	1	1	1,293	7	0	19,158	1	10	2,274	10	11	6,372	13	4

32. Of the total Demand amounting to Rupees 18,96,951—15—2, Rupees 18,78,952—0—9 were realized within the Fasli, leaving a balance of 17,999—14—5 which has been reduced by subsequent collections to Rupees 2543—1—9 being 0-2-1½ per cent of the demand for the year.

Demand	18,96,951—15—2
Collections.	18,78,952— 0—9
Balance on the 11th July 1850 .	17,999—14—5
Since Collected.	15,456—12—8
Balance on the 30th September 1850.	2,543— 1—9
Per Centage .	0— 2—1½

33. The arrears of Land Revenue outstanding at the beginning of Fasli 1259, amounted to Rs. 21,388—15—4 viz.—

On account of Fasli 1258	..	Rs. 19,748—10—9.
Do. of previous years	. „	1,640— 4—7.
		21,388—15—4.

Of this sum Rs. 19,788—6—10 were realized during the past Fasli, and Rupees 669—7—1 and 317—2—2 have been written off the accounts under the sanction of Government dated 22nd September 1849 and 5th March 1850 respectively, leaving a net balance on the 11th July last of Rupees 613—15—3 the particulars of which as regards each Fasli are exhibited in Statement No. 10.

Fasli 1258		19,418—15— 5
Previous years		369— 7— 5
		19,788— 6—10
Written off the accounts under sanction dated 22nd September 1849	669—7—1	
Do. Do. 5th March 1850	317—2—2	
		986— 9— 3
		20,775— 0— 1
Balance on the 11th July 1850. .		613—15— 3
Since collected		29— 7— 6
Balance on the 30th September 1850.		584— 7— 9

34. Of this sum Rupees 199—3—11 are now recommended to be struck off the accounts on account of Faslis noted in the margin. The circumstances which render it necessary to remit this sum have been fully enquired into during the last settlement. As the collection cannot be enforced in any case without distress to the defaulters, whilst in most it is absolutely irrecoverable. I beg to request that the requisite sanction may be obtained for the sum being written off the accounts.

		Rs. A. P.
Fasli . . .	1254	4— 0— 0
	1255 ..	4— 0— 0
	1257 ..	84—14— 9
	1258 ..	106— 5— 2
		199— 3—11

35. When these are written off there is no balance of more than 4 years standing and only the following sums remain unadjusted.

Fasli 1255	...	10— 1— 7
1256	..	29—11— 5
1257	..	133— 7— 7
1258	..	211—15— 3
		385— 3—10

36. The advances for cultivation made in Fasli 1259 amount to Rupees 9,971—12—0 of which Rupees 9,877—9—4 have been collected within the Fasli leaving a balance of Rupees 94—2—8. Of this sum Rupees 39—8—0 have since been collected, leaving Rupees 54—10—8 to be hereafter collected.

37. The subjoined comparative statement of the Revenues from all sources, exhibits an increase of Rupees 31,948—5—3 during the year under report. The causes of the fluctuations in the several items will be fully explained in the Report on the Extra sources of Revenue:—

Items of Revenue.	1258			1259			Increase.			Decrease.		
1	2			3			4			5		
Land Revenue.. ..	17,79,552	7	10	17,90,680	2	7	11,127	10	9	..	..	..
Devadiem..	1,05,923	10	9	1,05,923	10	9	..	..	..	..	..	..
Quit Rent..	348	1	10	348	1	10	..	..	..	..	..	..
TOTAL. ..	18,85,824	4	5	18,96,951	15	2	11,127	10	9	..	..	..
Salt...	4,45,503	4	3	4,54,175	2	6	8,671	14	3	..	..	..
Sayer..	7,352	2	9	23,884	15	3	16,532	12	6	..	..	..
Sea Customs.	58,108	11	9	47,087	1	1	..	..	..	11,021	10	8
Abkari.	68,504	0	0	72,514	10	0	4,010	10	0	..	..	..
Ferry & Sundry farms	15,534	3	5	15,759	11	10	225	8	5	..	..	..
Moturpha..	16,351	1	9	16,289	3	6	..	..	..	61	14	3
Tobacco..	3,01,066	5	8	3,01,274	11	11	208	6	3	..	..	..
Stamps.	47,868	8	9	51,377	0	6	3,508	7	9	..	..	..
Amin Divi.	11,317	2	3	10,063	10	6	..	..	..	1,253	7	9
TOTAL. ..	9,71.605	8	7	9,92,426	3	1	33,157	11	2	12,337	0	8
Grand Total. ..	28,57,429	13	0	28,89.378	2	3	44,285	5	11	12,337	0	8
						NET INCREASE. ..	31,948	5	3			

38. It only remains for me to offer some remarks upon the several points touched upon in the *Proceedings of the Board of Revenue and the Minutes of Consultation on review of the last Jamabandi report.

*Dated 17th January 1850.
5th March "

39. The remarks of the Board and of the Government in Para 6 of the Proceedings and Minutes of consultation will be duly attended to. The length of period allowed in the instances remarked upon by the Board cannot in many instances be avoided as long as the present system of assessing garden lands prevails. The calculation usually made for assessing land for a cocoanut plantation is to suppose that

three trees will be planted on every Gunta or 120 per acre, this is equivalent to an assessment of 12 Rs. per acre, a garden of several acres can only gradually be planted and the trees often take 12 years to come to maturity. The assessment is in my opinion much too high. The periods allowed for bringing rice lands into cultivation generally vary from 2 to 5 years, those for gardens from 5 to 12. It is now the practice to demand security for the fulfilment of the leases into which the Ryots enter.

40. In paras 15 and 16 of the Board's proceedings and in Para 15 of the Minutes of consultation, reference is made to the important subject of a revision of the settlement proposed for the sanction of the Board of Revenue on the estates reported to be incapable of paying the full assessment—this settlement being known by the name of Board Sifarish.

41. The Board of Revenue suggest that a survey of all these estates be made by the present Cutchery with a view to a fresh settlement; while the Government point out the improbability of an establishment already so severely tasked being equal to the additional duty of surveying more than eleven thousand estates. At the same time the Government adds "They may however properly be employed in investigating the actual condition of those wargs in regard to which the greatest abuse may appear to have been practised." the general question of the nature and extent of the means necessary for the examination of the whole being reserved for consideration in common with Mr. Blane's report on the question of a general survey of the district.

42. Mr. Blane's report is now before the Board and lays fully before them the whole of the perplexing questions connected with the revenues of this province. It shows very clearly that all our present difficulty has arisen from the absence of an original survey, it shows that the longer a survey is delayed the more our difficulties accumulate; but at the same time it shows that such a survey would be attended with difficulties of the greatest magnitude. Mr. Blane has in the same report pointed out some objections to the measure which the Board now propose of surveying only the Kambarti wargs which are deserving of very serious attention. Both for the reasons pointed out by Mr. Blane and for some others. I think it is most desirable that, as suggested by the Government the measure of a survey of the Board Sifarish estates should be considered in common with that of a survey of the whole district. To carry out the course suggested by the Board with the present establishment is impossible, and besides this it appears to me that there are many preliminary questions to be settled before such a survey is commenced.

43. In recalling the views by which I believe Mr. Viveash to have been influenced and which guided those who acted with him in forming the second revision of the settlement of the district [for such the Board Sifarish was] and comparing those views with these which now appear to prevail, I find that a very marked change of opinion has taken place. When Mr. Viveash joined the district, the impression which fourteen years experience had led Mr. Read to adopt and which was so general up to the time of Mr. John Stoke's report, that the assessment pressed heavily upon the people still prevailed. Mr. Viveash's experience of other districts led him, I think, to doubt this opinion, but to believe that much evil arose from keeping suspended over the poorest estates [those which were Kambarti] a nominal assessment which they never fully paid and which gave rise to a constant system of clamour and invention of

grievances. His object was to examine the estates, strike off what could not fairly be collected, give liberal periods to those who had never paid before but ought to have done so, and so to encourage all to hold their estates independent of applications to Government Servants and of yearly pretences of poverty and distress. The result of these admirable measures has been most marked and by those who remember what a Jamabandi settlement in Canara was before and subsequent to these changes must be duly appreciated.

44. In carrying them out Mr. Viveash considered that he was only continuing the Tarao settlement which had received the marked approbation of Sir T. Munro's Government. Any revision of that settlement was never then contemplated though it was known that many of the estates held under its guarantee paid a mere nominal assessment. In extending its principles to the few remaining estates an investigation conducted with considerably greater care than Mr. Harris but at the same time in the rough manner hitherto in practice, and checked by a reference to previous collections would it was supposed sufficiently protect the interests of Government in resigning a portion only of a nominal assessment which they had never collected and which pressed severely upon these estates at any rate in comparison with many of those which surrounded them. These sacrifice which it was recommended to the Government to make was trifling compared with that which had already been made.

45. But circumstances are now completely changed, and when a general survey of the district is proposed and the permanency of the Tarao settlement is under consideration. I think it is desirable that a survey of the Board Sifarish estates should be delayed till the general question is decided and it is especially desirable that before any minute survey of any portion of the district is commenced with a view to assessment it should be determined upon what principle the assessment is to be fixed.

46. To combine a scientific survey with the principles of Indian finance would I am satisfied have most disastrous consequences. The principle of assessment in this district & that upon which our accounts are prepared is that the Government is entitled to one third of the gross produce. Should we map out every field, calculate its produce and assume one third as the Government share the result could not be doubtful. It could only be by falling back upon a system of evasion and by allowing the produce to be underestimated that a Collector could prevent his district from a state of things more miserable than under a native Government. My own experience has convinced me that wherever a country has flourished, it has been where some evasion of this demand has been found, and this has generally been by understating the productive power of the land.

47. Where we introduce a scientific survey we must introduce an enlightened principle of finance. It appears to me therefore most highly desirable that when any survey such as the Board propose is carried out a classification of the land and its assessment per acre should supersede the present principle of computing the Government demand from the gross produce. This is already practically the case where new land is now given out for cultivation, and I think it ought to be avowedly the principle upon which any revision of the assessment of the old estates should be based.

48. In the mean while the directions of the Government can I think to a considerable extent be carried out. Where it appears that gross frauds have been practised, and this is clearly shown in several cases the Board Sifarish should be cancelled and the proper assessment at once demanded.

49. I shall add in an *appendix to this report the result of some surveys instituted by Mr. Blane. I always regretted that some measures were not taken for defining the estates included in the Board Sifarish. The frauds here shown are very gross and confirm Mr. Hall's opinion as to the necessity of further scrutiny. I do not see why the full assessment in these cases should not be at once demanded and the wargs struck out of the Board Sifarish list and the investigation be continued wherever there is reason to believe that similar frauds have been practised. I do not anticipate that except in the case of some of the larger estates belonging to influential parties the assessment will be found to fall short of a moderate Government demand but these frauds show clearly that some further scrutiny is necessary.

*A

50. This may be carried on to a considerable extent by instituting a comparison between the area of the estates shown in the former survey accounts with the return of produce upon which the remission was founded. Where this comparison gives rise to strong suspicion of fraud, the enquiry should be carried further. It is certainly surprising that these records should have been lost sight of when the examination was in progress. Should the Board of Revenue now authorise this measure a considerable number of such estates as were fraudulently entered in the list will at once be removed from it and measures taken for bringing them up to the full assessment. The scrutiny will first fall upon those where the fraud has been greatest, and a system of revision will be gradually acted upon. I would at the same time hope that even in these cases of fraud the Government will with its usual liberality have much discretion in the hands of the local officers in enforcing demands which have never been enforced before, as I believe has generally been done in the case of fraudulent tenures of many other kinds.

51. I add in the appendix a *sheet taken casually in the Ankola taluk in which I have placed side by side the area of the land as shown by the survey, the statement of produce submitted to Mr. Stokes upon which the Board Sifarish was founded, and that submitted to Mr. Blane in 1257.

*B

52. In Para 13 of the Minutes of Consultation the Government express their concurrence in Mr. Blane's opinion on the subject of the annual issue of Pattahs to the proprietors of the Bharti Estates but on this point the Board have not subsequently passed any orders. For the reasons assigned by Mr. Blane I think it is very desirable that Pattahs should only be issued to those who express a wish to receive them. I do not think that any object is gained by courting the landholders to receive a document which they do not value and which in this instance they believe under the form of a guarantee to tend rather to weaken their tenure. A general proffer of this document to such as wish for it will it appears to me satisfy the provisions of the Regulations and obviate an altercation which can only tend to weaken the Collectors authority.

53. The Board have in para 18 of the Proceedings directed that the circumstance mentioned by Mr. Hall in his last Jammabandy report to the effect that the light assessment introduced into the Dharwar has had the effect of drawing off a considerable number of ryots from this District should be particularly referred to in the present report. It will be seen from the subjoined statement that although the extent of cultivation in the 5 frontier Maganes of the Soudah Taluk in the Fasli under report is somewhat smaller than that of the preceding one, yet it exceeds that of Fasli 1257. This decrease is not to be attributed to the tenants having thrown up the estates but to ordinary causes:—

	1257					1258					1259				
	Extent.		Beriz.			Extent.		Beriz.			Extent.		Beriz.		
	A.	G.	RS.	A.	P.	A.	G.	RS.	A.	P.	A.	G.	RS.	A.	P.
Rice lands. . . .	6057	$3\frac{13}{16}$	16,579	3	0	6347	38	17241	4	1	6216	$36\frac{11}{16}$	16864	0	8
Garden	41	$22\frac{7}{16}$	621	3	6	41	$22\frac{7}{16}$	621	3	6	41	$22\frac{7}{16}$	621	3	6
Hakloo or dry cultivation. . . .	448	$17\frac{9}{16}$	1	14	10	486	$22\frac{1}{16}$	...	...	...	261	$28\frac{3}{16}$	...	...	...
Total. .	6547	$3\frac{7}{16}$	17202	10	4	6876	$2\frac{5}{16}$	17862	7	7	6520	$7\frac{5}{16}$	17485	4	0
DEDUCT. Vydah instalments . .	.	.	426	1	2	.	.	423	6	0	.	.	286	15	0
Remission on account of poverty etc.	.	.	637	7	4	.	.	505	9	7	.	.	317	8	3
Total Deductions. . .	.	.	1063	8	6	.	.	928	15	7	.	.	604	7	3
Balance. . .	.	.	16139	1	10	.	.	16933	8	0	.	.	16880	12	9
Add Vydah instalments etc. . .	.	.	529	4	4	.	.	400	8	2	.	.	827	8	8
Hakul & Khan Beriz. .	.	.	300	12	5	.	.	333	13	8	.	.	314	3	0
Total. . .	.	.	16969	2	7	.	.	17667	13	10	.	.	18022	8	5

54. I beg to refer the Board to Paras 16 to 20 of Mr. Silver's Report for the information required in Para 19 of their Proceedings regarding the Cumeri cultivation carried on in the Jungles boardering on the Sirsy and Dharwar road which was exempted from taxation for 7 years in order to encourage settlements on the road side.

55. The Board will observe that the effect of the measure which obtained their sanction has been in a very great degree satisfactory but the object is not fully answered until the land is held in permanent cultivation and I would beg the authority of the Board for extending the period for which the indulgence is granted to 20 years. The sacrifice on the part of Government would be most trifling even if the whole land were cultivated and the necessity of Minute accounts is obviated. At the end of this period such land as has become permanent property may be assessed.

56. The apparent increase and decrease in the number of villages noticed in 20 of the Board's Proceedings has arisen as follows:—

In the Bantwal taluk an entry was found in the accounts of the Coorg Government under the head of Kadeem Beriz as "Ograny Putoly". This which was entered as a village was found in Fasli 1257 to be a mere name without the existence of any corresponding village or estate; it was consequently struck off the accounts. In the Soudah Taluk a village called Bejaricopa having been omitted in the Kadeem Beriz accounts from its having lain waste since the accession of our Government was brought into cultivation in Fasli 1257 and consequently entered in the accounts.

57. The Statements Nos. 2 and 7 showing the distinction between Bharti and Kambharti Wargs have in compliance with the instructions of Government been omitted this year. The remaining statements have all been numerically arranged and the statement No. 1 drawn out in compliance with the Board's instructions conveyed in Para 6 of their Proceedings of the 2nd August 1849.

58. As per Circular instructions of the 13th June 1850 a statement showing the extent of Sugarcane cultivation and its proceeds drawn out according to the form furnished, is now forwarded. As the Government Beriz in this district is not fixed upon the fields the column for that purpose has been left blank. The extent of cultivation shewn in this statement cannot be entirely depended upon, the area in our native accounts being calculated according to the Moorahs of seed employed, the calculation varying in every village. Considerable care however has been taken in converting the extent shown into acres.

59. The Circular instructions of the Board dated 28th August 1849, calling for a Register of landed property possessed by the Revenue servants has been very carefully circulated to all the servants of Government, and the Register in the native language is now completed, but it is so voluminous that it will occupy a considerable time to translate it and make the necessary copies in English. I hope however to be able to send it in before the close of the year.

60. I have the honor to forward copies of the reports of Mr. Silver* the acting Sub Collector in charge of the Balaghaut and of Mr. Fisher† the acting Additional Sub Collector on the Taluks of Mangalore, Bantwal and Bekal.

*O

†D

61. I have already alluded to the only points in those reports which appear to require special remark.

62. The Board will I am sure observe with satisfaction that each of these Gentlemen is able to report the division under his charge to be in a satisfactory condition a fact which all the information I have received abundantly confirms.

63. Mr. Chamier the acting Head Assistant is in charge of the Taluks of Aukola and Honore with the Police of Coondapoor an extensive and important charge.

64. Mr. Hudleston has by my directions assumed charge of the Revenue as he had already done of the police of Barcoor. The Tappal Department is also under Mr. Hudleston's care and he frequently assists me in my own Cutcherry.

65. Mr. Chase is employed in Mr. Fisher's Cutcherry and affords Mr. Fisher considerable assistance in disposing of Police cases.

66. Both Mr. Hudleston and Mr. Chase are in charge each of one of the roads now under construction and render very valuable service in carrying out these important works.

67. Though I have only lately joined the district I have had time to gain the assurance that from all these Gentlemen I shall receive most valuable and cordial co-operation.

68. From Bujanga Rao, the Head Shirestedar I have received very great aid in the preparation of this report. With this Officer I have not previously been acquainted, but I have been much struck by his intimate knowledge of the records of his Office and his skill in matters of account.

69. With the Nayeb Shirestedar I have been long acquainted and feel confident that he will continue to merit the high character he obtained both as an Office Servant and a Tahsildar.

70. With both of these Officers I have found every reason to be satisfied and I feel confident that I shall continue to receive valuable assistance from them.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most Obedient Servant.

7th October 1850. (Signed) F. N. MALTBY,

Collector.

——:o:-:-:o-:-:o:——