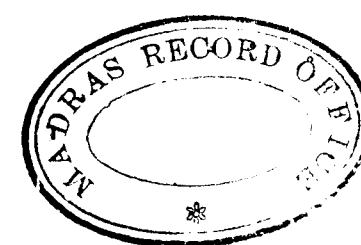


CAPTAIN C. WINGATE'S SURVEY REPORT
ON
CERTAIN TALOOKAS IN THE DHARWAR
COLLECTORATE.
ALSO EXTRACT FROM
MR. C. J. MANSON'S REPORT
ON THE
HISTORY OF THE CHICKODEE DISTRICT,
BELGAUM.

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REPORTS
ON THE
REVENUE SURVEY SETTLEMENTS
OF THE
HOOBULLEE, NUWULGOOND, KODE, AND DHARWAR TALOOKAS
OF THE DHARWAR COLLECTORATE,
BY
CAPTAIN G. WINGATE,
SUPERINTENDENT OF REVENUE SURVEY AND ASSESSMENT IN THE SOUTHERN MAHRATTA COUNTRY,
(NOW REVENUE SURVEY COMMISSIONER.)

ALSO AN
EXTRACT FROM A REPORT
ON THE
HISTORY, &c. OF THE DISTRICT OF CHIKODEE, IN THE BELGAUM
COLLECTORATE,
BY
C. J. MANSON, ESQ.,
ASSISTANT INAM COMMISSIONER,
(NOW INAM COMMISSIONER.)

Printed for the information of the Revenue Officers under the Government of Bombay.

*Revenue Secretary's Office,
7th September 1853.*

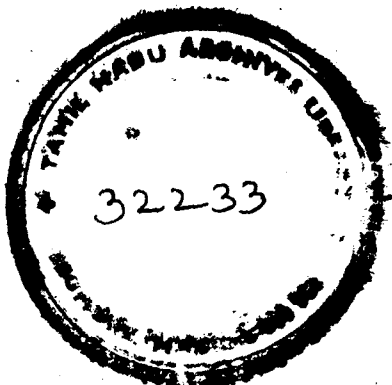
H. E. GOLDSMID,
Secretary to Government.

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1853.

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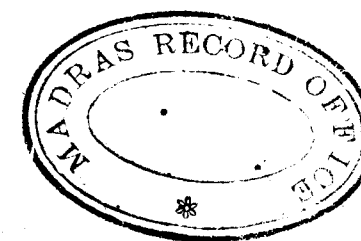
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GENERAL No. 445.

To

A. N. SHAW, Esquire,

Collector,

Dharwar.

SIR,

You are aware that, with the permission of Government, an introductory assessment, on the basis of the present survey operations, was carried into effect, at last Jummabundee, in thirty villages of the Hoobullee talooka of this Collectorate; and I now do myself the honor to submit an account of it, with a view of obtaining the sanction of Government to the settlement. I further purpose to lay before you in this report proposals for the assessment of the adjoining talooka of Nuwulgoond, the measurement of which is almost completed, and the classification of the land sufficiently advanced to enable us to introduce the new settlement throughout the district at the ensuing Jummabundee.

2. The Mamlutdar's division of the Hoobullee talooka is composed of the thirty villages already noticed, and seventeen others, to which it is intended to extend the settlement during the present season. It was selected by Mr. Goldsmid to be first brought under survey on account of its convenient proximity to the head quarters of the Collectorate, and variety of surface, soil, and climate, which rendered it well suited for general experiment, as well as for the training up of his measuring and classing Native establishments. The propriety of this selection was brought to the notice of Government in the 46th paragraph of your land revenue report for the year 1841-42.

3. The foregoing villages, with the exception of three Phootgaons, and four of the Sur Deshgut Muhal, form part of the purgunnas of old and new Hoobullee. They lie along the border of a hilly tract of country stretching westwards to the Ghauts, but which here sinks down, somewhat abruptly, into a level plain of great extent, over which the eye may range eastward and northward for many miles before encountering a single elevation to interrupt the uniformity of the prospect. This tract is also known as the black plain, or cotton districts of this zilla, and in it is comprised the entire talooka of Nuwulgoond, which would form an unbroken plain but for one small precipitous hill of quartz rock that overlooks the town of Nuwulgoond. A reference to the map accompanying this report will help to show these peculiarities, and others about to be noticed.

4. The hilly portion of the Hoobullee purgunnas is composed of low, flat-topped ranges of a ferruginous clay-stone, which, in consequence of the readily decomposable character of this rock, are rarely found rugged or precipitous. These hills are for the most part covered with a tolerable herbage, and a good deal of low brushwood is also scattered over them. They are separated by flat-bottomed valleys, to which, and the lower slopes, cultivation is chiefly confined. In numerous localities small tanks have been formed by throwing dams across the narrower valleys, and these serve to irrigate patches of rice ground, and water the village cattle. A few wells are also met with in some villages, but the supply of water, though found at no great distance from the surface, is generally scanty. Upon the whole, though traversed by no river or stream

of any magnitude, these purgunnas may be considered to be tolerably well watered. In the vicinity of the town of Hoobullee are numerous gardens and extensive mangoe orchards. The character of the scenery, though somewhat tame, is verdant and pleasing. The bolder outline of a hill between Hoobullee and the village of Oonkul is, however, an exception, and accounted for by the greater hardness of the quartzose dyke forming its crest, which here protrudes through the overlying clay-slate forming the surface rock of the rest of the purgunnas. The degradation of the latter rock produces a coarse-grained red soil in the immediate vicinity of the hills, and at greater distances every variety of finer-grained, darker-coloured, and more fertile soils, until these become merged in, and undistinguishable from, the black cotton soil of the great plain to the eastward.

5. The drainage of the Hoobullee purgunnas is towards the Western Ghauts, and their waters ~~in flowing to the Indian Ocean, are precipitated over the celebrated Falls of Gersona.~~ On the contrary, the drainage of Nuwulgoond is towards the east, its streams being tributaries of the Mulpurba river, which skirts the district to the north, and afterwards falls into the Toomboodra. The dividing ridge, determining the course of the streams of the two districts, lies along the eastern boundary of Hoobullee, and its elevation above the plain is so trifling as in many localities to be hardly perceptible.

6. Several of the Hoobullee villages lie quite within the hills; others partly so, and partly in the plain; and the rest altogether in the plain.

7. A remarkable difference of climate is observable between the hill and plain villages, and even between the hilly and plain portions of the same village, though in such immediate proximity. The hills condense the vapour of the clouds passing over them during the monsoon months, and cause the rain to fall in frequent showers from June till October; but the clouds, on leaving the hills, float away at a greater elevation, and more rarely discharge their contents. And a remarkable adaptation is discoverable between this diversity of climate and the peculiarities of the soil in the two localities. The red soil of the hills is not retentive of moisture, and therefore needs frequent showers to nourish its products. The black soil of the plain, on the contrary, is highly retentive of moisture, and its crops will bear, unharmed, seasons of drought that would be fatal to those of the former.

8. The products of the red lands are, in consequence, limited, in great part, to such as can be grown during the monsoon months. The chief of these are bajree, and the early or monsoon variety of jowarree. An inferior kind of rice is also grown in localities favourable for the purpose, especially under the small tanks already described, which serve to protect this crop against the consequences of any considerable drought. The early or khurreef harvest is, therefore, distinctive of the red lands.

9. The black soil of the plain, on the other hand, in addition to khurreef crops of early jowarree, &c., is well suited to the culture of cotton, gram, wheat, linseed, the white jowarree, and all the ordinary products of the late or rubbee harvest of the country above the Ghauts.

10. And, as might be expected from these peculiarities, the red and black soils require a different kind of husbandry.

11. The red land produces grass and weeds in great abundance, and becomes so indurated at the end of the hot season, that two or more ploughings are needed yearly to fit it for the reception of the seed. The operation is performed with a small light plough, to which two or four bullocks are yoked, according to the stiffness of the soil. This land, also, requires to be well manured. The breaking up of waste, when not covered with brushwood, requires little more labour than is necessary for the ordinary course of tillage.

12. The black lands, when once brought into proper tilth, long remain remarkably free of grass or weeds, and for many years require nothing more to fit them for the seed

than to have their surface loosened for a few inches in depth, by a scarfing implement, usually drawn by four bullocks, and with which a large extent of land is rapidly got over. The ordinary labour of preparing this soil, and weeding the crops grown on it, is consequently much less than that required for the red land. There are two kinds of grass, however, the "Hurreeallee" and "Khoonda" of the Deccan, here called "Kureekee" and "Kunneegeeloo," which, in spite of the ordinary tillage above described, gradually overspread this soil, and, when once thoroughly established, are most difficult to eradicate. This renders the breaking up of waste of long standing, which is always overrun with these grasses, a most laborious operation. It is performed by ploughing or picking up the surface in the first instance, and then carefully extracting the roots of the grass by the hand, and is much more expensive and laborious than in the case of red land.

13. The town of Hoobullee occupies a central position in the purgunnas of the same name, and is the market where the whole of their surplus produce is disposed of. It is one of the most flourishing towns in the Southern Mahratta Country, and contains, according to a recent survey by this department, 5,458 houses, which, at an average of 6 persons to each, give a population of nearly 33,000. Hoobullee has long been a place of commercial importance, but is considered to have increased in size and population under our administration. It possesses a number of old established banking and trading firms, and bills of exchange for large amounts are readily obtainable here on Bombay, Madras, and all the large towns of the peninsula. The streets of Hoobullee are narrow and crooked, and the houses are mostly built of mud, with terraced roofs, without the slightest attention to uniformity of appearance, or architectural effect. In general appearance, Hoobullee is much inferior to towns of minor importance in the Dekkan; and this I ascribe to the unsettled state of the Southern Mahratta Country for ages previous to our rule having rendered it unsafe for any one to indulge in the exhibition of wealth, and induced the richer inhabitants to build their houses of a mean exterior to prevent their becoming a mark for plunder.

14. The trade of Hoobullee chiefly consists in cotton fabrics, manufactured in the town itself or neighbouring villages; raw cotton, mostly sent to Bombay by way of Compta; and tobacco, separee-nut and chillies, the products of the southern talookas of this Collectorate, which are re-exported to the interior. There is, also, a considerable trade in grain, oil, ghee, and other produce of the surrounding districts. Its imports from the coast of salt, metals, British manufactures, cocoanuts, &c. are also considerable.

15. The present talooka of Nuwulgoond consists of the summuts or ancient divisions of Nuwulgoond, Morub, Roteegwad and Yawugul, with the more recent acquisitions of the Unneegeree Muhal, a part of the jagheer of the late chief of Nepanee, and a few villages which reverted to Government on the demise of Goklé's widow. It contains, in all, 78 villages.

16. Nuwulgoond has already been described as a continuous plain of black alluvial soil, which is usually of considerable depth. Its general slope is towards the north-east, and in this direction it is traversed by the small river Bennee, which joins the Mulpurba at the northern extremity of the district beyond Yawugul. The water of the Bennee is unfortunately so brackish as to be hardly fit for domestic use, and there is generally a great scarcity of good water throughout this district. There are very few wells, indeed, and the water of these few is usually brackish. Most of the villages are in great measure dependent for the supply of this necessary on tanks, in which is collected a supply of rain water during the monsoon; but this often fails in the hot weather, when great difficulty is experienced in watering the cattle. In seasons of drought this talooka must suffer severely from the causes just noticed.

17. Cultivation is almost wholly confined to dry crops, there being no irrigated lands in the district, with the exception of a few gardens at Unneegeree, and one or two other villages. Neither timber nor fruit trees are to be met with, and but for a few scattered

half-grown babool trees, which the cultivators allow to grow up for the purpose of providing them with wood for the construction and repair of their implements of husbandry, the country would be absolutely bare. The villages are large and far apart; and during the hot season, when the crops have been cleared from the ground, nothing can be more dreary and monotonous than the appearance of this district.

18. In climate, Nuwulgoond much resembles the plain villages of the Hoobullee talooka, though in the former the showers fall at longer intervals, and the supply of rain altogether may be considered less certain.

19. The productions of Nuwulgoond are, in all respects, similar to those mentioned in a previous paragraph as distinctive of the black lands of Hoobullee. Cotton is now grown largely, and forms the chief export of the district; but its cultivation might be greatly extended, as nearly all the waste lands of this talooka are well suited for its production.

20. The population of this district is almost wholly agricultural. The only considerable towns are Nuwulgoond and Unneegeree, but the latter has fallen into decay, and not much more than half of the space within its walls is now built upon. The former, however, is a thriving town, though possessing little trade beyond that required for the supply of the surrounding population. The female portion of the inhabitants of this district, in addition to their other domestic avocations, busily devote their spare time to spinning, and the yarn thus manufactured, after supplying the weavers of the district, finds a ready market at Hoobullee. The food of the people is simple in the extreme, consisting chiefly of jowarree cakes, seasoned with salt and chillies. Vegetables, even of the most ordinary kinds, are considered luxuries, and only obtainable on market days in some of the larger villages, to which they are frequently brought from a great distance.

21. Having made these prefatory observations on the physical characteristics of the districts under report, I will now endeavour to give a succinct account of their past revenue management, before proceeding to lay before you the results of the present survey operations.

22. The earliest authentic accounts represent this part of the Carnatic to have formed part of the Hindoo kingdom of Unneegoond or Beejanuggur. It was subsequently included in the dominions of Beejapoor, and fell into the hands of the Moguls on the subjugation of that State by Aurungzebe, in 1686. The Carnatic continued in a very disturbed state for many years after this event; and in this period the hereditary Desaees appear to have appropriated the revenues of the country, and constituted themselves independent Chiefs, or Poleegars. Before 1740 the Nuwab of Savanoor, the descendant of one of the Beejapoor Governors, had become nearly independent of the Nizam, and exercised sovereign sway over a considerable district, which included the Hoobullee purgunnas, and the present talooka of Nuwulgoond. The administration of the country, however, remained with the Desaees, who merely paid the Nuwab a certain "Peshcush," or tribute. In 1751 the third Peshwa, Ballajee Bajee Rao, wrested a moiety of this district from the Savanoor Nuwab; but he in like manner contented himself with receiving a peshcush from the dependent Desaees or Poleegars, and left them the management of the country. In 1762 Hyder ravaged Savanoor, and exacted a tribute from the Nuwab and some of the Poleegars tributary to the Mahrattas. In 1770 the Peshwa invaded Mysore with a large army, and before peace was concluded with Hyder, in 1772, had quite re-established his authority over the Carnatic, though this seems to have been limited, as before, to the exaction of a tribute from the Poleegars. Hyder, however, soon re-entered the Carnatic, and, after a period of unremitting contests, had, by the year 1778, wrested from the Mahrattas nearly all the country south of the Gutpurba and Kistna rivers. In the following year Hyder married his daughter to the Nuwab of Savanoor, and restored to him the whole of the districts originally dependent on his principality. Hyder died in 1782, and the war was

renewed by the Mahrattas in 1786, soon after which they were joined by the Nuwab of Savanoor; but after a series of feeble operations on both sides peace was concluded in 1787, when the districts on which I am reporting remained with Tippoo; and the Nuwab of Savanoor, not venturing to trust himself in his power, went to Poona with his friends the Mahrattas. Tippoo, however, took the management of the country entirely into his own hands, and dispossessed the Desaees, who never afterwards recovered their authority.

23. Purushram Bhao Putwurdhun, with a Mahratta army, crossed the Kistna in 1790, and, after the fall of the Fort of Dharwar in the following year, overran the whole of this part of the Carnatic, which, from this period, remained under the sway of the Mahrattas, until its conquest by the British in 1817. This period of twenty-seven years was, however, by no means one of uninterrupted tranquillity. After the death of Mahdoo Rao Peshwa, in 1795, till Bajee Rao's establishment by the aid of the British in 1803, this part of the country was a scene of contest amongst the different chieftains, and more than once ravaged by the well-known Doondia Wagh. Soon after commenced the notorious farming system, which lasted until we took possession of the country, and was probably the source of greater suffering to the industrious inhabitants than even the preceding period of bloodshed and pillage.

24. The revenue management of the Mahomedans need not be further adverted to than to state its results, which were to raise greatly by the addition of cesses, under various pretences, the ancient standard of the land assessment. And this increased assessment formed the basis of the Mahratta settlements, and continues to be that of our own in most parts of this Collectorate.

25. The Mahratta system of management during its best period may shortly be described as follows:—A district yielding two or three lakhs of rupees was placed under a Sur Soobhedar, with dependent Mamlutdars, who fixed annually, according to the extent of cultivation and circumstances of the ryots, the amount to be paid by each village. The distribution of this amount was left to be settled by the village officers and cultivators amongst themselves, though appeals were open to the Mamlutdar and higher authorities, when any individual thought himself unfairly burdened. The assessment was made up of the "Rukhum" or "Einattee," that is, the original standard rate; the "Mamool Puttee," or accustomed cess; and the "Jasthee Puttee," or extra cesses, necessary to bring up the village rental to the amount settled by the Mamlutdar for the year's Jumma bundee.

26. There was also a classification of the lands under cultivation, into "Chalee," "Khutgoota," "Khundmukta," and "Cowl," or other denominations of the same import.

27. The "Chalee" alone was subject to the payment of all the cesses above described; the "Khutgoota" generally paid the "Einattee" or standard rate, and the "Mamool Puttee"; while the amount payable for the "Khundmukta" was a low fixed rate, according to previous agreement with the holder. "Cows" were granted when the land had been long waste, and secured its enjoyment for a certain number of years rent free.

28. A ryot was not allowed to relinquish any part of his chalee land; but, to enable him to pay the heavy assessment on it, he was always allowed to hold a certain portion of khutgoota, and khundmukta, or cowl land. He was also permitted to cultivate the lands of Enamdars, which were always obtainable on much more favourable terms than the Government lands. When a chalee ryot, from poverty, could not contribute his quota, it was made up by the others, and recovered by them from him, as circumstances would permit. All the chalee ryots were permanent residents in the village, and had a voice in the management of its affairs. A ryot refusing to cultivate his chalee land was liable to be deprived of the privilege of grazing his cattle on the common waste lands, and of cultivating the land of Enamdars. He was also frequently

subjected to a house tax, and generally looked upon by his neighbours as a person who had meanly endeavoured to shift his share of the general burthen upon the shoulders of his fellow villagers.

29. Temporary residents, or cultivators residing in neighbouring villages, were not required to hold challee lands; but neither were they entitled to interfere in the management of the village affairs, nor to the privilege of cultivating cowl or enam lands. They usually cultivated on the khutgoota and khundmukta tenures.

30. The manner in which this complicated system of assessment must have grown up is easily traceable. Originally, all the village lands were probably subject to a single rate of assessment, called the "Rukhum Einatee," or standard. This was subsequently increased by the addition of puttees, until the land could no longer be retained in cultivation, and it became necessary to permit the ryots to hold a certain portion of it on more favourable terms—thus giving rise to the "Khutgoota," which originally paid only the standard rate. In process of time the khutgoota became also burthened with puttees, and the decay of cultivation in consequence suggested the necessity of propping up the system by the grant of lands on "Khundmukta" and "Cowl" tenures.

31. Further, the distribution of the assessment I have just described was made on the supposition of all the lands of each village being sub-divided into fields, of which the limits and extent, in the land measures peculiar to the village, were well understood. Whatever may have been the case originally, these sub-divisions have for the most part no existence at present, beyond their appearance in the village papers; and it is now vain to attempt to trace, with any tolerable degree of accuracy, in what the ancient land measures consisted. It is certain, however, that the standards of measures bearing the same denomination varied for different villages, and occasionally for particular descriptions of land in the same village. It is also ascertained that they varied in extent according to the quality of the soil—a fact which is corroborated by the original rukhum, or uniform standard rate, being generally applicable to all the village lands.

32. In the districts on which I am reporting, the usual Native land measures are "Mars," containing from 4 to 8, or even 12 "Koorgees," a koorgee being considered about equal to the quantity of land capable of being sown by means of a drill-plough in the course of a day. There are also land measures of other denominations, but it would be unnecessarily occupying your time to attempt to describe them, as nothing definite on this subject can now be ascertained; and the adoption of an unvarying standard of measurement as the basis of the present survey has rendered the inquiry curious rather than useful.

33. The above may be considered a favourable view of the Mahratta management in its best period. Under Bajee Rao's farmers the system fell into confusion, and the rights of all parties were disregarded. Mr. Chaplin, in his Jumma-bundee report of 1818-19, writes of this period that "the Patels and hereditary heads of villages were often displaced to make room for persons agreeing to pay a higher revenue, and cesses upon cesses of the most arbitrary nature were collected, until the old original field assessments were entirely obliterated."

34. The vices of the Mahratta system of revenue management, above described, are sufficiently apparent. Lands with any fixity of tenure, such as the challee and khutgoota, were burdened with an assessment far beyond their value, which never could have been paid but for the aid derived from other lands; and all inducement to improve them was thus taken away. The lowly assessed khundmukta and cowl lands were only held for limited periods, and the tenant liable to be ousted at their expiration, or made to pay the full assessment; so that improvement here was equally out of the question. And even enam lands were rendered almost valueless, by the difficulties interposed in the way of their cultivation, and the tax indirectly laid upon them, by which they were

made to contribute towards the rental of the heavily assessed Government lands.* The village settlements were annual, and their amount varied according to the exigencies of the State, and the discretion of the Mamlutdar. Any remission granted was liable to be recovered on the recurrence of a favourable season. Individual exertion was repressed by the system of joint responsibility, the defalcations of the idle and the poor having to be made good by those who had the means. Ryots unable to meet the Government demands, instead of being allowed to cultivate less land, were bribed, by the grant of fresh cowls, to extend their farms, which, in consequence, were only half cultivated. The general effect of the settlements was to appropriate the whole surplus produce of the Government lands, and indeed more than could have been yielded by them but for the aid of the enam lands, to the uses of the State, and, as a consequence, to render the acquirement of property in the soil a matter of impossibility.

35. On our obtaining possession of the country the difficulties of administering the revenues were further aggravated by the general confusion in which the above system had fallen under Bajee Rao's farmers, and the impossibility of finding any trustworthy accounts of its details. On this point I will again adduce the unexceptionable evidence of Mr. Chaplin, who states, in his revenue report of 1818-19, that "authentic accounts of the real collections of villages in detail are scarcely anywhere procurable"; and again—"We are compelled, in a great measure, to grope our way, either in the dark, or at best by a very dubious light, in consequence of the absence of authentic accounts by which to fix the assessment of a village upon data that may be relied on. Accounts are everywhere mutilated or interpolated, and whole sets for whole districts are sometimes fabricated for our inspection." In another place—"The general destruction of all accounts and records that has taken place during the frequent revolutions that have occurred since the overthrow of the Beejauggur sovereignty, has put it totally out of my power to ascertain what were the collections of the districts, either in remote times or in more recent periods. It is, indeed, only in a few places that I have been able to get complete village accounts for the last ten years, so as to form an average of the gross collections during that limited period. Many of those that purport to be real accounts are entirely fictitious, and others, from their mutilations and interpolations, in no respect to be depended upon." These statements are also fully confirmed by the recorded opinions of the late Mr. Thackeray, who succeeded Mr. Chaplin as Principal Collector of the Southern Mahratta Country.

36. If such, then, were the difficulties of obtaining an insight into the details of the Mahratta system when we obtained the country, it will readily be conceded that any attempt to accomplish this would be tenfold more hopeless now, when the village and district officers have had such additional opportunities of framing documents to suit their own purposes, and our means of detecting their fabrications are perhaps less than before. I consider, therefore, that any appeal to the records of this period in treating of the assessment, other than in a general way, would only tend to lead us into error, and I shall accordingly disregard them in discussing that subject.

37. The system of revenue administration introduced by Messrs. Chaplin and Thackeray, the able Collectors to whom the settlement of the Southern Mahratta Country was entrusted, did not differ materially from that of the Mahrattas already described, except in one important particular. The Ryotwar distribution of the Jumma-bundee was henceforward made by the Collector, his Assistants, and the Mamlutdars, instead of being left to be adjusted by the village officers and challee cultivators, as before. The following quotation is from Mr. Chaplin's instructions to his Sub-Collectors, and will serve to explain the new system:—"It is proposed that the settlements shall be formed

* This practice was also common to the Ceded Districts, and induced Sir Thomas Munro to lay a tax of one-tenth of the full assessment on all enam lands cultivated by individuals who did not hold at the same time a certain proportion of Government lands paying the full rates. (Vide *Revenue Selections*.)

annually with the ryots of each village in conformity to the Ryotwar system, which has been so successfully in former times introduced into many of the districts under the Madras Presidency; that the amount of the rents shall be determined with reference to former payments under the late Government, to the extent only of including the standard rent and the mamool puttee, and with due consideration to the actual state of cultivation, but excluding the jasthee puttee, or surplus assessment, which may in general be considered to have been an unjust exaction or forced contribution, not regulated on any fixed principles, but levied at the discretion of the revenue farmers, rather in proportion to their exigencies than to the means possessed by the cultivators of satisfying the demand." And Mr. Chaplin's successor, the late Mr. Thackeray, has described his plan of making the Jumlabundee in the following terms:—"Either he or one of his Assistants makes the village or Mouzehwar settlement of all the villages in every purgunna, and the Ryotwar or individual distribution of the rent in one or more villages in each, the Ryotwar of the rest being made by the Mamlutdar, and checked by a revision on the part of the Collector. In cases of altercation respecting the fair amount of individual rents or allotments of fields, the dispute is settled by a punchayet of ryots," &c.

38. I cannot but consider this change of system, which took out of the hands of the villagers the Ryotwar distribution of the revenue, and gave it into those of our district stipendiaries, to have been unfortunate in many respects, and to have added another fruitful element of confusion to those already existing. It was evidently impossible for the Collector and his Mamlutdars, with no better guides than the mutilated and fictitious accounts already described, to ascertain what was, or was not, a proper field assessment, and their decisions upon this point must unavoidably have been arbitrary, and little better than mere guess-work. Mr. Thackeray, indeed, writing in 1821, admits as much in his observations upon parts of Mr. Marshall's statistical reports of several purgunnas of the Southern Mahratta Country, where the following remarks occur:—"Even now, after all our statistical experience, in the total absence of a uniform measure, and a regular standard of assessment, it is impossible to say exactly what should be the assessment on a given piece of land in any village." In truth, the villagers themselves had alone any knowledge of the true state of affairs, and were, in consequence, the only parties capable of arriving at a just decision regarding the proper distribution of the village rental. And although, by continuing with them the power of doing so, instances of undue partiality and oppressive exactions would unquestionably have been perpetuated, still so dependent were the village officers on the rest of the community, and so much at one the individual interests of all the villagers, that we may rest assured that the former would not have ventured to push their exactions so as to outrage either public opinion or former usage. The case was wholly different with our stipendiary district officers, who were quite unconnected with, and independent of, the villages, whose internal administration was thus placed within their power. And I myself have little hesitation in ascribing to the measure under discussion much of that remarkable and almost universal corruption which has been disgracefully characteristic of our Native revenue servants in this part of the country; for, in the state of confusion and obscurity in which everything was involved, any control of their proceedings by the Collector could have been little more than nominal.

39. Another unhappy consequence of this attempt to distribute the revenue without any trustworthy data to proceed upon, was the necessity of granting annual remissions, by way of compensating for the injustice of the distribution, when found to bear too hard upon individuals; and, as the district officers were not long of discovering how fertile a source of profit to themselves might be made of these abatements of revenue, they did not fail to represent the necessity of such grants, while they took care that but a small portion of them should ever reach those for whom they were designed. The tide of corruption was thus swelled, and the already bewildering position of the Collector

surrounded by fresh causes of perplexity and anxiety. And to this hour the state of things here represented remains unchanged, and the settlements of our most intelligent European officers are made confessedly in the dark, and with little to guide them beyond the expressed opinions of our Native officers, which, as I have already shown, here are ample grounds for viewing with suspicion. In support of this opinion, I might multiply quotations to any extent from recent revenue reports; but in writing to you, who are so well aware of the real state of the case, such a course may be dispensed with.

40. In justice, however, to the able men who introduced the system of management which I have here ventured to condemn, it must be observed that they were fully aware of its evils, and never contemplated its continuance beyond a very limited period, or otherwise than as a means of acquiring sufficiently detailed information to enable them to equalize and fix the tax on every field, with reference to its soil, size, and situation. Mr. Chaplin, adverting to the state of confusion so often noticed, proposes the following remedy in the 63rd paragraph of his revenue report for 1818-19:—"A survey, which, ascertaining the extent of land occupied by the ryot with the rate of assessment, and which, numbering and naming each field, distinguishes the Government from the enam land, almost entirely prevents these abuses, and introduces simplicity, where nothing but a chaos of confusion and perplexity was before purposely continued. These are, I think, convincing arguments for a survey at the earliest practicable period of time, but I do not think that period has yet arrived." In the same report he writes in another place:—"I am for these reasons induced to recommend that no such survey be immediately undertaken, but that it shall be postponed until one or two years' experience under the Coolwar system, carried on with much forbearance and moderation, shall have put us in a condition to judge of the resources of each village in our new dominions. By the Ryotwar system the development of the capabilities of villages in a country recently placed under our dominion can alone be effected, and it is only by that system that the grievous exactions of former managers can be effectively exposed and prevented." In the 149th paragraph of his printed report on the Deccan, dated 20th August 1822, he also observes:—"A survey must always be the ground-work of a proper Ryotwar settlement. Without it the ryots are in a manner abandoned to the discretion of the village and district officers, a discretion which we know is always abused. An equitable apportionment of the assessment of districts possessing various capabilities can never be made by any Collector, from the present imperfect materials, with any sort of certainty that it may not contain gross errors. When the value of every field is fixed, and the accounts methodized, any Collector of the most moderate capacity may make the settlement, and all intricate and perplexing scrutinies hereafter are rendered unnecessary."

41. Mr. Thackeray held the same opinions, and not long after taking charge of this Collectorate proceeded to act upon them, by instituting a detailed field survey, on the model of that introduced into the Ceded Districts by Sir Thomas Munro. This survey was commenced in a single district under the inspection of Mr. Thackeray himself; but that gentleman's multifarious duties as Collector, Judge, and Political Agent, must have rendered it quite impossible for him to overlook the details of the work with that degree of minuteness which experience has now proved to be essential to the successful execution of a survey by means of Native agency. He too, unfortunately, did not live to complete the undertaking, or to remedy the errors which he could hardly have failed to detect in the course of its execution.

42. After his lamented death the operation seems to have fallen almost completely under Native management, and its unsatisfactory results are not, under these circumstances, matter of astonishment. Mr. Walter Elliot, when Sub-Collector here, writes of this survey in a report upon the state of his charge, dated 29th October 1833, in the

following terms:—"The only part of the operation executed under Mr. Thackeray's eye was a part of the *measurement* of the land, and this, though often incorrect, has proved the most useful, indeed the only useful result, by affording a standard for the comparison of the various Native land measures. The classification of fields and the rates of assessment applied to each class are altogether defective. The accounts of collections during the latter years of the Mahratta rule were again adopted, and assumed as the basis of the operation. But the rates so obtained were found to vary materially from the rent actually levied, and the Cutcherry servants, actuated by a dread of displeasing the Collector on the one hand, and by the difficulty of conciliating the ryots on the other, endeavoured to modify the results by certain expedients of their own. Wherever the new rates effected an increase in the old rent, reductions were made on the score of imperfect cultivation, poverty, &c. But if the survey fell short of former payments, a proportion of waste land was tacked to the reduced field, by which the total rent was kept up to its original amount. This patch-work assessment now exists in the talookas of Dharwar, Nuwulgoond, Dummul, and Purusghur."

43. If such was, indeed, the treatment to which this luckless survey was subjected, we cannot wonder at its unsuccessful result. If a survey is only to be held correct when it does not in any way disturb the previously existing assessment, I fear that the present must be held equally faulty with its unfortunate predecessor. But I have the satisfaction to reflect that the opinions of a few ignorant Native officials are not likely to be deemed conclusive as to the merits of our present operations, and that the task of carrying our settlements into effect will be entrusted to more worthy hands.

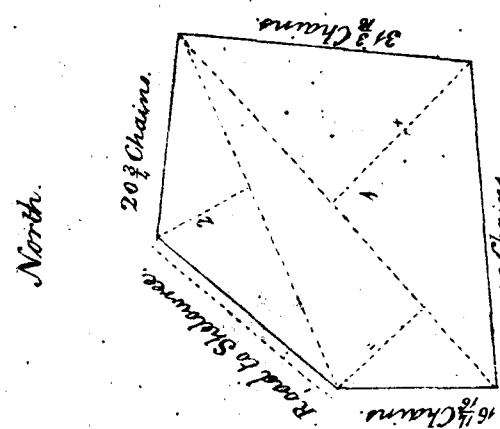
44. I have already observed, that, from the want of an efficient superintendence of the Native agency employed, the results of the survey commenced by Mr. Thackeray are almost certain to be greatly in error, but, even on the supposition of the work being perfect at the outset, it has nevertheless become already valueless. This is owing to the want of due care in defining the boundaries of fields by permanent marks during the progress of the measurement. Nothing further seems to have been done than to lay down a few small stones at the corners and most prominent bends of the different fields. Cultivation according to the limits of the new numbers was never enforced, or attended to; and the stones laid down at the survey have long since been turned up by the plough, or otherwise removed: so that it has now become a matter of the greatest difficulty to identify a single field then measured, and, in the majority of instances, there are no more indications to be found of the limits then laid down than if they had been traced on the sand of the sea-shore, to be swept over and obliterated by the next returning tide.

45. In fact, it would be difficult to believe that a complete measurement of this Collectorate had been so recently executed, but for the circumstance of its results appearing in our revenue accounts; while the effect of these data being entered there is to render our revenue system more hopelessly perplexing than before.

46. The foregoing review of the past revenue administration of this part of the country, imperfect though it be, will, I apprehend, have rendered it quite unnecessary for me to add a single word in advocacy of the present survey. The urgent necessity of the measure is beyond a question, if it be considered desirable that our revenue management should be based on any clear and intelligible principles, and our European officers be released from their present dependence on corrupt, ignorant, and intriguing Native subordinates.

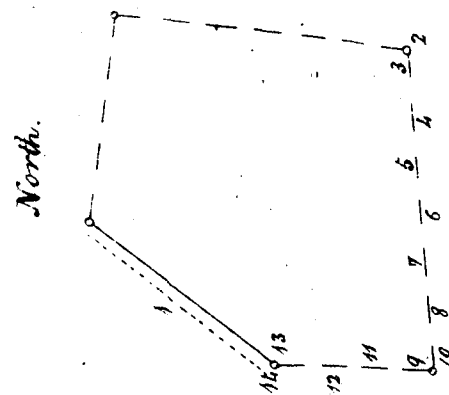
47. I shall now proceed to state what has been done for the correction of the evils which I have thought it necessary to dwell upon at such length in the preceding paragraphs; because, without an adequate knowledge of them, it would be impossible to form a just conception of the advantages promised by the present survey, or of the difficulties that beset its execution.

Revenue Survey No. 32



The interior dotted lines are the bases and perpendiculars measured for the calculation of the area of the field and the construction of the Map.

Revenue Survey No. 32



No. 1 boundary is a road.
Nos. 2, 10 and 11 are Stones sunk at corners.
Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13 are earthen mounds.
The remaining marks have been described in the measurement of adjoining fields.

48. The object of the present survey is to fix a moderate assessment upon every field, with reference to its size, soil, and situation. The first and most important operation, in connection with these points, is to ascertain correctly the area of each field, and to render permanent its present limits, by the construction of proper landmarks, so as to provide, as far as possible, against the chance of the survey becoming hereafter vitiated through their accidental or wilful removal. And the want of due precaution in this particular having in the course of a few years been fatal to the usefulness of the last measurement of this Collectorate, no excuse will be thought necessary for my describing the way in which we now determine the limits of fields.

49. In all cases where there are no well-defined boundaries in existence, or where some natural object, as a road or water-course, does not form the limit of the field, the new boundaries are made perfectly straight. The new fields are also required to be measured of convenient size, which is necessary to prevent the survey being made needlessly minute, and therefore expensive. To accomplish these objects it is necessary to interfere to a certain extent with the present limits of cultivation. That is to say, for the sake of forming a straight boundary, it will often be necessary to throw a portion cultivated by one ryot into the field of his neighbour; and, in order not to fall short of the prescribed limit, to club together in the same field small patches now cultivated independently by different ryots. These proceedings are, as might be expected, now and then unpalatable to the cultivators, who seldom like to have existing custom interfered with in any way; but had they been even made the subject of very general and serious complaint,—which has not at all been the case,—the paramount importance of good boundaries to ensure the permanent utility of the survey would have still rendered it incumbent on us to carry them into effect, in spite of all opposition. It is to be recollected, too, that there is no trace of meeras or other proprietary right in the soil here, which is considered to be at the absolute disposal of Government, and, consequently, that the measures in question do not dispossess those affected by them of aught which they claim as their own.

50. The Native measurer first marks out on the ground the limits of his field in the manner indicated above, and then, having measured its contents by means of the cross-staff and chain, he constructs in his field book two maps—one to show the exact shape of the field, and the other the positions along the bounding lines where boundary marks are to be erected for the purpose of permanently defining its limits. These marks are subsequently erected at the places indicated by the measurer, under the superintendence of the district hereditary officers. They consist of mounds of earth from 15 to 30 feet in length, 3 to 4 in height, and of sufficient breadth to give them stability. At the corners of the field these marks are constructed in the form of a rectangle, T shaped figure, or cross, according as the corners of one, two, or four fields have to be indicated. In addition to these earthen mounds, stones of the largest size, easily procurable, are also sunk at the corners of the field; but these, as liable to removal, I consider of little use. I here annex specimens of the two maps, copied from one of our measurer's field books, which will serve to elucidate whatever may be defective in the foregoing description.

51. When the embankments have all been constructed, the measurer again visits the field, to satisfy himself of this, and that they are of the proper dimensions, &c., when he makes a remark to that effect in his field book. A further test of each number is made by the classer, when examining the soil of the field, and of a proportion of the numbers by the Assistant Superintendents, when testing the accuracy of the measurement and classification of the village; and reports of such tests are made by the Assistant Superintendents to the Superintendent.

52. These embankments, it will readily be conceived, form a very permanent description of mark. They are too large to be ploughed down, or destroyed accidentally, and

with the aid of the map, while a single trace of any one on the side of a field remains, the whole could be restored without the slightest difficulty. But I do not apprehend that such restorations will often be necessary, with ordinary precautions on the part of the revenue authorities. The ryots have been enjoined to connect the marks by continuous ridges of earth, so as to form a complete enclosure of the field, and this has already been done in very many instances, especially in Hoobullee, where the Mamlutdar has used every exertion to effect this object, and with great success. The cultivators have also been informed by proclamation that whether these connecting ridges be constructed or not, the space between any two, and of a breadth equal to that of the marks themselves, is to be considered the boundary of the field, and not on any account to be ploughed over or sown, while every infringement of this rule will subject the offender to criminal punishment for defacing the boundary. These measures have had the desired effect, and the new boundaries are, in almost every instance, left untouched. The earthen mounds and connecting ridges or spaces are becoming rapidly covered with grass and bushes, and in another season or two may be considered beyond the reach of all but wilful injury, though, to prevent this, a vigilant attention will always be necessary on the part of the district revenue authorities.

53. The measurement and mapping of one field thus effected, the surveyor proceeds to another, and so on, until he has completed the entire area of the village lands. His field maps are then combined to form a village map, and the accuracy with which this operation is performed, without the aid of any instrument for measuring angles, is quite surprising, and would hardly be credited by one who has not had opportunities of satisfying himself of the fact. The site of the village roads, water-courses, tanks, wells, &c., being all represented upon these maps, they form a most complete topographical delineation of the village limits, and with a sufficient number of correcting points laid down trigonometrically, might be made use of to construct maps of each district, and of the whole Collectorate, in any degree of detail that might be deemed useful or desirable. The map accompanying this report has been constructed in this way by Mr. Springer, Sub-Assistant on this survey, with the aid of Major Jopp's map of the Collectorate. The village maps were found to fit into their proper positions in the latter, with very little adjustment; and the general map thus prepared seems to exhibit all the information that can be required of a topographical record for revenue, judicial, and other administrative purposes.

54. The remaining operations connected with the measurement of the lands embrace, I believe, all the improvements introduced during the progress of the Deccan surveys, but these having already been at different times explained to Government in great detail, it would be at once a tedious and unnecessary task for me to recount them in this place. Suffice it to say, that the measurement, mapping, and laying down of boundaries, are subjected to a systematic test in every village, by the Assistant Superintendents. I have already remarked on the correctness of the maps, as well as the efficiency of the new boundaries, and, in order to convey a fair idea of the degree of accuracy attained in the measurement, would direct your attention to the following statement of discrepancies between the original and test measurements in ninety-eight villages of the Hoobullee and Nuwulgoond talookas, which have been completely surveyed :—

Name of Talooka.	Number of Villages tested.	Fields tested.		Number of Fields in which the difference of Test and Original Measurements is		
		Number.	Area in Acres.	Not over 1 per cent.	Not over 2 per cent.	Over 2 per cent.
Hoobullee.	34	183	1,603	102	40	41
Nuwulgoond.	64	1,234	50,675	880	282	72
Totals.	98	1,417	56,278	982	322	113

It will be seen from this statement that of 1,417 fields, containing in all 56,278 acres, re-measured as a test of the accuracy of the original operation, the latter, in 982 fields, did not differ from the test by more than 1 per cent.; in 322 fields by not more than 2 per cent.; and in 113 fields only did the difference between the two measurements exceed 2 per cent. In four instances only in Hoobullee, and two in Nuwulgoond, out of these last 113 fields, was the error of the original measurement found to exceed 5 per cent. That is to say, in 6 fields only, out of 1,417 subjected to test, did the difference of the two measurements exceed 5 per cent. It will probably be admitted that the degree of accuracy here shown could hardly be surpassed on any system of survey; and it is, at all events, amply sufficient for all practical purposes.

55. The area of a field being correctly given, we have still to ascertain the quality of its soil, and advantages or disadvantages of situation, in order to understand its relative value to other fields, and fix the proportion of the general assessment of a district or village which it ought to bear. These data are collected by a distinct set of men from those employed on the measurement, and styled "Classers," who are required to conduct their duties in accordance with detailed instructions furnished for their guidance. These are in most respects similar to those in use in the Dekkan surveys which have already been laid before Government, and I shall therefore be as brief as possible in my remarks on the subject, wherever there is nothing peculiar in our *modus operandi*.

56. We have nine classes of soils, to one of which every variety met with in the field is referred. The value of the highest class is fixed at 16, to correspond with the number of annas in a rupee, this being the scale ordinarily made use of by Natives of this country for relative valuations of every description. The remaining classes diminish in value from 16 to $1\frac{1}{2}$, the amount fixed for the poorest soil considered arable.

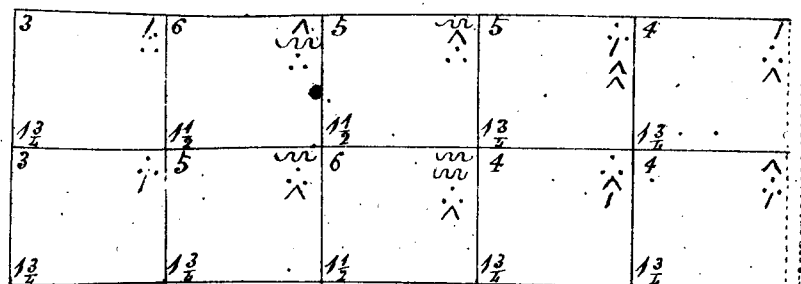
57. In determining the class in which any soil is to be entered, the classer is guided by its depth, and the nature of deteriorating ingredients, when present, or other attendant circumstances affecting the fertility of the soil. These deteriorating ingredients and circumstances are termed faults, when of importance enough to require a soil to be entered in a class lower than what its depth would of itself indicate. We have adopted conventional signs to denote the presence of such faults as are most commonly met with, which are the following :—

- ∴ Denotes a mixture of minute fragments of limestone.
- > " " large nodules of limestone.
- ∨ " " sand.
- / " " a sloping surface.
- × " " a want of cohesion amongst the constituent particles of a soil.
- ^ " " a peculiar mixture of lime and clay.
- ~ " " liability to be swept over by running water.
- " " to an excess of moisture from springs.

All other peculiarities, which may render it necessary to alter the ordinary class of a soil, determined with reference to depth, are noted at length by the classer in his field-book. The introduction of these conventional marks is due to Mr. Young, Sub-Assistant on this survey, and they have proved of the highest utility in simplifying the classification of soils, and ensuring greater uniformity of results, which will be fully apparent when I come to describe the remainder of this operation.

58. With the view, further, of obliging the classer to go over the whole field, and to facilitate the detection of any misclassification on his part, he is required to copy the measurer's map into his own field book, and then divide it off into equal compartments, of an extent suited to the size of the field, but rarely exceeding two acres. The classer then proceeds to value the soil of each compartment, noting within it on the map, by means of the above conventional signs, the presence of any deteriorating circumstances, its depth, and the number of the class to which in consequence the soil must be referred.

When the classification of all the compartments is completed, an average of the whole is struck, which of course gives the classification of the entire field. Thus, in the following specimen of one of the classer's field maps, the class is denoted by the figure in the left hand upper corner of each compartment, and the depth of the soil in cubits in the lower corner of the same side, while the faults are shown by the conventional signs to the right:—



In the upper compartment, to the left of this figure, the depth of the soil is entered at $1\frac{3}{4}$ cubit, or that proper to our 1st class, but the soil is nevertheless entered in the 3rd, in consequence of its sloping surface, and the presence of minute particles of carbonate of lime, these being the faults indicated by the signs $\therefore$. In like manner in the lower middle compartment of the map, the depth is entered at $1\frac{1}{2}$ cubit, or that proper to our 2nd class, but the soil is degraded to the 6th class, in consequence of the great injury it receives from running water, indicated by the double fault $\equiv$, and the admixture of fragments of limestone, and a limy clay, represented by the signs $\wedge$. The dotted lines to the right of the map show that a road forms the boundary of the field on that side. The map also shows that the field contains two parts of 3rd class soil, three of 4th, three of 5th, and two of 6th, from an average of which the general classification of the field is obtained. The classer also notes in his field book the distance of the field from the village and water, as well as any circumstances, apart from the soil, which he may consider to affect its value; and all of these are taken into consideration by the Assistant Superintendent and Superintendent, when finally settling the rate of assessment to be imposed on the field.

59. The consideration of so many particulars as have now been described, in order to arrive at the proper classification of a field, might lead one to imagine the operation as most difficult of execution, and little likely to be productive of satisfactory results: but the fact is otherwise; and a classer of very ordinary abilities, after a few months' practice, will rarely experience any difficulty in referring every soil he meets with to its proper class. And the best evidence of this is the uniformity of results arrived at by different individuals classing the same field independently. To place this important point in a satisfactory light, I shall now present you with a statement of the results of the test made of our classification, which, though not exhibiting the minute degree of accuracy attained in the measurement, will yet, I trust, be deemed abundantly satisfactory:—

Name of Talooka.	Number of Villages tested.	Fields tested.		Number of Fields in which the difference of Test and Original Classification is	
		Number.	Area in Acres.	Not over 1 Anna.	Over 1 Anna.
Hoobullee.....	40	341	7,058	283	58
Nuwulgoond.....	38	437	15,395	410	27
Total.	78	778	22,453	693 •	85

Of 778 fields, containing 22,453 acres, entered in this statement, the original and test classifications of 693 do not differ by more than 1 anna of our valuation scale, which ranges from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 16; and in 85 instances only do their differences exceed 1 anna. The average difference between the values of adjoining classes in our classification scale is about 2 annas, and of the foregoing 85 fields with an error in excess of 1 anna: 7 fields only in Hoobullee and 2 in Nuwulgoond differ from the test by more than 2 annas. In other words, out of 778 fields subjected to test, the classification of nine only was found to have an error greater than the difference of value between adjoining classes of our table of soils. And as we have nine such classes, the small importance of such an error will at once be apparent. The very high degree of accuracy which is here exhibited justifies our placing every confidence in the classification as a means for distributing fairly the assessment over the fields comprised in a village or district.

60. I do not know that any further remarks in explanation of our preliminary operations are called for, and will therefore proceed at once to the discussion of the assessment.

61. The amount of assessment to be placed on a district or any division of territory at a revenue survey, with the view of securing at the same time its progressive prosperity and a fair revenue to the State, must in all cases be matter of conjecture, in consequence of there being no unchangeable data from which such a result could be deduced. It is evident that our only data must be drawn from the past; and though we may be of opinion that from these the course of the future may be indicated, who will venture to say that our fairest conclusions may not be falsified by the event? Lord Auckland, in his despatch to the Honorable Court of Directors of 18th August 1838, describing the mode of settlement in the Upper Provinces of India, remarks most justly of this department of the operation that "The assessment is assumed to be only a matter of conjecture, on which the greatest danger lies on the side of excess. Let the conjecture be too high, and the country is ruined; let it be rather lower than it might be, and there is a small sacrifice of present income to the Government, but the foundations are laid deep of present happiness to the people, and of future enlarged resources to the Government." The all-important point to be satisfied of is that the proposed assessment is not too high. The circumstance of its being lower than necessary is of comparatively trifling moment, and it must be recollected that we cannot attempt to define with much nicety the *via media* between these two, without incurring the danger of losing all our labour, by erring on the side of excess. To be safe, we must pitch our rental somewhat below what we *think* the district might bear without danger.

62. I have said that all our data must be drawn from the past; and in proportion to the fullness and accuracy of these will of course be our confidence in the results which their consideration may enable us to arrive at. In the case of the districts under report, I regret to have to state that these data are by no means so satisfactory as could be wished. In a previous part of this report I have shown at length the confusion into which the revenue accounts had fallen at our conquest of the country, and that the untrustworthy and defective state of such documents relating to the previous period as are in our possession prevent our having recourse to them, except in the most general way, for the determination of the new assessment. We are consequently restricted to the accounts of the last twenty-five years, when the districts have been under our own management; but even these are defective in some most important particulars, and the information they supply upon others cannot always be depended on.

63. The incorrectness and want of system observable in the accounts of this Col-
 lectorate for the preceding years of our administration were pointed out in your revenue
 report for 1841-42, from the 10th paragraph of which it appears that at that time there
 existed discrepancies between the Hoozoor and district books on account of outstanding
 balances alone to the extent of upwards of two and a half lakhs of rupees. From personal

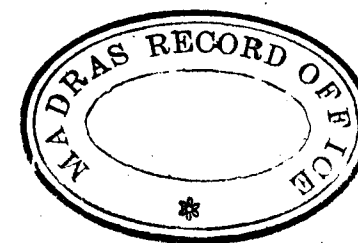
inquiry, I have satisfied myself that the actual amount of remissions granted and revenue collected on account of each year since we obtained the country, cannot now be ascertained with any degree of certainty. I have obtained from the Hoozoor^e and district records tolerably complete accounts of the Jumma-bundee of each village for nearly all the years of our administration, as far as regards cultivation and net revenue, after deducting the remissions made at the time of settlement; but there are no documents in any available form, as far as I am aware of, either on your records, or in the district Cutcherries, to show how much of the land revenue set apart for realization at the Jumma-bundee of each year was actually collected, and how much subsequently remitted. No doubt the total revenue collected has been credited, under one form or another, in the village and district books, and remissions written off in like manner; but it would be a useless labour to attempt to hunt through the account books of the last twenty-five years in search of such items, which, when found, would probably not enable us to clear up the obscurity now resting on the accounts, and refer every item of collection and remission to its proper head. I am given to understand, however, that the remissions made subsequent to the Jumma-bundee were not usually great, and that most part of the revenue there set apart for collection has been actually realized.

64. Of the entries appearing in the Jumma-bundee accounts those specifying the sum total of revenue realizable from the land can alone be depended on. The quantity of land entered as under cultivation in each year, and whether paying the full or a diminished rate of assessment, can be considered little better than conjectural. No regular annual inspection of all the fields of a village was ever made, and, from the want of boundary marks to identify their limits, could not have been made with any tolerable accuracy. The cultivation returns were prepared by the Coolurnee, either at his own house or the Cutcherry of the Mamlutdar, and made to suit the latter officer's idea of what the cultivation should be, for it was impossible to say what it actually was. It cannot be known, either, whether the assessment of the Government lands in cultivation was wholly paid from the profit of these lands, or in part from the proceeds of enam lands in the possession of the same cultivators. Other sources of doubt and inaccuracy might be pointed out, but these will suffice to indicate the necessity of caution in making use of these accounts, which, with all their faults, afford, nevertheless, the most trustworthy information we possess of the revenue management of the country for the several years of our administration.

65. I have not succeeded in obtaining complete accounts of the Hoobullee division for the first three years of our administration, and for five years after we got the country the capabilities of the different villages seemed to be little understood, and the assessment of many of them varied very much. I shall, in consequence, disregard the first five years of our administration, and confine myself to the last twenty, in the following remarks upon the new settlement.

66. In proceeding to describe the introductory assessment of the thirty villages of the Hoobullee talooka, I must refer you back to the 7th and following paragraphs of this report, in which I have pointed out the remarkable dissimilarity of climate between such of these villages as are situated within the hills, and those out in the plain. The land of the former is found to be considerably enhanced in value by the more certain and frequent supplies of moisture which it receives. The villages immediately around Hoobullee are cultivated for the most part by residents of that town, and possess a considerable advantage over the rest, in respect of the ready market it affords for the disposal of the most bulky articles of farm produce. And in consequence of this, most of the land of these villages is cultivated with jowarree, chiefly with a view to the sale of the straw as fodder.

67. A consideration of these circumstances, and of the state of cultivation and collections in past years, made it apparent that no uniform rates of assessment would



bear equally on the whole thirty villages, and that, in order to apportion the rental fairly, it would be requisite to accommodate the new rates to their respective advantages of position.

68. After giving this important subject all the attention in our power, and bringing together all the villages we thought capable of bearing the same rate of assessment, Messrs. Goldsmid, Francis, and myself, came to the conclusion that it would be sufficient to arrange the villages into three classes, having each a different rate of assessment, in order to secure an equable settlement. A further classification might have been made, but it was necessary to stop somewhere, and the foregoing seemed to us sufficiently minute for all practical purposes.

69. The 1st class, bearing the highest rate of assessment, consists of the following seventeen villages, which are either situated among the hills, and enjoy a more ample supply of rain, or contiguous to the town of Hoobullee, with the advantage of its market at the very doors of the cultivators :--

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Ujjapoor. | 10. Sheeddapoor. |
| 2. Boodrusheengee. | 11. Narrayunapoor. |
| 3. Yullapoor. | 12. Ugrahar-Teemsagur. |
| 4. Beedunhal. | 13. Murreeyow-Teemsagur. |
| 5. Jungumurkop. | 14. Gubboor. |
| 6. Keshwapoor. | 15. Uyodya. |
| 7. Madeenaekun-Arleekuttee. | 16. Moor-Urlee. |
| 8. Topulkuttee. | 17. Boodeehal. |
| 9. Nagshetteekop. | |

70. The 2nd class consists of the undermentioned ten villages, skirting the hills, but with the larger portion of their limits in the plain, and at some distance from the market of Hoobullee :—

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Kotukondhoonshee. | 6. Uddurgoonchee. |
| 2. Veerapoor. | 7. Beengéree. |
| 3. Bommapoor. | 8. Gopimkop. |
| 4. Ounkul. | 9. Beirdéwurkop. |
| 5. Noolvee. | 10. Sheeréwad. |

71. The 3rd class is formed of the following three villages, situated in the plain, at a distance of several miles from the hills, where the fall of rain is more scanty and uncertain than in any of the villages included in the preceding classes :—

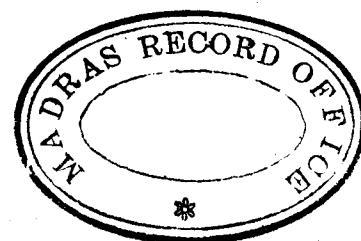
- | | | |
|-----------------|----------|----------------|
| 1. Koosoowugul. | 2. Sool. | 3. Moolhullee. |
|-----------------|----------|----------------|

72. The positions of all these villages will be more readily learned from the accompanying map than the most elaborate description ; and to it, therefore, I beg to refer you for any further information. I have also constructed the diagram opposite, for the purpose of exhibiting the fluctuations in the Jummabundee of the foregoing three classes of villages, for the last twenty-three years of our administration, and which it will be useful to refer to in the perusal of the following observations on the new settlement.

73. The seventeen villages forming the first of the preceding classes contain, according to the present survey, 11,359* of arable land—of which 6,630 acres belong to Government ; 2,250 are joree enam, i. e. burdened with the payment of a quit-rent; and 2,478 are surwa enam, or rent-free.† A good deal of the Government land of these villages, which previous to our settlement paid the highest rates of assessment, especially around Hoobullee, is held by traders in easy circumstances, who do not cultivate with a view to subsistence, but in order to raise fodder for the cattle employed by them in

* The number of acres here given under each denomination is what now appears in the talooka accounts ; but the result of the inquiry into alienations of revenue will probably occasion some changes.

† A portion of the surwa enam land is burthened with the payment of ek-salee, which is the ordinary rate of assessment leviable every fourth year.



conveying merchandize from one part of the country to another. There are other wealthy individuals in Hoobullee, who cultivate because the fields held by them have been long in the possession of their families, or in order to raise fodder and grain for domestic use. And the ample means at the command of such persons enable them to manure their land highly, and bring it into such condition as to make it yield much more abundant crops than are raised under the ordinary husbandry of the district. Such cultivators do not look to profit from their farms. They find them convenient in many ways, and with this they are satisfied. Many fields of this description were burdened with a rate of assessment which would have been ruinous for a cultivator to pay who had nothing beyond their produce to depend upon for the payment of his rent and his own subsistence. And the object of this survey being to impose a moderate assessment on each field with reference to its capabilities alone, and not to the circumstances of the individual by whom it is farmed, it became necessary to disregard the high rents paid under the circumstances above described when fixing an assessment intended to be of general application, and suited to the circumstances of the peasantry, as well as to the ordinary husbandry of the district.

74. After having considered to the best of our ability the foregoing and numerous other circumstances bearing upon the condition of the villages in question, we were led to the conclusion that the average amount of revenue hitherto realized from them, if fairly distributed over all their lands with reference to their fertility and situation, would prove an excessive assessment. And the correctness of this opinion is, I think, borne out by the following considerations:—Out of 6,630 acres of Government land contained in the seventeen villages, the average number under tillage during the last nineteen years appears from the accounts to have been 5,700 acres. But we may safely assume that there was some considerable extent of concealed cultivation in addition; and that consequently nearly all the Government land of any value has been under cultivation throughout the above period. To have simply equalized the pre-existing assessment, then, would have been to reduce the heavily rated fields in the possession of wealthy individuals, who do not cultivate for a subsistence, and to raise the rents of the more moderately taxed lands held by our ordinary ryots. But these last we knew to be in no condition to support such an addition to their previous burdens. Mr. Goldsmid, when Assistant Collector in charge of the district, had ample opportunities of satisfying himself of this, and the intelligent Mamlutdar of the talooka was of opinion that the difficulty of keeping up the cultivation had increased of late, and nothing but the near prospect of the new settlement prevented a considerable extent of land becoming waste. Some assistance, also, towards the liquidation of the assessment on Government fields, was no doubt afforded by rent-free lands cultivated by the same ryots, but to what extent cannot be accurately ascertained.

75. These, and many similar reasons that would be tedious to detail, left us in no doubt of the necessity of making some reduction on the previous rental. The rates we finally decided upon vary from two rupees per acre for the best description of dry crop land, to four, or even occasionally three, annas for the poorest. These rates, inclusive of a higher assessment on a small quantity of rice and garden land to be noticed in the sequel, give a rental of Rs. 8,778 on 6,630 acres of Government land, or an average rate of one rupee, five annas, and two pies (Rs. 1-5-2) per acre. The results of the settlement are shown in the following abstract:—

Number of Villages.	Government Land.		Joree Enams.		Rent-free Enams.		Total Arable Land.	
	Acres.	Assessment.	Acres.	Assessment.	Acres.	Assessment.	Acres.	Assessment.
17	6,630	8,778	2,251	3,248	2,478	3,070	11,359	15,096

The rental of Government land here shown exceeds the Jummabundee rental of cultivated land for 1842-43 by Rs. 242; but falls short of the average of twenty years preceding the new settlement by Rs. 1,619. The former quit-rent upon the joree enams was generally so oppressive as to render them of little value to their owners. The assessment on such lands, according to our present rates, exceeds the quit-rent of 1842-43 by Rs. 342; and falls short of the average of twenty years by Rs. 10. For a full elucidation of these and other particulars of past revenue settlements, I would refer you to the table marked A. in the Appendix to this report.

76. Our 2nd class of villages, ten in number, contain, according to the present survey, 25,032 acres of arable land; viz. 13,084 the property of Government, 6,387 of joree enams, and 5,561 of surwa enams.

77. The rates we have adopted for these villages range from Rs. 1-8-0 for the best, to Rs. 0-3-0 for the worst description of dry crop land. The resulting assessment, inclusive of higher rates on garden and rice land, is exhibited in the following abstract, the average rate per acre of Government land being one rupee, one anna, and three pies (Rs. 1-1-3):—

Number of Villages.	Government Land.		Joree Enams.		Rent-free Enams.		Total Arable Land.	
	Acres.	Assessment.	Acres.	Assessment.	Acres.	Assessment.	Acres.	Assessment.
10	13,084	14,757	6,387	7,807	5,561	6,335	25,032	28,899

The assessment on Government land here shown exceeds that of cultivated land, according to the Jummabundee, of 1842-43 by Rs. 1,974, and the average of twenty years preceding the new settlement by Rs. 1,118. We therefore anticipate that the revenue under the new settlement will soon equal that of the year preceding its introduction, and hope that it may eventually reach the average of past settlements. The villages in this class were not less heavily assessed than those of the preceding, but the result of the new rates promises more favourably for the revenue, in consequence of there being a considerable quantity of waste in these ten villages; whereas in the seventeen villages forming the 1st class, nearly all the Government land was under cultivation at the introduction of the new settlement. The quantity of land in cultivation, with its assessment as settled at each Jummabundee for the twenty years of our administration preceding the introduction of the new settlement, are shown in detail in the table marked B. in the Appendix.

78. The three villages forming our 3rd class contain, according to the returns of this survey, 14,410 acres of arable land; viz. of Government land 11,447, of joree enams 718, and of surwa or rent-free enams, 2,335 acres.

79. Our rates of assessment are Rs. 1-4-0 for the best dry crop lands, and decrease with the fertility of the soil, as in the case of the villages entered in our 1st and 2nd classes. None of the villages of our 3rd class contain any rice or garden land. The new assessment for each description of land is given in the following abstract:—

Number of Villages.	Government Land.		Joree Enams.		Surwa Enams.		Total Arable Land.	
	Acres.	Assessment.	Acres.	Assessment.	Acres.	Assessment.	Acres.	Assessment.
3	11,447	17,374	718	652	2,335	2,384	14,500	14,410

The assessment on Government land here averages fifteen annas per acre, and exceeds the Jummabundee of 1842-43 by Rs. 1,734, and the average of the twenty years preceding our settlement by Rs. 1,138. In this case, also, we may anticipate that the revenue will

soon equal that of 1842-43, and eventually not fall short of the average of past collections. From various circumstances we were convinced that the assessment of these three villages could not have been made higher without danger. One of them, Sool, was considered to be in a flourishing condition under the old assessment; that is to say, the ryots were in tolerably easy circumstances, and little difficulty was experienced in collecting the revenue, while nearly all the arable lands of the village were under cultivation. We had no reason, however, to suppose that this assessment would bear to be increased without endangering the prosperity of the village. Our present rates in this village average fifteen annas, nine pies per acre, while the average rate per acre of cultivated land under the old assessment, according to the accounts of the five years preceding our settlements, was fifteen annas, seven pies, being a trifling fraction within our rate.

80. Besides the jeeraet, or dry crop rates, explained in the foregoing paragraphs, higher rates have been imposed on land watered from wells, and rice lands situated under tanks, or in hollows convenient for receiving the water draining from the upper grounds, these being the only irrigated lands to be met with in the villages under report.

81. The baghaet, or land irrigated from wells, is of very trifling extent, and amounts only to 77 acres, inclusive of enams.

82. We have assessed it by assigning a certain quantity of land to each well, the extent of which has been determined with reference to the depth of the well, the supply and quality of the water, and the distance of the garden from the village, if sufficient to enhance much the cost of the conveyance of manure, &c. Thus we have assumed three acres as the maximum extent capable of being watered by means of one of the two bullock mohots, common to this part of the country under the most favourable circumstances. And this number of acres has accordingly been assigned to every mohot when the garden is at no great distance from the village, and the supply of water is ample, of good quality, and near the surface. But it is diminished as the well increases in depth, when its water is insufficient for the supply of a mohot, or of indifferent quality, and when the garden is distant from the village. The rate of assessment upon the number of acres so determined is further modified by the quality of the soil, and the circumstance of there being land enough under the well or not for a rotation of dry crop cultivation. The nature of the soil, however, is not by any means so important in irrigated as in dry crop lands, and we have considered three classes sufficient for the classification of all its varieties.

83. We have five rates of assessment in all for baghaet land, varying from Rs. 5 per acre to Rs. 2, according to the following conditions :—

Good soil, of sufficient extent for a rotation, is assessed at.....	Rs. 5 0 0
Do. not of do. do. do.	4 4 0
Medium soil, of do. do.	3 8 0
Do. not of do. do.	3 0 0
Poor soil of do. do.	2 4 0
Do. not of do. do.	2 0 0

84. This assessment is in a great measure experimental, as we had very few data to guide us in fixing it. The quantity of garden land is altogether too limited to admit of any conclusions of much value being arrived at from a consideration of the revenue paid by it in past years. Most of the gardens had previously paid only the jeeraet rate, and of the rest some had been burdened with an assessment so heavy as to be paid with great difficulty when a portion of it was not remitted. Our present rates are intended to be very moderate, and to leave with the baghaet cultivator a much larger profit than is obtainable by the farmer of jeeraet land, in order to encourage the sinking of wells, which is a hazardous and expensive undertaking, not likely to be entered upon without a conviction of the baghaet cultivation being much the more remunerating of the two.

85. The tarree, or rice lands, are more extensive than the baghaet, and amount in all to 403 acres, inclusive of enams.

86. They have been assessed with reference to their quality of soil and command of water: the rice grown on these lands is of inferior quality, and our inquiries satisfied us that they would not bear a much heavier rate of assessment than dry crop lands of good quality. We have assessed them all at one of the four following rates, viz. Rs. 3, 2½, 2, and 1½ per acre, determined as follows, there being three classes of soil, as in the case of the baghaet, and two classes of water, according as it is obtained from a tank, or merely from the drainage of the upper grounds :—

Good soil watered from a tank is assessed at.....	Rs. 3 0 0
Do. do. hill drainage do	2 8 0
Medium soil do. a tank do	2 0 0
Do. do. hill drainage do	1 8 0
Poor soil do. a tank do	
Do. do. hill drainage do	

87. These rates have occasioned in several instances an increase of the previously existing assessment; but they are in our opinion moderate, and calculated to leave the cultivator a better profit than the jeeraet.

88. Having now described, I hope, with sufficient minuteness, the details of our settlement of the thirty villages of Hoobullee, I will proceed to exhibit its results in a general form, and afterwards to show what immediate effects have followed its introduction at last Jummabundee. The following is an abstract of our settlements :—

Class.	Number of Villages.	Government Land.		Joree Enams.		Surwa Enams.		Total Arable Land.	
		Acres.	Assessment.	Acres.	Assessment.	Acres.	Assessment.	Acres.	Assessment.
1st	17	6,630	8,778	2,251	3,248	2,478	3,070	11,359	15,096
2nd	10	13,084	14,757	6,387	7,807	5,561	6,335	25,032	28,899
3rd	3	11,447	11,374	718	652	2,335	2,384	14,500	14,410
3	30	31,161	34,909	9,356	11,707	10,374	11,789	50,891	58,405

89. The next table contrasts our assessment of Government land with the average realizations, or rather the amount set apart for collection at the Jummabundee on account of Government land, for twenty years immediately preceding the introduction of the new settlement, and also with the Jumma of 1842-43 :—

Class.	Number of Villages.	Government Arable Land, assessed according to			Present Survey Assessment		
		Present Survey, at Rupees	Average of 20 years preceding present Survey, at Rupees	Jumma of 1842-43, the year preceding present Survey, at Rupees	Exceeds average of 20 years preceding by Rupees	Falls short of average of 20 years preceding by Rupees	Exceeds Jumma of 1842-43 by Rupees
1st	17	8,778	10,397	8,535	.....	1,619	243
2nd	10	14,757	13,639	12,783	1,118	.....	1,974
3rd	3	11,374	10,236	9,640	1,138	.....	1,734
3	30	34,909	34,272	30,958	637	1,619	3,951

The rental of the Government land of these thirty villages is fixed at Rs. 34,909 by the new settlement, which is more than the average rental of Government land in cultivation during the twenty previous years of our administration by Rs. 637, while it exceeds that of 1842-43, the year preceding the new settlement, by Rs. 3,951. There can be little doubt that even the rental of 1842-43 could not have been maintained under the old system. We shall not be disappointed, I trust, in anticipating that under the new the rental of that year will soon again be reached, and even exceeded, though that of the

average of all the twenty preceding years of our administration may be incapable of attainment.

90. To elucidate the immediate consequences of the introduction of the new settlement, I have framed the accompanying table, exhibiting the extent of Government land under cultivation, with its assessment as settled at the Jummabundee of 1842-43, the extent of land in cultivation, with its assessment according to the new settlement, as introduced at last Jummabundee, and the extent of land, with its assessment, which the ryots have agreed in our presence to cultivate in the current year 1844-45. A comparison of these entries will show to what extent the revenue suffered immediately from the introduction of the new settlement, and what effect the latter has had on the cultivation and prospects of the current year:—

Years.	Government land in cultivation.		Cultivation of 1844-45 in excess of that of		Assessment of 1843-44 less than that of 1842-43 by Rupees	Assessment of 1844-45	
	Acres.	Assessment.	1842-43, Acres.	1843-44, Acres.		Less than that of 1842-43 by Rupees	Greater than that of 1843-44 by Rupees
1842-43	22,338	30,752	....	....	....	....	....
1843-44	22,850	23,888	1,899	1,387	6,864	3,435	3,429
1844-45	24,237	27,317	....	....	....	....	....

91. The immediate effect, then, of the new settlement, as shown by the statement just given, was to increase the cultivation of the previous year to the extent of 1,387 acres. The real increase was very much more, as ryots had given notice to the Mamlutdar of their intention to relinquish part of their previous holdings,—to the extent, in all, of upwards of two thousand acres, as I am given to understand,—when the promulgation of the new rates induced most of them to refrain from so doing. And the increase we are considering was not brought about by any efforts of ours; on the contrary, our main endeavour, in carrying the settlement into effect, was to impress upon the ryots, by every expedient we could think of, that they were henceforth to consider themselves at perfect liberty to cultivate just as much or as little as best suited themselves, but that it would at the same time be necessary for them to take care not to engage for more land than they felt assured of being able to cultivate with a profit, as the payment of the full rent on it, without remission as heretofore, would be rigidly enforced by Government. And by such efforts we induced a number of impoverished and pauper ryots to relinquish land they had no means of cultivating with advantage, and the retention of which could only serve to make them revenue defaulters, without a chance of bettering their condition.

92. The rental of Government land in cultivation was reduced, as will be seen from the statement, Rs. 6,864 by the operation of the revised rates; but this deficit, it is also shown, will be diminished a half in the current season, and may be expected to disappear altogether in the course of two or three years more, when the revenue will again equal, or more probably exceed, that of the last year of the old assessment. The inequalities of this last were, however, so great, that even our moderate rates have in numerous instances increased the assessment of particular fields, but the justice of this increase was not unfrequently admitted by the ryots themselves, and the settlement, as a whole, has been received with the greatest satisfaction.

93. In addition to the thirty villages which have now been reported on, there are seventeen others included in the Mamlutdar's division of the Hoobullee talooka. The survey operations have been completed in most of these, and it is intended that the new settlement should be brought into operation in all of them at the ensuing Jummabundee. These seventeen villages are either situated in the immediate vicinity of Hoobullee, or amongst the hills; and, for the reasons given in the 66th paragraph of this report, I consider them to possess equal advantages with the 1st class of villages already reported

on, and propose that they should be subjected to the same rates of assessment, viz. Rs. 2 per acre for the best quality of dry crop soil. The garden and rice lands of these villages will also be assessed in the manner which has been detailed in a preceding part of this report.

94. The names of the villages now under consideration are the following:—

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Koordeekéree. | 10. Boodudunhal. |
| 2. Kristnapoor. | 11. Thurggurhal. |
| 3. Vhobulapoor. | 12. Kutnoor. |
| 4. Ramapoor. | 13. Geereeyal. |
| 5. Pursapoor. | 14. Gokool. |
| 6. Rayunhal. | 15. Chemapoor. |
| 7. Gungeewal. | 16. Chewurudgoodd. |
| 8. Bumsomoodr. | 17. Mawunoor. |
| 9. Unchetgeree. | |

95. According to the records of the last survey there are 9,369 acres of Government land in these seventeen villages. Little more than a half of this, however, has been under cultivation during the several years of our administration. The following statement gives the average extent of land in cultivation, and amount of assessment set apart for collection at the Jummabundee for the whole twenty-four, the last ten, and last five years of our administration:—

Number of Villages.	Average extent of Government Land in cultivation for the last 24 years.		Average extent of Government Land in cultivation for the last 10 years.		Average extent of Government Land in cultivation for the last 5 years.	
	Acres.	Assessment.	Acres.	Assessment.	Acres.	Assessment.
17	4,818	7,168	4,626	6,682	4,431	6,749

96. I estimate that the rental of the Government land of these villages, will rather exceed Rs. 12,000 according to the rates of assessment which have just been proposed. This sum is considerably in excess of the amount realized from the Government land in cultivation during our past administration, but I do not anticipate that the large quantity of waste in these villages will be brought under cultivation for some time to come, though fully anticipating that the average collections under the new settlement will very considerably exceed those of past years.

97. The assessment which has now been described is intended to absorb all levies, other than the Government demand, which have hitherto been taken from the ryots on account of land by the hereditary officers, as directed to be done in Mr. Chief Secretary Reid's letter, to your address, dated 9th February last, No. 533. To such levies are, however, excepted the payments in grain by the ryots to the village Bullote for the services performed by the latter, which will continue to be made as heretofore, though not enforced or interfered with by Government. In the forty-seven villages of the Hoobullee talooka under report the Patels and Coolcurnees are the only hereditary officers who make levies of the nature above described. Their total value, as obtained from returns of the emoluments of these officers for the official year 1842-43, is estimated at Rs. 1,663, and this sum is to be considered as incorporated in the new assessment.

98. The total rental of Government land according to the new rates, in all the forty-seven villages now reported on, I estimate at Rs. 47,000. The assessment on the portion of this land in cultivation in 1842-43 was Rs. 36,663, and if we add to this Rs. 1,663 for the levies consolidated in the new assessment, we have a total of Rs. 38,326 for the rental of Government land in cultivation in the last year of the old system, which is Rs. 8,674 less than the maximum rental of Government land under the new settlement.

There can be little doubt, therefore, of the latter proving advantageous to the interests of Government, even when considered as a mere measure of finance.

99. I now come to submit my proposals for the re-assessment of the talooka of Nuwulgoond. Its peculiarities have already been described in the 16th and following paragraphs of this report, to which I would direct your attention. The district is now managed by a Mamlutdar stationed at Nuwulgoond, with two subordinate Mahalkurrees at Yawugul and Unneegéree. It contains in all seventy-eight villages, distributed as shown in the following statement :—

Under what Officer.	In what ancient Division included.	
	Number of Villages.	Name of Division.
Nuwulgoond Mamlutdar	11	Nuwulgoond Summut.
	10	Morub "
	11	Roteegwad "
	2	Phootgaon.
	1	Koonoor Turuph.
Total.....	35	
Yawugul Mahalkurree	14	Nuwulgoond Summut.
	16	Yawugul "
Total.....	30	
Unneegéree Mahalkurree	13	Unneegéree Mahal.
Grand Total.....	78	

The four summut of Nuwulgoond, Roteegwad, Morub, and Yawugul, entered in the statement, have, with the exception of a few villages, been included in the talooka since our acquisition of the country. The Unneegéree mahal and remaining villages lapsed to us a few years back, at the deaths of the late Chief of Napanee and the widow of Goklé.

100. The uniformity everywhere characteristic of the level plain of Nuwulgoond applies also, in great measure, to its soil and climate, which do not present the remarkable variations to be found in Hoobullee. The soil is a deep black mould, in which, however, deteriorating ingredients are generally present in considerable abundance; though its average quality throughout the different villages composing the talooka is very much the same. The climate of Nuwulgoond, however, is perceptibly different in different localities. The most westerly summut of Morub and Roteegwad receive more of the monsoon showers than the rest of the district, and the summut of Yawugul is in this respect the most unfavourably situated of all. In consequence of this the khurreef, or early crops, in the westerly villages of Morub and Roteegwad amount to nearly a half of the whole harvest; while in the central divisions of Nuwulgoond and Unneegéree they do not exceed a third, and in Yawugul they are little more than a fourth. I have said that the westerly villages are most favoured as to climate, but their relative distances to the west of any line drawn due north and south would not represent their respective advantages in this particular. Their climate is regulated by their distance from the hilly country to the westward, on the borders of which the district of Hoobullee is situated. The general direction of the limit of this hilly district, in the neighbourhood of which I am reporting, is not exactly north and south, but north-west and south-east. A parallel to it in the Nuwulgoond talooka is found in a line passing through the towns of Nuwulgoond and Unneegéree; and the relative distances of the villages westward with reference to such a line will show with tolerable accuracy their respective advantages in point of climate.

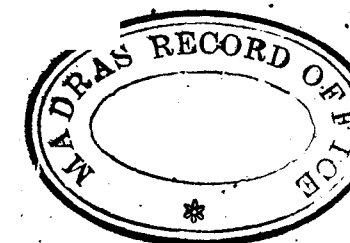
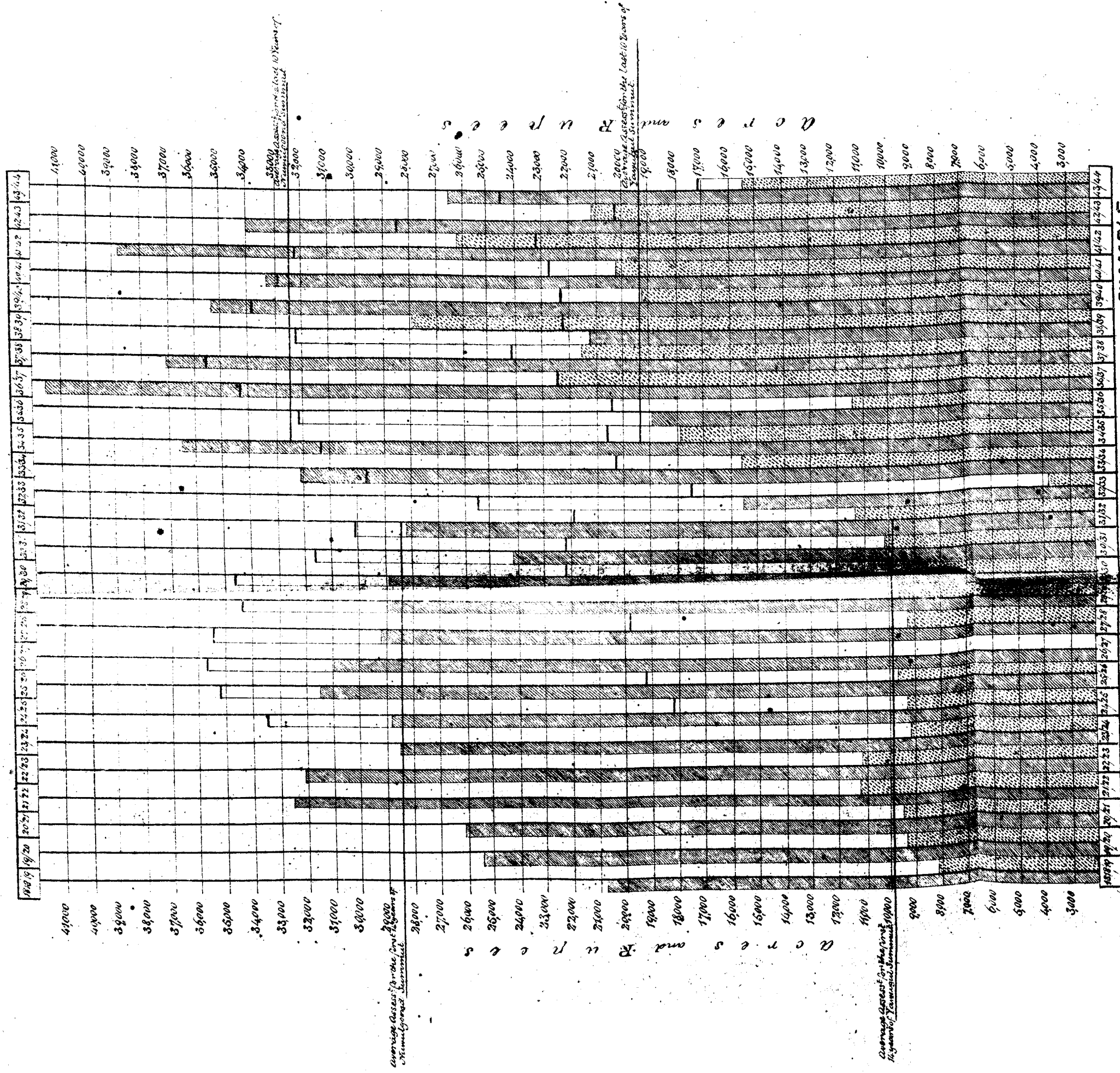


DIAGRAM exhibiting the annual extent of Government Land in **CULTIVATION** in the New England and Yanvigul Summits of the Vamigul and Tulok, together with the annual amount of **ASSESSMENT** on such land set apart for collection from 1818 to 1843.



EXPLANATION

A scale for Acres and Rupees is carried across the diagram. The vertical lines from top to bottom of the Diagram represent the Official Years noted at their extremities and the shaded and dotted columns in contact with these lines, refer to such Years. The horizontal summit of each shaded and dotted column shows the Assessment set apart for collection in each year. The horizontal strong marked line shows the extent of land in cultivation in each year, upon which the assessment of the shaded column is which it relates was levied.

EXAMPLE

In the Year 1830 '37. The cultivation and Assessment of Government Land were:
 34,350 Acres in the New England Summit.
 46,641 Rupees in the Yanvigul Summit.
 28,970 Rupees in the Yanvigul Summit.

101. In regard to markets, all the villages of this district are much on an equality. The talooka contains no large mart, and the surplus produce of the ryots is mostly disposed of to their own village dealers, or retained by themselves until some favourable opportunity occurs for disposing of it to advantage. Still, as the general stream of exportation is westwards, the villages most favourably situated as to climate command, in addition, some trifling advantage in respect of prices over their more eastern neighbours.

102. In considering the new assessment, I will direct your attention in the first instance to the summut of Morub, Roteegwad, Nuwulgoond, and Yawugul, for which alone I have obtained accounts for a sufficient number of years back to enable me to trace with any accuracy the effects of past management. For these four divisions I have complete accounts of the Jummabundee settlements for all the years of our administration, with the exception of that of Yawugul for the year 1826-27.

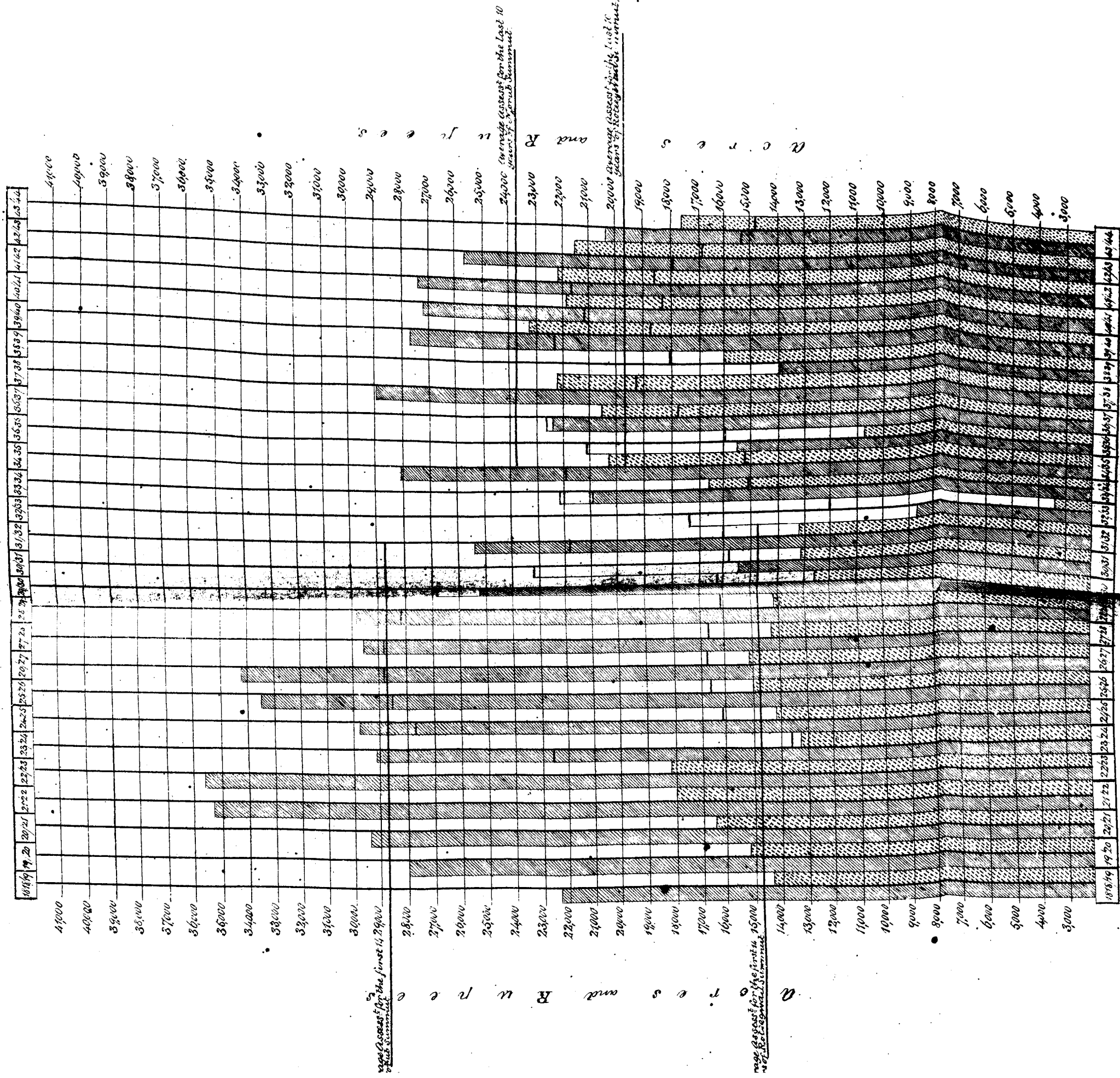
103. The difficulties of keeping up the cultivation and realizing the revenue of the Nuwulgoond talooka have been annually increasing of late, and these were, in my opinion, accurately accounted for in your land revenue report for 1841-42, where you called the attention of Government to the particularly high assessment of this district, which had never been realized.

104. The assessment imposed at the late survey was much in excess of the capabilities of the talooka, but, as already related in my 42nd paragraph, the district officers managed by various expedients, while nominally introducing it, to keep things very much in the state in which they were before. The discrepancy, however, between the survey assessment and the actual Jummabundee was so large, as apparently to have induced the settling officers to endeavour by all means in their power to bring the two more nearly together. By degrees, and from year to year, the Jummabundee, or portion of the full assessment set apart for realization, became heavier with reference to the extent of land in cultivation. All sorts of expedients were resorted to for preventing ryots relinquishing any part of their holdings, and inducing them to break up waste. The system apparently succeeded for a time, and Collectors were enabled to present flattering pictures of extending cultivation and increasing revenues; but this fallacious prosperity necessarily had its limit when the increasing demands made upon the cultivators came to exceed their ability to meet them. Beyond this point, no bribes of waste lands given rent-free, or threats of imprisonment and confiscation of property, could avail to raise the revenues a single rupee, or even to preserve them long at the elevation which had thus been attained.

105. I have constructed the accompanying diagrams in illustration of these remarks. They exhibit the extent of Government land in cultivation in each of the four summut of Morub, Roteegwad, Nuwulgoond, and Yawugul, and the portion of the assessment on such land set apart for realization at each Jummabundee, for all the years of our administration. The column for each summut is marked differently. The marked portion represents the assessment, and the horizontal strong line in each column represents the extent of land in cultivation, measured by the scale of acres and rupees carried across the diagrams.* An inspection of the latter, with the aid of the example given at foot, will enable you at once to understand their use. The late survey assessment was always greatly in excess of the actual amount set apart for collection, and I have therefore thought it better to leave it out of the diagram altogether, which it might serve to confuse. It will be found, however, in Statements E, F, G, H, I of my Appendix. According as the horizontal line representing the cultivation of each year is below or above the summut of the marked column which represents the assessment, the average rate of assessment on the land in cultivation for that year was within or in excess of one rupee per acre.

* The cultivation in acres is only shown upon the diagram for the years subsequent to the introduction of the former survey measurement.

DIAGRAM Exhibiting the annual extent of Government Land in **CULTIVATION** in the Morib and Rotegwad Summits of the Nimulgoond Talook, together with the annual amount of **ASSESSMENT** on such land set apart for Collection at each Jomunabundee from 1818/19 to 1863/44.



The Morib Summit is stretched, the Rotegwad Summit is dotted.
The explanations at foot of the Diagram, the Nimulgoond and Jomunabundee apply also to this.

106. Let us now turn to the column of the diagram for 1824-25, the year following the nominal introduction of the late survey assessment. We here observe the cultivation line to be above the assessment line in all the summuts, with the exception of Morub, and on tracing its fluctuations through successive years, it will be found to have remained so until the famine year, 1832-33. In other words, for the nine years from 1824-25 to 1832-33, inclusive, the average rate of assessment on the cultivated land of the summuts of Roteegwad, Nuwulgoond, and Yawugul, was considerably less than one rupee per acre, and throughout this period, excepting the last year of famine, it will be noticed that the fluctuations of cultivation and assessment are remarkably limited, which I regard as the surest evidence we could have of the Government demand being moderate. In 1833-34 the forcing system seems to have come into vigorous operation, and with its aid the revenue mounted up, though with great fluctuations, for several years, until it reached the maximum, beyond which the screw would not operate, when it again fell off, and has continued to decline, though by no means steadily, ever since. Throughout this period the average rate of assessment has been considerably more than a rupee per acre in all the three summuts, and the annual fluctuations of the revenue immense. We have here a tolerably certain indication of the assessment being excessive.

107. In the summut of Morub, which I have not yet noticed, it will be seen that the assessment was high when the last survey settlement came into operation, the average rate being considerably in excess of a rupee per acre; and the effect of this was to bring on the period of distress earlier in this summut than in the other three. The revenue and cultivation rapidly fell off, and for the last fifteen years they exhibited the extreme fluctuations which are ever the concomitants of over-assessment.

108. We have in the revenue history of these summuts traced, on the preceding diagrams, a striking picture of the evil consequences of adopting too high a standard of assessment. The survey rates are always beyond the collections, and the settling officer, in his natural anxiety to prevent the interests of Government from suffering, fears that this may be owing to combinations between the villages and district officials. He becomes more sparing in his remissions, and severe in his instructions to the Mamlutdars for the collection of the revenue. The ryots become the more clamorous for remissions, and obstinate in withholding the payments demanded of them; and, knowing that their only chance of success rests in convincing the authorities of their poverty, resort without scruple to falsehood and evasion for this purpose. The collecting of the revenue is little better than a contest of oppression on the one hand, met by fraud and cunning on the other. The taxes intended for the preservation of peace and morality among the people become the occasion of wide-spread contention and corruption. Your own knowledge of this district will, I think, enable you to admit the justice of these conclusions. There are many cultivators of the Morub summut especially, who would appear to consider it a point of honor to withhold their revenue until they have been sent to jail, or are on the point of being so. This reminds one of the miserable fellah of Egypt, who often submits to a severe flagellation before suffering the full amount of the Government demand to be extorted from him.

109. With all this, however, to prove that the present taxation of the district is excessive, I would not have it inferred that the cultivators are nearly all, or even generally, in a state of destitution. Their villages are generally populous, their houses in tolerable repair, their cattle in good condition, themselves tolerably well clad; and in all of these respects I can state, from my own observation, that they are much better off than similar classes in the Sholapoor, Poona, and Ahmednuggur Collectorates were previous to the introduction of the revised assessment. At the same time, I am fully convinced that their condition has become greatly deteriorated of late years, notwithstanding the large increase of the cotton cultivation, which must have been of great assistance in enabling them to meet the increased taxation of the same period.

110. Upon a consideration of the information furnished by the diagrams alone, one would be led to the conclusion that the average rate of assessment for the Nuwulgoond talooka would require to be very considerably less than a rupee per acre. In the only years which present any appearance of prosperity, it was so, and in Morub, the most favoured summut of all perhaps in climate, it may be seen, that in a few years after the introduction of the late survey the cultivation and collections fell off greatly, notwithstanding that the previous assessment had been very little over a rupee per acre. And we must also bear in mind that there was, in all probability, some extent of concealed cultivation, which would reduce it in reality to perhaps not more than a rupee per acre. But, on the other hand, it is to be recollected, that a great part of the cowl land, nominally under tillage, was only half cultivated, and, consequently, that the assessment actually paid from the produce of the lands in proper tilth must have been greatly in excess of the average rate. The very low assessment of the Yawugul summut in the early years of our administration was occasioned by extensive grants of cowls, which were given with the view of attracting population to the district, which had suffered greatly in the disorders which afflicted the Carnatic previous to our conquest.

111. And in consequence of the injurious system of forcing cultivation, which for many years past has been in full operation in this district, it is difficult to arrive at any satisfactory results from a consideration of the rate of assessment in different villages. Some of the very worst villages are found to be now paying a comparatively low rate of assessment, and far below that of others in a much more flourishing condition. As an instance, I may quote the village of Kunnoor, in the Nuwulgoond summut, which, although most impoverished, has, on an average of the last five years, paid only at the rate of Rs. 0-11-5 per acre on its lands in cultivation. And why?—Because its ryots were obliged to hold much more land than they could bring into proper tilth. And this nominally low rate is in reality high, when considered, not with reference to the extent of land under tillage, but to the quantity of produce raised upon it. All the villages of the Nuwulgoond summut are considered to be badly off, but Chellukwad, which is perhaps the best of them, has paid an average rate of Rs. 1-7-5 per acre on the cultivation of the last five years. All the villages of Morub are, in like manner, considered to be in a decaying condition. The three worst are Teerlapoor, Hul Koosoowugul, and Ullugwadee; the first of which has paid an average rate of Rs. 1-13-3; the second Rs. 1-2-8; and the third Rs. 1-1-9 per acre. In the Roteegwad summut the most flourishing village is Koleewad, which has paid an average rate of Rs. 0-14-4 per acre. Seergooppee, also a good village, has paid Rs. 1-3-0 per acre. In Yawugul summut Urshungod and Kongwad, both good villages, have paid a little over Rs. 0-14-0, while Bhoplapoor, one of the best, has only paid Rs. 0-8-9 per acre.

112. The Unneegéree mahal, which lapsed to Government at the death of the late Neepaneekur, was, like all the other jagheer states in this neighbourhood, managed much more liberally than our districts. And this, we may rest assured, had been brought about by experience having proved to these Jagheerdars that the liberal system was that which brought most money into their treasuries, and not from any particular regard for the interests of the ryots apart from their own. And in this particular instance, we may feel certain that the Neepaneekur, knowing his territory was to pass to the British Government at his decease, would take care to make it yield as much as possible during his life-time. Here, then, we have an example of a fairly managed district on the Native system, and which we may reasonably expect to yield some more trustworthy data for our new assessment than the hap-hazard fluctuating settlements of our own over-assessed villages could supply. The Neepaneekur's system of management has been continued for the five years the mahal has been in our possession, and, from the accounts of this period, and the operations of the present survey, I have obtained the following particulars.

113. One of the most flourishing villages of Unneegéree is Bhudrapoor. The whole of the Government lands are under cultivation, with the exception of about 20 acres. The average rate of assessment paid for the last five years was *ten annas, three pies per acre*. Seidapoor is another village not particularly flourishing; its average rate was *nine annas, two pies per acre*. Mujjeegoodd, with nearly all its lands under cultivation, had an average rate of *ten annas, three pies*; and Untoor, with less than one-fifth of its arable land waste, *twelve annas, five pies per acre*. The most impoverished village in the Unneegéree mahal is Nagnoor, of which the average rate is *one rupee, one anna, and nine pies per acre*. This village has fallen off under our management in a most remarkable manner. In 1249 Fuslee, the first year of our management, out of 472 acres of Government land, 364 were cultivated; in 1250, 362 acres; in 1251 324 acres; in 1252, 279 acres; and last year only 152 acres. In other words, the cultivation in five years has fallen off from three-fourths of the arable land to less than one-third. The fact seems to be, that the Native Ryotwar system requires at once a much greater latitude of discretion to be allowed to the village officers in settling for the cultivation, and a much closer scrutiny of their proceedings by the Mamlutdar, or other superior authority, than can be permitted or effected under our system. And to this it may be attributed that all our attempts to administer the Ryotwar system, without the aid of a survey, have met with such indifferent success.

114. During the last five years the average rate of assessment per acre of Government land was *twelve annas, four pies* for the whole Unneegéree mahal.

115. After the fullest consideration of the foregoing circumstances, in connection with all the other information in my possession regarding the state of the talooka, I have been led to the conviction that our new rental must be pitched considerably below what would yield an average rate of one rupee per acre, to afford the new settlement any chance of success. And I will now, without further discussion, proceed to inform you of the rates according to which I propose to re-assess the talooka. I have noticed in my 100th and 101st paragraphs the advantages which certain parts of the talooka possess over others. To meet these inequalities, I propose apportioning the villages of the district into three classes—the first and most westerly division to comprise most of the villages of the Morub and Roteegwad summut; the second the remaining villages of these summut, with the whole of Nuwulgoond, the Unneegéree mahal, and a few villages of Yawugul; the third the remaining villages of the last-mentioned summut.

116. The first or westerly division I consider to be on a par with the 3rd class of the Hoobullee villages, which, it will be recollected, are assessed at Rs. 1-4-0 for the best description of soil. I propose assessing the 1st class of Nuwulgoond villages at Rs. 1-5-0 per acre of first rate soil, the increase of one anna being intended to meet a slight inequality of the classification of the two districts. The Hoobullee villages were the first classified, and from the strong contrast of the red and black soils which are there often found in juxtaposition, our classers were led to estimate the latter a little over the standard which further experience enabled us to carry out in Nuwulgoond. The rates here proposed are estimated to yield an average assessment of fifteen annas per acre.

117. The second or central division, consisting chiefly of summut Nuwulgoond and the Unneegéree mahal, it is proposed to assess at Rs. 1-2-0 for 1st class soil; so as to give an average rate of thirteen annas per acre.

118. The third or easterly division, composed of the major part of summut Yawugul, I would rate at Rs. 1 for 1st class soil, which is equivalent to an average rate of Rs. 0-11-6 on good and bad soils together.

119. To these classes I propose making an exception in the case of the village of Hulleehal, now under the Unneegéree Mahalkurree, but which it is proposed to transfer to Hoobullee, as being situated within a few miles of the latter town. This village

should be included in the 2nd class of Hoobullee villages, and assessed at Rs. 1-8-0 for 1st class soil. Its exact position will be ascertained from an inspection of the map.

120. The foregoing are to be considered the ordinary rates of assessment, with reference to the capabilities of the soil; but they will in some instances be increased in the immediate vicinity of villages, where manure can be conveyed to the fields at comparatively little cost; and in others be decreased, as in the case of outlying fields, at such a distance from the villages as materially to enhance the labour and expense of cultivation. Very considerable allowance on the latter account will require to be made in this talooka, in consequence of the large size of most of the villages, their most distant field being often at a distance of five miles and upwards from the homestead. The cultivator of such lands must, at least, traverse this distance with his cattle twice every day, in going out to and returning from the farm, which must occupy several hours, and diminish correspondingly the quantity of field work he is capable of performing. Every such abatement or increase of the ordinary rate is made by the Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent, after a particular consideration of the circumstances affecting the value of each field.

121. Besides the dry crop land to which the foregoing rates are applicable, there are a very few gardens in two or three villages of Nuwulgoond; but in a district so ill supplied with water it would be desirable, in my opinion, not to subject them to any extra assessment, more especially as any increase of revenue from this source would be too insignificant to merit notice. Should Government, however, consider it desirable, for the sake of uniformity, to bring all irrigated lands, wherever found, under a higher than the ordinary dry crop assessment, I can impose a slight extra rate on the gardens of this district, as has been done in the case of those of Hoobullee.

122. I will now annex an estimate of the rental of the talooka under the rates which have just been proposed, to enable us to compare the resulting settlement with those which have preceded it, as well as to judge of its immediate and prospective effects on the revenue of the talooka. My estimate has been prepared with great care, and I do not expect that it will differ at all considerably from the results of the completed settlement, when obtained from the calculation of the assessment on each field.

123. But, first, I will present you with a list of the villages included in each division, to enable you, with the aid of the accompanying map, to judge of the propriety of my distribution. Hulleehal, as falling into the 2nd class of Hoobullee villages, is omitted. The two villages of Heere Moolungee and Hugnoor may seem out of place in the 1st class, but they are so entered on account of their superior climate, which is attributable to their proximity to the Manowlee range of hills, situated beyond the limit of the map to the north:—

1ST CLASS.		2ND CLASS.		3RD CLASS.	
Name of Summit or Division.	Name of Village.	Name of Summit or Division.	Name of Village.	Name of Summit or Division.	Name of Village.
MORUB.	1 Morub.	NUWULGOOND.	1 Nuwulgoond.	YAWUGUL.	1 Yawugul.
	2 Goonegol.		2 Kummarkop.		2 Kongwad.
	3 Tullee Morub.		3 Chellukwad.		3 Kouzgerree.
	4 Seerkol.		4 Gobburgoompee.		4 Huduglee.
	5 Seroor.		5 Belvuttee.		5 Khanapoor.
	6 Kubbenoor.		6 Goodeesagur.		6 Kurkeekuttee.
	7 Teerlapoor.		7 Shelawudee.		7 Goolgoondee.
	8 Hul Koosowugul.		8 Ummurgool.		8 Kuppulee.
	9 Belhal.		9 Sotukunhal.		9 Ridder Nagnoor.
ROTEEGWAD.	10 Roteegwad.		10 Kududhulle.		10 Mullapoor.
	11 Seergooppee.		11 Moognoor.		11 Malwad.
	12 Nullawudee.		12 Bunhuttee.		12 Bhoplapoor.
	13 Seesuveenhulle.		13 Koorlgerree.		
	14 Munnukwad.		14 Urhuttee.		
	15 Bullurwad.		15 Tuduhul.		
	16 Konkun Koorhuttee.		16 Naeknoor.		
	17 Doondoor.		17 Bhoganoor.		
NUWULGOOND.	18 Pudésoor.	ROTEEGWAD.	19 Yummeegnoor.		
	19 Yummeegnoor.		20 Belloor.		
	20 Belloor.		21 Heere Moolungee.		
	21 Heere Moolungee.		22 Hunsee.		
UNNEEGEEREE.	22 Hunsee.		23 Koleewad.		
			22 Nagurhulle.		
KONOOR.	23 Bunnoor.		23 Belhar.		
	24 Kawulwad.				
KONOOR.	25 Hugnoor.		24 Ullugwadee.		
			25 Mudgoonkee.		
			26 Heerékop.		
			27 Urshungod.		
			28 Benkunkop.		
			29 Unneegéree.		
			30 Hulleekéree.		
			31 Bussapoor.		
			32 Bhudrapoor.		
			33 Kondeekop.		
			34 Sasveehulle.		
			35 Untoor.		
			36 Mujjeegoodd.		
			37 Seidapoor.		
			38 Nagnoor.		
			39 Mulleegwad.		
			40 Kulkeree.		

124. The following table contains the estimated acres and assessment, at the proposed rates, of Government arable land, in the villages entered in the three classes just given :—

Classes.	Government Arable Land.	
	Acres.	Assessment.
1st Class, composed of 25 villages	56,349	52,827
2nd " " 40 "	88,897	72,229
3rd " " 12 "	26,107	18,764
Total 77 villages	171,353	1,43,820

125. And to enable us to compare this assessment with that shown upon the diagrams, I have drawn out the following estimate, exhibiting the new assessment on the Government land of the several summuts, and other divisions included in the talooka, and compared it, in those cases for which I have accounts, with the average assessment of the first fourteen years of our administration, in which alone the country was at all flourishing; with the average assessment the last ten years of our management, when the Government demand has been most oppressive, and with the assessment of last year :—

Name of Division.	Number of Villages in each.	Assessment on Government Land at the proposed rates.	New Assessment in excess of that on Land in Cultivation for the first 14 years of our management by Rupees	New Assessment less than that on Land in Cultivation for the first 14 years of our management by Rupees	New Assessment in excess of that on Cultivated Land for the last 10 years of our management by Rupees	New Assessment in excess of that on Cultivated Land for the year 1843-44 by Rupees
Nuwulgoond	25	40,000	5,945	....	1,932	8,252
Morub	10	29,874	....	741	4,271	7,883
Roteegwad	11	20,780	5,979	....	1,194	3,209
Yawugul	16	24,219	12,332	....	3,079	7,168
Unneegéree	12	26,561	....	....	....	6,486
Phootgaon	2	1,775	....	....	....	431
Konoor	1	611	....	....	....	275
Total	77	1,43,820	24,256	741	10,476	33,704

126. We see from this abstract that the rental of Government land, according to the proposed rates, exceeds the assessment of the land in cultivation for the first fourteen years of our administration by Rs. 23,515, for the last ten years by Rs. 10,476, and for the last year by Rs. 33,704. If the new assessment, then, be attended with the success I confidently look for, the average collections of the first fourteen years of our administration, when the district was comparatively flourishing, will be surpassed; those even of the last ten years of over-taxation will probably be equalled, and the revenue of last year will be greatly exceeded under the new settlement. The immediate effect of the latter will, of course, be to reduce the revenue very considerably, but, judging by the results of moderate assessment in other parts of the country, we may expect that a very few years will suffice for its recovery.

127. The preceding remarks are confined to the Government lands. The following statement, however, is an estimate of the amount of the new assessment on all lands, of whatever description, comprised in the talooka :—

Name of Division.	Number of Villages.	Government Land.		Joree Enam Land.		Surwa Enam Land.		Service Enam Land held by Shetsundeas.		Total.	
		Acres.	Assessment.	Acres.	Assessment.	Acres.	Assessment.	Acres.	Assessment.	Acres.	Assessment.
Nuwulgoond	25	47,515	40,000	21,565	18,154	17,350	14,606	8,049	6,776	94,479	79,536
Roteegwad	11	23,321	20,780	5,070	4,518	4,837	4,310	3,808	3,447	37,006	33,055
Morub	10	32,093	29,874	10,570	9,659	9,530	8,708	5,809	5,308	58,602	53,549
Yawugul	16	32,821	24,219	8,539	6,301	7,184	5,391	4,304	3,176	52,848	38,907
Unneegéree	12	32,167	26,561	4,517	3,730	8,245	6,808	13,208	10,906	58,137	48,005
Phootgaon	2	2,184	1,774	641	520	801	650	182	149	3,808	3,093
Konoor	1	652	611	71	66	64	60	82	77	869	814
Total	77	171,353	1,43,819	50,973	42,948	48,011	40,443	35,502	29,839	305,839	2,57,049

128. It will be impossible to state the effect of the new assessment on the revenue now received by Government on account of joree and surwa enam lands, until the emoluments of hereditary officers shall have been inquired into and settled by the committee branch of the survey. * And until this is done, it is not intended to bring the new settlement into operation in the case of such lands, though it would, for several reasons, be desirable that the settlement of the emolument of hereditary officers should be effected simultaneously with the introduction of the new assessment.

129. As in the case of the Hoobullee villages, the proposed rates for Nuwulgoond will absorb the direct levies on account of land now made by the hereditary officers from the ryots. These levies consist chiefly, but not entirely, as in Hoobullee, of the huks of Patels and Coolurnees, as the Sur Deshpandeh and Deshpandeh of summut Nuwulgoond, and the Desae of Unneegeree, also levy hoogee from the ryots. The total value of these huks for the official year 1842-43 is estimated at Rs. 2,317, and this amount must now be considered as consolidated in the new assessment. But I have not taken it into account in comparing the latter with the revenue of the past years, as there are outstanding balances of land revenue for which no deduction has been made in constructing the diagrams of past settlements, which fully equal the value of the huks incorporated in the new assessment. On an average of the last five years, the collections of the Nuwulgoond talooka have fallen short of the Jumma bundee settlement by upwards of Rs. 2,800 per annum, which is more than an equivalent for the above-mentioned sum of Rs. 2,317, at which the direct levies of the hereditary officers have been valued.

130. I am not aware that anything of importance remains to be noticed in explanation of the rates of assessment now submitted for the approval of Government; but before closing this report, I may be permitted to add a few observations on the manner of giving effect to the new settlements, and the future management of the districts to which they refer.

131. Our Native revenue servants in this province do not yet generally understand the importance of securing to the ryot perfect freedom of action. They have been in the habit of considering the extent of cultivation, however brought about, to be an index of the flourishing or decaying condition of a district; every increase being taken as an evidence of prosperity, and every decrease of the reverse. Consequently great part of the energy and time of our most active Native servants has been wasted in ruinous attempts to force cultivation, beyond the means and exigencies of the cultivators. This pernicious interference with the private concerns of our ryots has been checked of late years; but it must be wholly got rid of, in order to afford the new order of things a fair chance of success. In Nuwulgoond there are many individuals holding land who are dependent upon the labour of each day for a meal, and possess no ostensible means of cultivating at all. By begging and borrowing they obtain a little grain and a couple of bullocks to sow their fields; and at harvest time, if the produce be unequal to the discharge of the Government assessment, they are no worse off than before; for, possessing no property which could be distrained in liquidation of it, they are sure of obtaining a remission of the irrecoverable balance due by them at the close of the season. Our first care, in giving effect to the new settlement, should be to get rid of the whole of this class of people, whom it seems almost absurd to consider as cultivators. A considerable reduction of cultivation may be the consequence of this step; but the loss of revenue will be next to nothing, for the individuals in question pay but little, while the lands they vacate will soon be occupied by better men. Whenever it is evident that a revenue defaulter has not sufficient means to cultivate his lands with success, he ought to be obliged to relinquish them wholly or in part, if unable to pay up his balance, and give security for the due discharge of the full assessment in future. Such security, also, should be strictly enforced, and not considered a mere form, as at present. Remissions, if given at all, should be granted most sparingly, and not without requiring the ryot to relinquish part of his holding, or furnish good security for next year's revenue, in all cases where the defalcations may be traceable to his own indolence or want of judgment, and not to causes beyond his control.

132. Under a strict, but in reality merciful system of management, such as I have here ventured to suggest, pauperism would be got rid of, and industry receive its due reward and encouragement. Some may apprehend that it would have the effect of

throwing a large extent of land out of cultivation, and seriously curtailing the revenue; but I have no such fears, as the number of cultivators who possess the means of extending their farms with advantage under the new settlement, and will gladly avail themselves of the opportunity for doing so, is amply sufficient to ensure an extension of cultivation more than equal to what may be relinquished by those of insufficient means. But were the case not so, I should still think it far preferable to place our system of land revenue management on a sound basis, rather than continue what is indefensible, to avoid a temporary sacrifice of revenue, too trifling almost for notice when considered, as it should be, with reference to the revenues of the Presidency at large.

133. I would further recommend, as of great importance to the success of the new settlement, that a change be made in the periods at which the revenue instalments become due. At present the entire year's revenue falls due in four equal monthly instalments, beginning with the 15th of November in the Hoobullee villages, and a month later in the talooka of Nuwulgoond. Of late, however, in the case of Hoobullee, a slight modification has been made in the system, to the extent of collecting only the revenue due on the khurreef or early harvest at the November and December instalments.

134. On the 15th November, however, when the collecting season opens, none of the early or khurreef harvest is ready for market, and every ryot who has to look to his crop for the payment of the Government demand must be forced to borrow money upon it, in order to meet the latter, at rates of interest which will be high in proportion to his exigencies. And while the revenue continues to be collected at this unseasonable period of the year, there is little hope of rescuing the cultivator from the hands of the money-lender, even under a revised assessment. The case is even worse as respects the rubbee, or late harvest; for at the last of the present instalments in the case of Hoobullee, or the 15th February, the whole of this crop is standing on the ground.

135. In fact, there is very little indeed of the khurreef harvest ready for market before January, and of the rubbee before the latter end of March, or beginning of April; so that, under our present mode of collection, it may be concluded that all the revenue coming into the treasury previous to the expiration of the regular instalments has been borrowed by the ryots at high rates of interest. The injurious effects of this practice upon them are too evident to require illustration, and its continuance would prove a most serious obstacle to the success of the new settlement.

136. In the Mamlatdar's division of Hoobullee, about two-thirds of the harvest are khurreef, and one-third rubbee. I think, therefore, that the present plan of collecting the revenue by four equal monthly instalments may be continued with advantage; and that all that is necessary is to make the first instalment fall due two months later than at present, or on the 15th January. In Nuwulgoond the case is reversed, as the khurreef crop may there be estimated at one-third, and the rubbee at two-thirds of the whole harvest. In this case, also, I would collect the revenue by the same four instalments; but, in consequence of the bulk of the crop being rubbee, I would limit the amount of the two first instalments to three annas in each rupee of revenue, and increase that of the two last to five annas in each rupee, so as to accommodate our collections to the state of the crop.

137. By these changes the two early instalments, due on 15th January and February respectively, might be discharged from *bona fide* sales of the early crop, which by that time will be ready for market, and in like manner the two last instalments by sales of the rubbee, so as to enable every ryot who pleased to discharge his payments to Government without the intervention of the money-lender at all. Government, in approving of similar alterations in the periods at which the revenue instalments were to be considered due, proposed by me for adoption in the case of certain districts of the Sholapoor Collectorate, made the following observations.

"The loss of security to which Government may be exposed by such an arrangement is of trifling importance in comparison with the advantages which would accrue to the ryots, by their being thus kept out of the hands of the money-lenders; and the power thus given to them to dispose of their produce at more favourable periods than at present will tend to create a greater certainty of the full assessment of the year being paid." And the anticipations of Government in the case of the districts referred to were most fully realized. The revenue was afterwards collected with little trouble, and punctually paid as the instalments became due, without, as there was every reason to believe, the ryots having occasion to borrow money for the purpose. And I feel assured that similar good effects would attend the adoption of the changes I propose to be made in the periods of the revenue instalments here.

138. There is another change that would greatly promote the success of the new settlement, and by which I would supplant the present cumbrous method of writing the village papers by one more simple and efficient. The Jummabundee "Chetta," or record of the annual settlement, now forms, in the case of a large village, a huge volume, of which three copies have to be made annually by the accountant. It contains the name of every ryot, the number of his household, cattle, agricultural implements, &c. with the reasons, real or pretended, for all changes that may have occurred in the extent of his holding and concerns in the course of the year, together with other multifarious matters, which it would be tedious even to mention. The preparation of this, and the other Jummabundee papers of the season, occupy the village accountants for the better part of three months, during which time they are kept at the Mamlutdar's Cutcherry, and the business of collecting the revenues, and performing the other duties of their offices, is unavoidably neglected. Whatever is of real value in the abovementioned records is hidden by their great bulk, which renders any regular examination of their contents by European officers out of the question. In fact, they are annually prepared at a great expenditure of valuable time and labour, to be deposited on the record shelves of the Cutcherry, and never looked at afterwards. The evil here brought to notice is a serious one, and, if not remedied, will greatly obstruct the proper administration of the new settlement. If the suggestion be approved of, I shall be happy to draw out forms of such Jummabundee papers as I conceive necessary under the present survey assessment, which might be tried at the ensuing annual settlement, and afterwards submitted, with any alteration that might be found desirable, for the approval of Government. The collection of statistical information as to the condition of the villages, when required for any particular object, should be obtained by inquiries instituted for the purpose, and not, as at present, from any part of the routine business of the village officers, which, without this addition, is sufficiently heavy.

139. If the foregoing suggestions for the improvement of the revenue management of the districts referred to in this report be approved of, and carried into effect, the success of the new settlement will, in my opinion, be ensured. But, apart from revenue administration, there are subjects having a most important bearing on the interests of this part of the Presidency. The districts under report, with the rest of this province, are dependent on exports of raw produce for the payment of the Government revenue, and imports of salt, metals, and other articles required for internal consumption. The amount of these exports, therefore, will furnish an accurate index of the prosperity of the country. To facilitate and increase them ought to be our chief object; and, fortunately for the prospects of this province, the article of cotton, for which the demand may be considered unlimited, might be cultivated and exported to a very much larger extent than it is. The value of this staple to the grower here is greatly diminished, however, by the expense of carriage to the coast, occasioned by the want of roads passable for wheeled carriages. Nearly the entire exports from these parts to the coast

are conveyed thither upon pack bullocks, and the disadvantages of such a costly mode of conveyance to the cultivator here are too evident to require to be more than noticed.

140. The Madras Government, I have heard, has in contemplation the construction of a good cart road from the upper country to the bunder of Compta, which would be of very great advantage to this Collectorate. But were this road completed, there would still remain a line of ghauts between Sirseh and Khandalla, on the Bhore Ghaut, upwards of two hundred miles in length, without being penetrated by a single road of easy access for wheeled carriages. That from Belgaum to Vingorla, over the Ram Ghaut, from the steepness of its slopes and the want of bridges, may be considered unfit for cart traffic. And when we consider the vast increase of trade and revenue which has accrued to the Bombay Presidency from the opening of the few lines of road that have been made through the Western Ghauts, we may feel assured that the expense of constructing a good line of road from this important province to the coast would be quickly and amply repaid. And if, as there is reason to hope, the cultivation of cotton here be extended, and its quality improved, the speedy construction of a good road to ensure its cheap and secure conveyance to the coast becomes of the more urgent importance.

141. But looking at the little that has been done in the way of opening new lines of road of late years, one is almost inclined to despair of seeing this important desideratum supplied. With the most anxious desire on the part of Government to carry through such undertakings, and with lines of road surveyed, and the practicability of their construction demonstrated, nothing can be done from the want of qualified officers to make plans and estimates of the details—while to wait till this want can be supplied seems almost equivalent to giving up the roads altogether. Under these circumstances, I would venture to ask if it might not be possible to have roads constructed without any other agency than is already at the command of Government? and are preliminary plans and estimates of the construction and expense of every bridge, drain, cutting, and embankment in a proposed line of road, absolutely indispensable to the successful execution of the undertaking? In my humble opinion, these most laborious preliminary measures might, without much risk, be dispensed with altogether. I fully believe that an officer of ordinary intelligence and engineering skill, if ordered to construct a good road on any surveyed line, and furnished with a few specifications as to its width, maximum slope, drains, bridges, &c. would experience no insuperable difficulty in carrying out his instructions without any of the aids above mentioned. In this case, to be sure, Government would have to undertake the work without any very exact estimate of the probable outlay required for its completion; but surely many of the lines of road which have been proposed for this Presidency should be constructed without further delay, be the cost of the undertaking what it may.

142. I fear that I shall be considered to have wandered from my proper subject in making these observations, but I could not refrain from making use of the opportunity to represent the incalculable importance of a profitable market for the disposal of the surplus produce of the districts embraced by the survey under my superintendence, and to offer whatever suggestions have occurred to me as capable of furthering in any degree the attainment of an end so important.

143. I have not thought it necessary to go into any argument regarding the duration of the revised settlement which has now been explained, concluding that the period of thirty years, sanctioned for the continuance of all the settlements of the Deccan and Ahmednuggur surveys, will also be adopted in the present instance. Fixity of tenure is the main-spring of agricultural improvement, and thirty years in the present uncultivated and inert state of the Native mind seems to be little enough for effecting any very extensive development of the agricultural resources of the country.

144. I will now bring my observations to a close. They have extended much beyond my wishes, but I have found it impossible to compress them within narrower

limits, without a sacrifice of that fullness and completeness of explanation which it seemed to me Government would look for in an introductory report of this nature, by which the future settlements of the several districts of the Collectorates embraced by this survey can hardly fail to be more or less affected. If I have succeeded in making myself fully understood, I shall be content to have incurred the imputation of needless prolixity.

145. In conclusion, I would bring to the notice of Government that all the Assistant and Sub-Assistant Superintendents of this survey, with the exception of Lieutenant Kemball, who has only lately joined the department, have been engaged in conducting the operations described in this report. The successful execution of these, and the very high degree of accuracy attained in all of them, form the best evidence of the zeal and ability with which these gentlemen have discharged their duties, and will, I feel assured, meet with the cordial approbation of Government. To them I have also to express myself indebted for much valuable information on the state of the districts they have been employed in, and which has enabled me to bring forward with increased confidence my proposals for the revision of the assessment.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) G. WINGATE,

Acting Superintendent Revenue Survey and Assessment Southern Mahratta Country.

Superintendent's Office, Dharwar, 25th October 1844.

A.

Statement for the 1st Class of Hoobullee Villages (17) named in the 69th paragraph of Report, showing the extent of Government Land in cultivation, the Assessment of the same, and of Joree Enams, with the amount of all other items of Land Revenue, as determined at each Summabundee from 1819-20 to 1842-43.

Official Year.	Government Land in cultivation.		Assessment on Joree Enam Land.	Assessment on Surwa Enams, and other items of Land Revenue.	Total Land Revenue from all sources.
	Acres.*	Assessment. Rs.			
1819-20	....	10,360	3,687	59	14,107
1820-21	....	11,890	3,162	63	15,118
1821-22	....	12,321	3,390	75	15,786
1822-23	....	12,862	3,407	132	16,401
1823-24	....	12,468	3,483	71	16,022
1824-25	5,909	11,734	3,424	64	15,222
1825-26	5,887	7,401	2,705	63	10,168
1826-27	5,641	11,507	3,507	134	15,145
1827-28	5,764	11,264	3,504	121	14,891
1828-29	5,764	9,593	3,344	69	13,007
1829-30	5,791	10,341	3,192	46	13,580
1830-31	5,821	10,000	3,182	121	13,294
1831-32	5,828	8,666	2,858	99	11,626
1832-33	5,786	10,733	3,300	44	14,078
1833-34	5,821	9,861	3,145	38	13,044
1834-35	5,901	13,113	3,633	134	16,880
1835-36	5,727	9,430	3,048	87	12,565
1836-37	5,866	8,290	2,628	23	8,941
1837-38	5,882	12,075	3,460	45	15,582
1838-39	5,681	10,821	3,330	124	14,276
1839-40	5,689	12,168	3,614	124	15,909
1840-41	5,370	11,499	3,504	142	15,147
1841-42	5,397	10,452	3,399	165	14,018
1842-43	5,141	8,526	2,906	463	11,901
General Average.	5,714	10,641	3,284	105	14,080
Average of last 20 years	5,714	10,397	3,258	109	13,765

Forwarded with Report dated 25th October 1844. General No. 445.

(Signed) GEORGE WINGATE,

Acting Superintendent Revenue Survey and Assessment S. M. C.

B.

Statement for the 2nd Class of Hoobullee Villages (10) named in the 70th paragraph of Report, showing the extent of Government Land in cultivation, the Assessment of the same, and of Joree Enams, with the amount of all other items of Land Revenue, as determined at each Jummabundee from 1820-21 to 1842-43.

Official Year.	Government Land in cultivation.		Assessment on Joree Enam Land.	Assessment on Surva Enams, and other items of Land Revenue.	Total Land Revenue from all sources.
	Acres.	Assessment.			
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1820-21	....	15,439	9,098	151	24,689
1821-22	....	16,004	9,247	169	25,420
1822-23	....	17,114	9,633	313	27,060
1823-24	....	15,295	9,374	119	24,788
1824-25	10,198	15,631	9,415	107	25,153
1825-26	10,461	9,926	7,367	155	17,448
1826-27	10,189	15,746	9,418	256	25,420
1827-28	10,114	14,838	8,443	269	23,543
1828-29	10,007	12,044	6,970	162	19,177
1829-30	9,983	13,115	7,142	119	20,376
1830-31	9,815	12,337	7,071	337	19,745
1831-32	9,686	11,078	6,642	314	18,034
1832-33	9,632	13,419	7,232	188	20,840
1833-34	9,795	12,700	7,058	172	19,930
1834-35	9,994	17,941	8,965	351	27,259
1835-36	8,785	9,862	7,015	307	17,184
1836-37	9,906	8,359	6,193	176	14,731
1837-38	10,715	17,212	9,062	119	26,395
1838-39	9,652	13,252	8,376	231	21,861
1839-40	9,826	16,748	8,971	293	26,014
1840-41	9,801	16,067	8,865	353	25,287
1841-42	10,040	14,425	8,867	350	23,643
1842-43	9,117	12,783	7,386	563	20,732
General Average.	9,879	13,971	8,166	242	22,379
Average of last 20 years.	9,879	13,639	7,991	247	21,877

(Signed) GEORGE WINGATE,
Acting Superintendent Revenue Survey and Assessment S. M. C.

C.

Statement for the 3rd Class of Hoobullee Villages (3) named in the 71st paragraph of Report, showing the extent of Government Land in cultivation, the Assessment of the same, and of Joree Enams, with the amount of all other items of Land Revenue, as determined at each Jummabundee from 1818-19 to 1842-43.

Official Year.	Government Land in cultivation.		Assessment on Joree Enam Land.	Assessment on Surva Enams, and other items of Land Revenue.	Total Land Revenue from all sources.
	Acres.	Assessment.			
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1818-19	....	15,342	1,267	....	16,609
1819-20	....	18,537	1,497	438	20,492
1820-21	....	20,150	1,664	502	22,315
1821-22	....	21,030	1,671	85	22,785
1822-23	....	19,798	1,521	55	21,374
1823-24	9,215	12,028	1,307	268	13,603
1824-25	9,770	14,051	1,306	284	15,641
1825-26	9,979	10,167	1,279	43	11,489
1826-27	9,810	13,585	1,521	16	15,122
1827-28	9,665	12,434	1,151	10	13,596
1828-29	8,516	9,207	898	130	10,236
1829-30	8,820	8,992	931	61	9,983
1830-31	9,370	9,669	902	153	10,725
1831-32	8,019	8,657	864	143	9,663
1832-33	7,453	4,167	763	37	4,967
1833-34	8,200	5,474	719	96	6,290
1834-35	7,892	12,714	1,181	128	14,022
1835-36	7,928	9,630	999	142	10,771
1836-37	9,069	8,564	967	77	9,609
1837-38	10,209	13,554	1,165	42	14,731
1838-39	9,898	10,289	964	120	11,373
1839-40	9,324	12,677	1,111	18	13,869
1840-41	8,439	10,600	1,127	266	11,992
1841-42	8,685	8,623	1,065	265	9,954
1842-43	8,097	9,640	931	265	10,836
General Average.	8,917	11,983	1,150	148	13,282
Average of last 20 years.	8,917	10,236	1,055	129	11,420

Forwarded with Report dated 25th October 1844, General No. 445.

(Signed) GEORGE WINGATE,
Acting Superintendent Revenue Survey and Assessment S. M. C.

D.

Statement for the 17 Villages of Hoobullee, named in the 94th paragraph of Report, showing the extent of Government Land in cultivation, the Assessment of the same, and of Joree Enams, with the amount of all other items of Land Revenue, as determined at each Jummabundee from 1820-21 to 1843-44.

Official Year.	Government Land in cultivation.		Assessment on Joree Enam Land.	Assessment on Surwa Enams, and other items of Land Revenue.	Total Land Revenue from all sources.
	Acres.	Assessment.			
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1820-21	....	8,843	2,378	138	11,360
1821-22	....	9,100	2,500	170	11,770
1822-23	....	9,495	2,588	238	12,321
1823-24	....	6,538	2,618	109	9,346
1824-25	....	8,466	2,547	167	11,180
1825-26	5,090	6,104	2,162	194	8,460
1826-27	5,068	8,445	2,623	223	11,292
1827-28	5,080	8,444	2,513	290	11,247
1828-29	5,060	7,180	2,417	280	9,779
1829-30	5,063	6,959	2,127	185	9,274
1830-31	5,068	6,764	2,034	233	9,036
1831-32	4,926	5,949	1,961	206	8,119
1832-33	4,894	6,320	1,818	194	8,334
1833-34	5,028	6,603	2,001	172	8,782
1834-35	5,029	8,971	2,292	247	11,513
1835-36	4,578	6,548	2,138	225	8,915
1836-37	4,792	3,965	1,504	135	5,607
1837-38	4,907	7,648	2,208	177	10,036
1838-39	4,804	5,942	2,020	213	8,175
1839-40	4,631	7,867	2,272	326	10,467
1840-41	4,373	7,074	2,165	361	9,604
1841-42	4,431	6,282	2,152	354	8,792
1842-43	4,423	5,715	1,829	217	7,762
1843-44	4,297	6,808	2,184	151	9,148
General Average.	4,818	7,168	2,210	216	9,597
Average of last 20 years	4,818	6,903	2,148	222	9,273

(Signed) GEORGE WINGATE,

Acting Superintendent Revenue Survey and Assessment S. M. C

E.

Statement for the Summut of Nuwulgoond (Talooka Nuwulgoond), showing the extent of Government Land in cultivation, with the former Survey Assessment thereon for the years in which these items are found in the Accounts; also the Assessment of the same, and of Joree Enams, with the amount of all other items of Land Revenue, as determined at each Jummabundee from 1818-19 to 1843-44.

Official Year.	Government Land in cultivation.			Assessment on Joree Enam Land.	Assessment on Surwa Enams, and other items of Land Revenue.	Total Land Revenue from all sources.
	Acres.	Assessment according to former Survey Rates.	Assessment as settled at Jummabundee.			
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1818-19	....	....	20,794	20,967	118	41,879
1819-20	....	....	25,558	24,192	229	49,979
1820-21	....	....	26,085	22,896	203	49,184
1821-22	....	....	32,510	28,081	1,366	61,957
1822-23	....	....	32,114	26,502	232	58,848
1823-24	27,634	....	28,713	19,302	217	48,233
1824-25	33,353	....	28,870	20,407	757	50,036
1825-26	35,211	....	31,564	20,322	167	52,053
1826-27	35,741	....	30,903	19,024	138	50,066
1827-28	35,399	....	29,200	17,242	564	47,006
1828-29	34,462	....	28,998	18,900	105	48,004
1829-30	34,690	46,168	28,972	16,843	79	45,894
1830-31	31,697	52,680	24,165	14,416	457	39,038
1831-32	30,144	49,922	28,088	15,372	541	44,002
1832-33	25,523	42,037	15,567	10,967	193	26,729
1833-34	29,628	49,550	32,060	16,756	793	49,609
1834-35	31,396	52,750	36,662	17,949	385	54,996
1835-36	32,155	42,100	18,808	13,712	242	32,762
1836-37	34,255	45,399	41,641	20,641	808	63,091
1837-38	35,562	52,567	37,007	20,094	231	57,332
1838-39	32,159	46,288	21,172	15,170	119	36,462
1839-40	33,843	49,492	35,330	18,020	680	54,030
1840-41	32,955	37,405	33,300	17,517	191	51,010
1841-42	32,208	47,206	38,839	20,088	209	59,136
1842-43	28,500	45,145	34,044	18,314	1,145	53,503
1843-44	24,615	38,193	26,571	16,814	1,204	44,589
General Average.	31,959	46,460	29,521	18,866	437	48,824
Average of first 14 years	33,148	....	28,324	20,319	369	49,013
Average of last 10 years	31,765	45,654	22,337	17,832	521	50,691

Forwarded with Report dated 25th October 1844, General No. 445.

(Signed) GEORGE WINGATE,

Acting Superintendent Revenue Survey and Assessment S. M. C.

F.

Statement for the Summat of Mowab (Talooka Nuwulgoond), showing the extent of Government Land in cultivation, with the former Survey Assessment thereon, for the years in which these items are found in the Accounts; also the Assessment of the same, and of Joree Enams, with the amount of all other items of Land Revenue, as determined at each Jummabundee from 1818-19 to 1843-44.

Official Year.	Government Land in cultivation.			Assessment on Joree Enam Land.	Assessment on Surwa Enams, and other items of Land Revenue.	Total Land Revenue from all sources.
	Acres.	Assessment according to former Survey Rates.	Assessment as settled at Jummabundee.			
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1818-19	....	....	22,294	10,009	124	32,427
1819-20	....	....	27,941	12,345	175	40,461
1820-21	....	....	29,428	12,665	82	42,175
1821-22	....	....	35,277	15,010	1,064	51,351
1822-23	....	....	35,573	13,824	63	49,460
1823-24	22,556	....	29,114	12,620	87	41,820
1824-25	27,829	....	29,809	12,098	628	42,535
1825-26	28,597	....	33,370	13,087	197	46,654
1826-27	28,746	....	34,170	11,862	47	46,079
1827-28	28,755	....	29,614	10,598	545	40,757
1828-29	28,121	....	29,843	10,751	31	40,625
1829-30	26,868	54,149	25,237	8,781	56	34,075
1830-31	23,149	42,733	15,487	7,393	259	23,139
1831-32	21,796	40,532	25,325	8,873	591	34,789
1832-33	17,327	32,102	8,571	4,561	81	13,212
1833-34	22,045	40,970	20,971	7,380	636	28,987
1834-35	21,974	40,842	28,104	9,571	801	38,476
1835-36	21,091	33,696	15,430	6,456	371	22,257
1836-37	22,563	35,555	22,435	9,477	739	32,651
1837-38	23,824	38,213	28,978	9,311	457	38,747
1838-39	18,277	33,063	13,985	5,988	171	20,144
1839-40	22,333	40,891	27,696	8,439	679	36,814
1840-41	21,212	38,416	27,162	8,704	296	36,162
1841-42	21,557	39,365	27,336	9,118	365	36,818
1842-43	17,930	32,027	25,795	8,968	1,131	35,894
1843-44	15,264	27,353	20,450	7,518	1,213	29,182
General Average.	22,943	37,994	25,746	9,823	419	35,988
Average of first 14 years.	26,268	....	28,749	11,423	282	40,453
Average of last 10 years.	20,602	35,942	23,737	8,355	622	32,714

(Signed) GEORGE WINGATE,
Acting Superintendent Revenue Survey and Assessment S. M. C.

G.

Statement for the Summat of Roteegwad (Talooka Nuwulgoond), showing the extent of Government Land in cultivation, with the former Survey Assessment thereon for the years in which these items are found in the Accounts; also the Assessment of the same, and of Joree Enams, with the amount of all other items of Land Revenue, as determined at each Jummabundee from 1818-19 to 1843-44.

Official Year.	Government Land in cultivation.			Assessment on Joree Enam Land.	Assessment on Surwa Enams, and other items of Land Revenue.	Total Land Revenue from all sources.
	Acres.	Assessment according to former Survey Rates.	Assessment as settled at Jummabundee.			
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1818-19	....	....	14,372	4,849	49	19,270
1819-20	....	....	15,192	5,417	118	20,733
1820-21	....	....	16,596	6,538	153	23,288
1821-22	....	....	17,923	6,817	1,017	25,759
1822-23	....	....	18,117	6,318	331	24,766
1823-24	13,531	....	13,239	5,061	333	18,633
1824-25	16,223	....	14,162	5,327	558	20,047
1825-26	16,704	....	15,000	5,715	416	21,131
1826-27	16,789	....	15,248	4,855	31	20,133
1827-28	16,765	....	14,253	4,758	230	19,241
1828-29	16,268	....	14,150	4,648	52	18,851
1829-30	16,279	24,168	12,668	4,119	50	16,837
1830-31	15,895	28,512	13,089	3,883	166	17,139
1831-32	16,006	28,635	13,213	3,726	174	17,114
1832-33	12,007	20,824	3,469	1,009	16	4,495
1833-34	15,077	26,968	16,516	3,884	271	20,670
1834-35	15,295	27,088	20,134	4,274	188	24,596
1835-36	16,000	23,861	10,782	3,396	103	14,282
1836-37	17,789	25,506	20,514	4,353	279	25,147
1837-38	19,215	32,671	22,150	4,432	216	26,799
1838-39	18,083	30,304	15,966	4,064	53	20,084
1839-40	18,702	31,271	23,129	4,599	314	28,042
1840-41	18,375	30,371	21,897	4,578	89	26,564
1841-42	18,515	30,615	22,076	4,916	178	27,170
1842-43	16,885	27,352	21,642	4,955	546	27,143
1843-44	14,791	23,270	17,571	4,718	574	22,864
General Average.	16,438	27,428	16,272	4,662	250	21,185
Average of first 14 years.	16,051	....	14,801	5,145	263	20,210
Average of last 10 years.	17,365	28,231	19,586	4,428	254	24,269

(Signed) GEORGE WINGATE,
Acting Superintendent Revenue Survey and Assessment S. M. C.

H.

Statement for the Summut of Yawugul (Talooka Nuwulgoond), showing the extent of Government Land in cultivation, with the former Survey Assessment thereon for the years in which these items are found in the Accounts; also the Assessment of the same, and of Joree Enams, with amount of all other items of Land Revenue, as determined at each Jummabundee from 1818-19 to 1843-44.

Official Year.	Government Land in cultivation.			Assessment on Joree Enam Land.	Assessment on Surwa Enams, and other items of Land Revenue.	Total Land Revenue from all sources.
	Acres.	Assessment according to former Survey Rates.	Assessment as settled at Jummabundee.			
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1818-19	....	....	8,069	3,682	17	11,768
1819-20	....	....	9,565	4,859	131	14,555
1820-21	....	....	9,688	5,019	218	14,925
1821-22	....	....	11,273	6,037	798	18,106
1822-23	....	....	11,183	5,601	246	17,030
1823-24	....	....	9,299	4,340	546	14,185
1824-25	18,319	....	9,569	4,527	547	14,643
1825-26	19,291	....	9,805	4,290	489	14,584
1826-27	....	....	....	....	....	....
1827-28	19,794	....	9,390	3,908	472	13,770
1828-29	20,361	....	9,769	4,002	394	14,165
1829-30	22,112	....	10,012	4,021	367	14,400
1830-31	22,270	19,052	10,223	3,876	225	14,324
1831-32	21,921	24,829	11,349	4,058	192	15,600
1832-33	17,511	16,060	3,773	1,485	52	5,310
1833-34	20,286	26,242	15,629	4,338	375	20,342
1834-35	20,533	28,764	17,966	4,840	215	23,022
1835-36	20,412	21,572	11,369	3,907	249	15,526
1836-37	22,504	24,227	22,670	5,502	531	28,704
1837-38	24,116	25,046	21,687	5,667	169	27,523
1838-39	22,156	23,905	16,009	5,232	124	21,365
1839-40	22,223	25,356	19,276	5,301	366	24,943
1840-41	22,787	26,262	20,165	5,720	83	25,968
1841-42	23,076	27,322	26,152	6,422	98	32,672
1842-43	20,242	28,026	21,201	6,195	489	27,890
1843-44	17,008	23,346	15,422	6,061	253	21,736
General Average.	20,891	24,286	13,621	4,756	306	18,683
Average of first 14 years	20,581	....	9,938	4,478	357	14,773
Average of last 10 years	21,505	25,382	19,191	5,485	258	24,935

Forwarded with Report dated 25th October 1844, General No. 445.

(Signed) GEORGE WINGATE,
Acting Superintendent Revenue Survey and Assessment S. M. C.

I.

Statement for the Unneegéree Mahal, (Talooka Nuwulgoond,) showing the extent of Government Land in cultivation, obtained by converting the Koorgees of the Accounts into Acres; also the Assessment of the same, and of Joree Enams, with the amount of all other items of Land Revenue, as determined at each Jummabundee from 1839-40 to 1843-44.

Official Year.	Government Land in cultivation.		Assessment on Joree Enam Land.	Assessment on Surwa Enams, and other items of Land Revenue.	Total Land Revenue from all sources.
	Estimated Acres.	Assessment as settled at Jummabundee.			
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1839-40	30,325	22,761	4,889	1,140	28,791
1840-41	30,276	23,434	5,240	1,141	29,814
1841-42	29,916	22,887	4,570	1,044	28,500
1842-43	23,586	22,943	4,794	416	28,151
1843-44	26,501	22,025	5,027	69	27,121
General Average.	29,121	22,810	4,904	762	28,475

(Signed) GEORGE WINGATE,
Acting Superintendent Revenue Survey and Assessment S. M. C.



No. 235 of 1848.

To

W. W. BELL, ESQUIRE,
Collector,
Dharwar.

SIR,

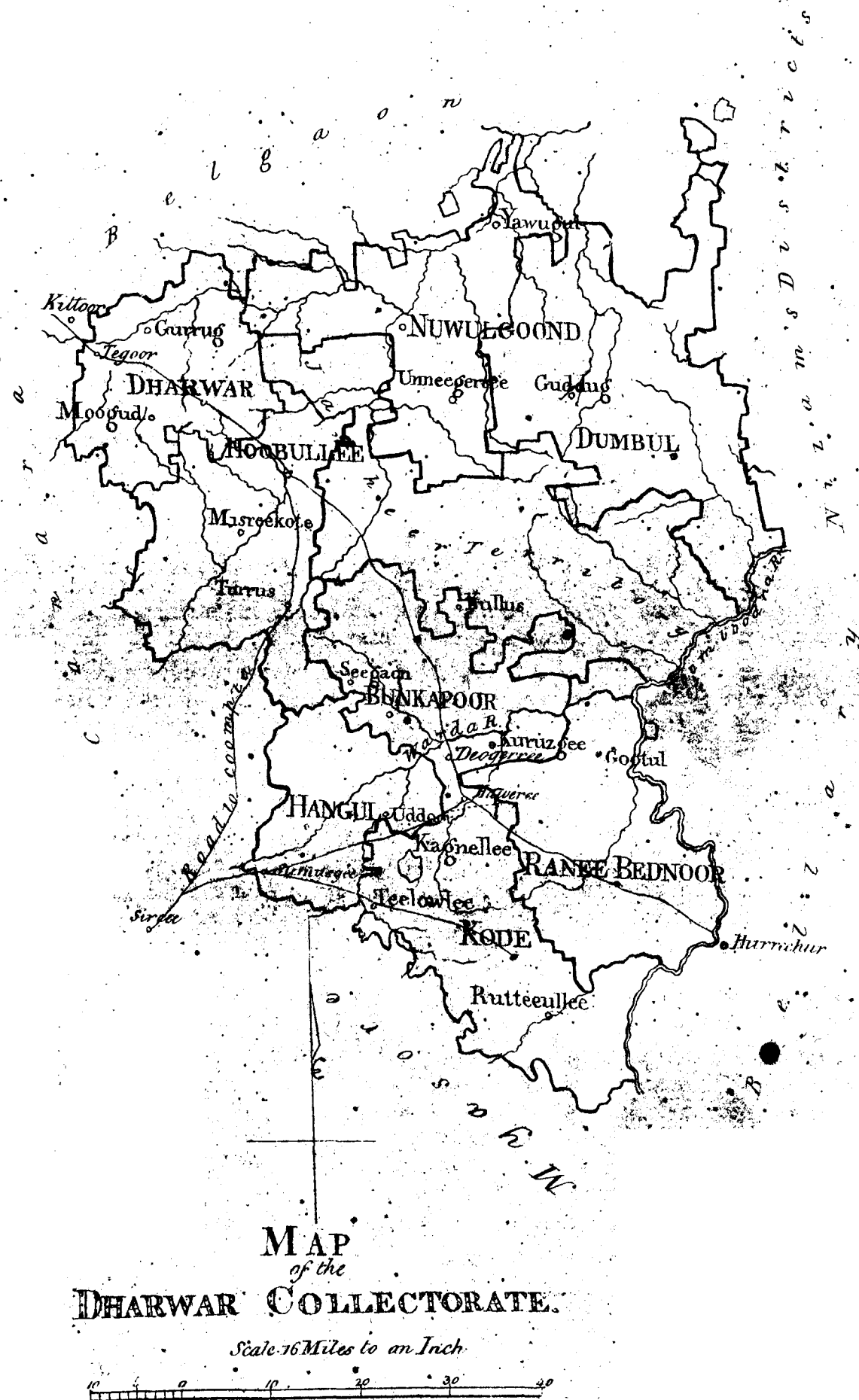
The only parts of your Collectorate to which the present survey assessment remains to be extended are the talookas of Kode, Dharwar, and the Misreekote division of Hoo-bullee,* and having made arrangements for introducing the new settlements into all of these districts at the ensuing Jumma-bundee, I now do myself the honor to submit for your approval and the sanction of Government the usual preliminary proposals in regard to the rates of assessment I have to recommend for adoption.

2. The talooka of Kode, as will be seen from the map prefacing this report, forms the southern border of the Dharwar Collectorate, from the Wurda river to the Toomboodra. Its general shape is that of an irregular four-sided oblong figure, with an average length of 35 miles, and an average breadth of about 15 miles. It is bounded on the east by the Toomboodra river, on the south by villages of Mysore, on the west by the Wurda river and Hangul talooka, and on the north by the Bunkapoor and Raneebednore talookas. The villages of Kode are numerous and thickly set, especially towards the south-west; but are now very thinly inhabited, and in some instances wholly deserted. The talooka is managed by a Mamlutdar stationed at Rutteehullee, and one subordinate Mahalkurree at Kagnellee. The number of Government and alienated villages under the charge of these officers, and also the ancient mahals to which they belong, are shown in the following table. Of the 21 alienated villages 6 are held on the "jodee tenure," 1 is "jagheer," and the remaining 14 are "surwa enam" :—

Name of Mahal, or Old Division to which the Villages belong.	Number and present distribution of Villages.					
	Rutteehullee Mamlutdar's Division.		Kagnellee Mahalkurree's Division.		Whole Talooka.	
	Government.	Alienated.	Government.	Alienated.	Government.	Alienated.
1 Kode	34	1	1	4	35	5
2 Heere-kerroor	15	1	..	..	15	1
3 Chick-kerroor	14	1	..	..	14	1
4 Rutteehullee	34	6	..	..	34	6
5 Massoor	14	1	..	..	14	1
6 Koopehloor	40	2	..	..	40	2
7 Kagnellee	6	..	61	1	67	1
8 Teelowullee	..	..	25	4	25	4
9 Adoor	..	..	1	..	1	..
Totals.....	157	12	88	9	245	21

3. The climate of this talooka varies considerably in different parts. That of the villages in the south-west corner, which chiefly belong to the Teelowullee mahal, is rainy

* This remark does not apply to the recently lapsed district of Moolgoond, of which the survey has not yet been commenced.



during the monsoon months, and the cultivation there is in great measure confined to rice, and other irrigated crops. A belt of villages immediately adjoining these, but situated farther inland, has a somewhat drier climate; and in this division dry and irrigated crops are both commonly grown, and not unfrequently in the same fields, in order that if the season prove too dry for rice, a crop of jowarree may be obtained instead. The remainder of the talooka, situated to the north and east of the last mentioned group of villages, obtains less rain still, and is unsuited for rice when no means for irrigation can be commanded, but it is the best adapted of all to the dry crop husbandry, for which the climate is very favourable. Long continued droughts during the monsoon are of rare occurrence; but partial failures of the harvest nevertheless occur rather frequently, owing to the position of the district and nature of the crops grown, for when the rain is sufficiently abundant for rice it is generally excessive for dry crops, and *vice versa*. This remark, however, applies more particularly to the portion of the district in which both descriptions of crops are commonly grown, for in the dry crop division any failure of rain would have a prejudicial effect on the whole harvest.

4. The surface of Kode is generally level, and consists of fine swelling plains, stretching from the Wurda to the Toombodra. The small valley of Massoor, in the extreme southern corner of the district, is enclosed by rather rugged ranges of hills, of considerable elevation; and there is also a small tract of hilly country west of the Mahalkuree's station at Kagnellee, as well as to the north of Chin Moolgoond, at which latter place occurs an isolated hill of very picturesque form, where small quantities of gold are still found in the sand of the nullahs, but with these exceptions the talooka is destitute of hills. Its plains, however, are well watered, being traversed by numerous nullahs, which have everywhere been taken advantage of for the formation of tanks, of which the district possesses many fine specimens, though mostly now in miserable disrepair. Besides the large rivers already mentioned, skirting the talooka on the east and west, the small river Koomud-wuttee traverses it for a distance of about twenty miles, from the point where it enters the talooka from the Mysore, about two miles south of the town of Massoor, to where it falls into the Toombodra.

5. That Kode was once a populous and flourishing district we have abundant evidence in its thickly crowded villages, the number and size of its tanks for irrigation, the frequently occurring fruit trees, marking the sites of former gardens, and its enormous land assessment, which could not have been borne, except by a very prosperous agriculture. Now, unfortunately, all is changed. Its fine plains for the most part lie untilled, yielding nothing but a rank herbage, and some of its richest bottoms, suited to the culture of rice and sugar-cane, are overgrown with date jungle. Its tanks are choked up with mud; its once populous villages have dwindled away to a few miserable huts, and its active and flourishing agriculturists to the most poverty-stricken and spiritless peasantry to be met with in the Collectorate. But even in ruin it is fair to look upon, and an eye accustomed to the bare and monotonous aspect of the Southern Mahratta Country in general is delighted with the view from any little eminence over its grassy glades, fringed with the varied foliage of the mango, the tamarind, and the cocoanut and date palms, among which tanks are seen at intervals glistening in the sunshine; while thin canopies of blue smoke hang lazily but gracefully over the tops of the trees which conceal the ruinous villages from view.

6. The crops grown in Kode all belong to the early harvest, and are sown during the monsoon months. Manure is applied to every description of soil, and the husbandry is similar to that of the adjoining talookas of Hangul, Bunkapoor, and Ranee-Bednore, described in former reports, but performed, generally, in a more slovenly manner, which may be ascribed to the depressing effect of the well-nigh hopeless struggle of the cultivators to bear up against an excessive assessment. To the slovenly character of the ordinary husbandry, I must except, however, the cultivation of the chilly, which is

prosecuted with great care and success in a limited number of villages, situated for the most part to the north of a line connecting the villages of Kode and Kagnellee, where the soil and climate seem particularly well suited to this crop. The chilly is sown in May, or early in June, in a small plot of well prepared ground, often the back yard of the cultivator's house, whence the plants, when of some little height, are afterwards removed to the field, where they are planted in rows at intervals of two feet apart, which are laid out with the utmost regularity and precision. After the field has thus been planted out, manure is applied by the hand to the root of each plant, and at intervals of eight or ten days the small two-bullock plough is carefully passed between the rows of plants, first lengthwise and afterwards across, by which the field is kept free of weeds, and the earth is heaped up round each plant. This operation is repeated during three months or so, until the branches of adjoining plants begin to touch, and the fruit makes its appearance. The crop is picked by the hand, and there are generally two pickings, of which the first is by far the most important. A good crop is said to yield two loads (of 8 maunds each) to the acre, and the load occasionally sells as high as Rs. 8, which is a most remunerating price to the cultivator. The price, however, is liable to extreme fluctuation, and it not unfrequently happens that a year of deficient crops is better for the cultivator than one of unusual abundance, in consequence of the great rise of price in the one case, and its extreme depression in the other. This peculiarity is explained by the chilly being a perishable crop, and used only in small quantity for the seasoning of food, while it is at the same time regarded as a necessary of life by the consumers. These are, therefore, ready to give almost any price rather than be deprived of it in a year of scarcity; but are unable greatly to increase their ordinary consumption in a year of abundance, when the market becomes glutted with the article, and the price falls ruinously low. The chilly in Kode is a dry crop, and some of the land best suited for it is assessed as high as Rs. 5 and upwards per acre.

7. This district possesses no manufactures of sufficient importance to require notice, the entire population, nearly, deriving support from agriculture. Its chief exports are chillies, rice, goor, sugar, oil, and oil seeds, and cotton from the black soil villages, some of which are sent westwards to the coast, and the rest in a northerly direction, for the supply of inland markets. Chillies are also sent eastwards to the Madras and Mysore districts. These exports are not made by the cultivators, but by traders who purchase from them, either at their own villages or at the different bazars, of which the most important are those of Chick, Kerroor, Teelowullee, and Beadgee, the last being situated in the adjoining talooka of Ranee-Bednore. The port of Compta, after having been closed for some time, has again been opened for sugar, the produce of this Presidency, and this article is now exported thither in considerable quantity, chiefly, I understand, for the Bombay market. This trade would admit of very considerable increase under the new assessment, were the tanks put into proper repair, as a large additional extent of land well suited to the cane might thus be made available for its production. The remote position of Kode with reference to the markets for its exports occasions the prices of all kinds of agricultural produce to be lower there, on the average, than in any other talooka of the Collectorate, and the bulkier portions of it, such as straw, are often not saleable at any price. In the Massoor valley, in the extreme southern corner of the district, good jowarree straw may be purchased occasionally at fifteen and sixteen "khuts" for a rupee, which is a quantity that would supply a horse with abundant fodder for a month at least. Further details in connection with the agriculture and trade of Kode will be found in a letter from my Assistant, Mr. Springer, of which a copy is appended to this report.

8. I have not succeeded in obtaining much information regarding the state of Kode in former times. Few of the villagers possess any traditions which reach higher than a century back, and little is known of the time when, and the parties by whom, the numerous tanks of this district were constructed. It seems probable, however, that most of them date from the time of the Unnagoondie State, so famous for its works of irrigation.

And one tank belonging to this period deserves particular mention. It is called the "Muduk" tank, and the embankment of it forms the boundary between this Collectorate and Mysore. It is situated about two miles south of the town of Massoor, and though the bed of the tank is within the Mysore territory, its waters were intended for the irrigation of the Kode talooka. The intention of its designers was to form a lake on the south side of a range of hills dividing the Massoor valley from Mysore, by closing up a gap in the hills through which the Koomudwuttee river passed from the latter into Kode. This was accomplished by throwing up a vast embankment, which at this day is about 100 feet in height, and from 450 to 600 feet in thickness, faced towards the tank with masonry formed of huge blocks of stone, descending in regular steps from the summit of the embankment to the water's edge. Two similar embankments were also thrown across two other gaps in the hills to the right and left of the Koomudwuttee valley, to prevent the pent up waters escaping by them, and a channel was cut along the hills for the overflow of the lake, when it had risen to the intended height. Each of the three embankments was pierced by an aqueduct, built of enormous slabs of hewn stone, for the irrigation of the plain below, and two of these remain almost perfect after the lapse of four centuries. The lake so formed must have been from ten to fifteen miles in length when full, and would have supplied water for the irrigation of a great extent of land.

9. According to tradition, the completion of this stupendous undertaking was celebrated by a human sacrifice, and the present Patel of Massoor related to me with pride that a virgin daughter of his house, still remembered as the beautiful "Kenchawa," devotedly gave herself up to death upon this occasion, and was immolated on the summit of the embankment. If so, her noble devotion proved unavailing; for it would appear that the swelling waters of the lake shortly afterwards burst through the most westerly of the three embankments, which was not, however, that thrown across the original channel of the Koomudwuttee. No attempt seems ever to have been made to repair this breach, through which the Koomudwuttee still takes its course, but, notwithstanding, there must for many years subsequent have been a very considerable lake to the south of the hills, as even after four centuries the river has not yet worn through the hill to the depth of its original channel, and the "Muduk" tank is still the largest in the neighbourhood, though no use has been made for many years past, if ever, of its waters for purposes of irrigation.

10. The failure of the original project probably occurred through the channel for the escape of the surplus waters of the lake having been made of inadequate size, but however this may be, I am satisfied that the project was in itself perfectly feasible, and that the lake might again be restored to its original dimensions without much difficulty; but as this would submerge a large tract of valuable land in the Mysore, I am more doubtful of its advantage in an economical point of view. A more feasible and simple project would be to throw a dam of masonry of ten or twelve feet in height across the rocky channel of the Koomudwuttee, where it now issues from the tank, by which the latter would become a small lake about two miles in length, by one or one and a half mile in breadth, and provide the means of irrigating a considerable portion of the fine valley of Massoor.

11. Before taking leave of the Koomudwuttee, I may as well notice in this place another project for making its waters available for irrigation, for which this stream appears even more favourable than the Bhurma, of which so much advantage has been taken in Hangul, although no attempt of the kind seems to have been made since the failure of the great tank above Massoor. Immediately below the latter town, the Koomudwuttee passes through a narrow gap in a second range of hills, which separates the plain of Massoor from that of Rutteehullee, and in the gorge of this opening, near the village of Ramfeerth, is a most favourable position for a bundhara, or dam of masonry, by which the waters of the river might be diverted over the plains below to any extent they would

suffice to irrigate. Subordinate tanks or reservoirs, to be filled by means of this bundhara, should be made wherever favourable localities can be found, and in this way a very extended and important system of irrigation might be constructed, for the Koomudwuttee brings down a larger body of water than the Bhurma during the rainy season, though now all permitted to run to waste. My proper avocations have not allowed me leisure for the detailed surveys and inquiries that would be requisite in order to form an estimate of the expense of this undertaking, but I feel satisfied of its feasibility, nevertheless, and deem it well worthy of further examination.

12. Subsequent to the fall of the Unnagoondie State, Kode experienced much the same fortune as the other districts of this Collectorate, of which some notice has been taken in previous reports, having suffered from misrule throughout this long period, with the exception of some few and fleeting intervals of prosperity. In the latter years of the Poona Government, however, it suffered even more than other parts of the Collectorate from the exactions of the revenue farmers and the ravages of the freebooters Dhoondia Wagh, Uddoo Khan, and others, which may be ascribed to the remote position of the district at the very extremity of the Mahratta dominions. The farmers were numerous and being constantly changed, while many of them had more of the character of freebooters than of recognized agents of an organized Government. They had generally some little fort for their head quarters, from which they were wont to issue at the head of their armed retainers, to fight with each other, or for purposes of plunder and pillage. These outrages had the effect of depopulating many parts of the talooka, but fortunately the peasantry were enabled to escape into the Mysore, which was everywhere within a few miles of their homes, and remain there until the storm had blown over. Great numbers of these absentees returned at the accession of our Government, but they were generally miserably poor. Population and capital have been slowly increasing since, chiefly from the cultivation of enam lands, which were nearly all waste at the commencement of our administration, and are now for the most part cultivated; but the progress of the talooka has been grievously retarded by the enormous assessment of the Government land, of which there is less in cultivation now than twenty years ago. Pestilence, also, has had its share in keeping down the population, which has been much thinned at different times during the last thirty years by the ravages of cholera, to which the poverty of the people most probably gave additional virulence.

13. Before proceeding to consider in detail the rates of assessment, I will devote a few remarks to the preliminary survey operations connected with the measurement and classification. But as this subject will have to be treated of in detail in my annual progress report, I will endeavour to be as brief in my observations here as is compatible with an adequate explanation of the degree of accuracy attained in the execution of the work.

14. The measurement of Kode was commenced in the season 1846-47 by three Native establishments, under the superintendence of Lieutenant G. Anderson, Lieutenant Fanning, and Mr. Springer, and completed in the case of 206 villages during the same year. The remaining villages were measured in the following season by the establishment of the last named officer.

15. The classification was commenced towards the close of the season 1846-47, when this operation was completed in eleven villages under the superintendence of Mr. Francis. It was continued during the following season by Mr. Young's establishment, and completed in 132 villages. The remaining villages will be classified by the same establishment in the course of the present season, and may be expected to be all finished about January, in good time for the introduction of the new assessment at next Jumna. The plan followed for the classification of the soil in this district was the same as that described in the joint report by the Superintendents of Survey, dated 2nd August 1847, which has since been approved of by Government, but a new system was adopted for valuing the supply of water to rice land, which I shall now shortly describe.

7223. 21221 32233 5053

16. The method is very simple, and quite as systematic as that adopted for the valuation of the soil. The varying supplies of water obtainable for the irrigation of rice lands are by this system referred to one or other of the following six classes, which have been found sufficiently numerous for an equitable distribution of the assessment. Consistently with the attainment of this object, it is desirable to have the number of classes as few as possible, as by this means the distinctions between each are more strongly marked, and the work at once rendered more simple and easy to test:—

1st Class.—Supply of water abundant for rice, and alternating crops of sugar-cane.

2nd Class.—Supply of water abundant for rice, and in ordinary seasons sufficient for alternating crops of sugar-cane.

3rd Class.—Supply of water abundant for rice, and sufficient for sugar-cane, in seasons when the fall of rain is unusually heavy.

4th Class.—Supply of water sufficient for rice, and, when the soil is suitable, for an after green crop, but not sufficient for sugar-cane.

5th Class.—Supply of water independent of rain [i. e. from tanks, streams, &c.] small, so that frequent rains are required to ensure the rice crop, while the moisture retained in the soil is insufficient for an after green crop.

6th Class.—Supply of water wholly dependent on the fall of rain, owing to which, and the unfavourable position of the land for the retention of moisture, the rice crop is very precarious.

17. The circumstances determining the reference of the supply of water to any one of these classes are more fully explained and elucidated in the rules for the guidance of the classers, but the above explanation will probably suffice to make the system comprehensible.

18. The manner in which the water classification is effected is exactly the same as in the case of the soil, and both operations are performed and their results recorded by the classer at the same time, as will be readily understood from the following example, in which, for the sake of clearness, I have omitted all particulars connected with the classification of the soil, excepting the numeral denoting the class of each compartment into which the field is divided by the classer for the formation of his estimate:—

1	2	3
3	4	5
2	2	4
2	4	6

19. In this example the figure in the upper left hand corner of each compartment denotes the class of its soil, and the figure in the right hand lower corner the water class of the same compartment. The average results of these fractional estimates are obtained as follows:—

Water Class.			Soil Class.		
Class.	Number of Shares or Compartments.	Value of Shares.	Class.	Number of Shares or Compartments.	Value of Shares in Annas and Pies of Classification Scale.
2	1	2	1	1	16
3	1	3	2	3	42
4	2	8	3	1	12
5	1	5	4	1	10
6	1	6			
	6	24		6	80
Average Water Class... 4			Average Soil Class... 13.4		

20. It is thus seen that the average value of the soil in this example is Rs. 0-13-4 of our classification scale, and the average supply of water for irrigation is that represented by the 4th water class. It is evident, I think, that this mode of estimating the supply of water is likely to afford a very accurate result. The classer has merely to estimate the supply for one small portion of the field under examination at a time, as in the case of the soil, and this is a simple operation, as the distinctions between the several water classes are broadly marked. The reduction of these separate estimates into a general one for the whole field is a matter of simple calculation, and requires no exercise of judgment. The system, in fact, partakes of all the advantages of the method in use for the classification of the soil, and admits of the same easy check.

21. And the value of irrigated land similarly circumstanced in other respects being dependent on the quality of the soil and the supply of water for irrigation, it is evident that when these two elements and the ratio in which the value of a soil is increased by the command of water indicated by the several classes are determined, we are provided with the means of settling the relative values of rice fields, and apportioning the assessment on them with a great degree of accuracy. The increase of value resulting from irrigation is incapable of accurate determination, but having already discussed this point at length in my last assessment report, when treating of the rice lands of the Hangul talooka, I shall merely add here the practical result at which I have arrived, viz. that the value of rice land, with a supply of water for irrigation equal to that indicated by our 6th or lowest class, would be quadrupled were the supply of water equal to that of our 1st class.

22. The degree of accuracy attained in the execution of the measurement and classification, and also the nature and extent of the test by which this result is arrived at, are exhibited in the subjoined statement:—

Kcde.		Nature, extent, and result of Test.											
Number of Villages.	Arable Acres.	Measurement and Classification.	Number of		By European Officers.			By Natives.			Total.		
			Villages.	Fields.	Number of Acres.	Average Error		Number of Acres.	Average Error		Number of Acres.	Average Error	
						Per Cent.	Per Field.		Per Cent.	Per Field.		Per Cent.	Per Field.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
245	290,166	Measurement..	191	2,031	24,657	0.6	..	2,202	0.75	..	26,949	0.62	..
		Classification of Soil	108	1,276	8,982	..	0 0 6	..	..	..	8,982	..	0 0 6
		Do. Water....	..	609	..	..	0 0 7	..	..	..	..	..	0 0 7

23. The test of the classification here shown refers only to the completed villages; the villages yet to be classified will also be tested in due proportion. From this table it appears, then, that the average error in the measurement is much within 1 per cent.; that the error in the classification of the soil is six pies of our classification scale, and that in the water class seven pies; one anna in the latter case being equivalent to the difference in value between each class. The error, therefore, only amounts to about half of this difference, which is a satisfactory degree of correspondence when the classes are so few in number, and establishes, in my opinion, the adequacy of the method for the water classification, as the close correspondence between the estimates of the testing officer and his subordinate classers shows that the characteristics of the several water classes have been readily recognized in the field by them all.

24. The extent of the various errors from which the averages given in the preceding table have been deduced are exhibited in the two following tables for the measurement and classification respectively:—

Table of Errors discovered in the Measurement.

Total Number of Fields examined.	Number of Fields in which the difference between Original and Test Measurement did not exceed											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
2,031	1,675	308	32	9	1	2	..	1	1	..	..	2

25. The degree of accuracy shown by this table could hardly, I think, be exceeded. The errors discovered are nearly all within 2 per cent., and in 6 fields only out of the 2,031 examined do they exceed 5 per cent.

Table of Errors discovered in the Classification.

Number of Fields tested.	Classification of	Number of Fields in which the difference between Test and Original Classification was											
		Nothing.	R. a. p.	R. a. p.	R. a. p.	R. a. p.	R. a. p.	R. a. p.	R. a. p.	R. a. p.	R. a. p.	R. a. p.	R. a. p.
			0 0 1 to 0 0 6	0 0 7 to 0 1 0	0 1 1 to 0 1 6	0 1 7 to 0 2 0	0 2 1 to 0 2 6	0 2 7 to 0 3 0	0 3 1 to 0 3 6	0 3 7 to 0 4 0	0 4 1 to 0 4 6	0 4 7 to 0 5 0	0 5 1 to 0 5 6
1,276 609	Soil	383	383	418	53	30	5	3	..	1	..	..	..
	Water	207	302	89	9	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

26. This table shows that there is a very close degree of correspondence between the test and original work in nearly all the fields examined. In the case of the soil, errors under 2 annas are of little importance, and they only exceed this limit in 9 fields. In the case of the supply of water, errors under one anna, equivalent to one class, may also be disregarded, and in 11 fields only are they found of greater amount. These results will, I trust, satisfy Government that the classification, which is so important to the right distribution of the assessment, has been carefully and correctly executed.

27. I will now proceed to consider more particularly the rates of assessment. The accompanying diagram has been constructed to exhibit the fluctuations and mutual relations of the assessment, collections, and cultivation for the Government arable land of the Kode talooka, during the last twenty-eight years, for which period I have succeeded in obtaining complete accounts. The diagram refers to all the villages of the talooka under Government management, with the exception of Nusvee, which I have excluded, in consequence of one-half of the revenue being alienated. It affords a more complete exhibition of our revenue management than the diagrams given in previous reports, inasmuch as, in addition to the usual information for the whole area under tillage in each year, it further shows in what proportions this was made up of dry crop, rice, and garden cultivation respectively. In order to obtain this detailed information, it was necessary to undertake a laborious examination of the accounts of each village in the talooka from the commencement of our administration up to the present time, but the importance of exhibiting the effects of our management upon each of the above descriptions of culture, as well as upon the cultivation generally, decided me to attempt the collection of these details. By their aid we are enabled to trace upon the diagram, at a glance, whether the increase or decline of cultivation and collections is due to one description of culture more than to another, which is very desirable to a proper understanding of the subject, as it is quite possible that the assessment of one kind of land might be moderate, and its cultivation extending, while the general results for all kinds of cultivation, taken together, might give no indication of this, but the reverse. The nature of the diagram will be readily understood from the explanation and example given below it, and it will suffice to add here, that the streaked part refers to the total collections and cultivated area; the dotted to the same particulars for dry crop land; the double streaked

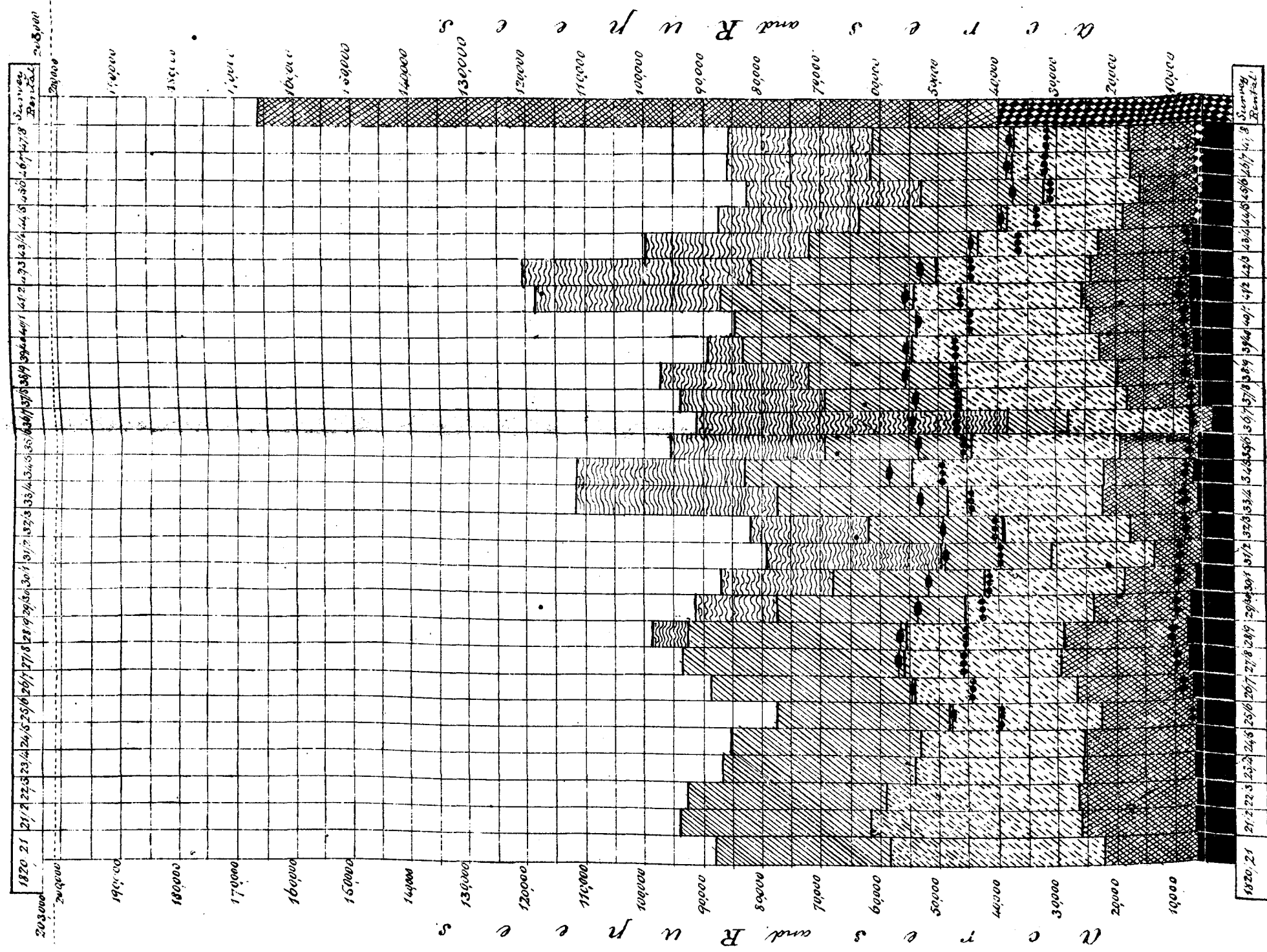
for rice land, and the black for garden land; and, consequently, the heights of the columns of the three last distinctions added together will always equal the height of the first. The dotted line carried horizontally across the diagram, a little below its summit, represents the total number of arable acres of Government land; and, consequently, the portion of each column intercepted between this line and the line — representing the acres in cultivation, shows the extent of arable waste in each year. The height of the uppermost waved column shows the assessment of the cultivated area, and the depth of the column so marked the difference between this and the collections, or the remissions from the standard demand granted on account of failure of crops, crows, &c. These particulars are not given for 1840-41, owing to their omission from the accounts of some villages for that year.

28. Perhaps the most striking fact presented by the diagram is the enormous extent of arable waste throughout the whole period of our management, amounting on the average to more than four times that of the cultivated area. And with this almost unbounded field to reward the industry of the cultivator, it is startling to find that not only has he failed to subdue any part of it, but that its borders have been actually enlarging, and for the last nine or ten years hemming him in from year to year within narrower and narrower limits, until at length he retains under tillage less than one-sixth of the whole arable area. And this extraordinary fact is presented to our view after thirty years of British Government, during the whole of which long period the cultivators have enjoyed the blessings of peace, security, and freedom, to an extent far beyond what their ancestors for centuries previously had experienced, or probably even imagined possible. No more convincing illustrations could be given of the grievous nature of the present land assessment of Kode, which could alone have brought about a result so opposed to the ordinary progress of society under a strong and impartial Government.

29. But the diagram supplies abundant additional evidence of the same fact. It is seen in the great irregularity of the collections indicated by the height of the steps from the summit of one column to that of another, which will be found on examination to be only partially accounted for by fluctuations in the cultivation. The cause is to be sought in the varying amount of remissions granted from year to year. Large abatements of the Government demand have always been found necessary in this talooka, and in this we have indubitable proofs of its excessive amount. In fact, the collections have been regulated more with reference to the state of the crops and means of the cultivators, in so far as these could be ascertained at the annual settlements, than the amount of the standard assessment; and the latter, being nearly always beyond the powers of the cultivators to discharge in full, the Government demand upon them has in effect been unlimited, increasing or decreasing as the seasons happened to be good or bad. Increase of agricultural capital, or the exercise of steady hopeful industry on the part of the cultivators, was in such circumstances not to be looked for, and the natural result is the state of the talooka already described in my 5th paragraph.

30. Another most important fact established by the diagram is, that this excessive assessment was not confined to any one description of land, for the decline of cultivation and collections is equally perceptible in the case of the dry and wet cultures. The garden cultivation has remained the steadiest; but, in addition to being more independent of the ordinary rains than the dry crop and rice land, it is much more valued, and it would, therefore, be the last land that a cultivator would determine on giving up. It is, moreover, of comparatively small extent; and, being chiefly devoted to the production of luxuries, it would not, even had it prospered, which it has not, have had any material effect on the circumstances of the people. But had the assessment on the dry crop or the rice land been such as to have admitted of either being profitably cultivated, we should, no doubt, with a population like that of Kode, hardly pushed for the means of

DIAGRAM illustrating the fluctuations in the CULTIVATION, ASSESSMENT, REMISSIONS, and COLLECTIONS in the case of the Government arable land of the KODE TALOOK, during the last 28 years.



EXAMPLE.

EXPLANATION.

The various items are measured by the scale of Acres and Rupees across the Diagram.

The summits of the wavy columns denote the Gross Assessment on the whole cultivation; the depths of the same, the Remissions. The summits of the streaked columns denote the Net Assessment or Collections on the whole cultivation, those of dotted, double streaked, and black columns, the collections on account of Dry Crop, Rice and Garden lands respectively for the years to which they relate.

— This line marks the total number of acres cultivated each year.

••••• of Dry Crop land, cultivated each year

do do

Rice

The summit of the double streaked column on the right of the diagram shows the rental of the whole Government arable land at the proposed rates of assessment, and that of the isolated portion of the same column, this rental on the cultivation of 1867.

In 1867/8	Rupees
Gross Assessment	85269
Remissions	24138
Collections on total cultivation	61131
do Dry Crop land	37534
do Rice land	17108
do Garden land	6482

Total Cultivation	Acres
Dry Crop do	37872
Rice do	31585
do	8334

subsistence, have seen a rapid increase of cultivation in the case of the moderately assessed land. But nothing of the kind is observable. On the contrary, both kinds of cultivation have, of late years especially, rapidly declined.

31. I wish it to be understood, however, that the preceding remarks apply exclusively to the case of Government land; for, as already mentioned in my 12th paragraph, there has been a considerable increase of cultivation in the case of alienated lands within the period of our rule, and the population has, I believe, increased both in number and resources within the same period: but this result is chiefly due to the cultivation of enam land; and I have no hesitation in expressing my conviction, that but for this recourse, a large portion of the population would have been compelled to emigrate, or been swept off by famine and disease.

32. Kode possesses greater capabilities than most parts of this Collectorate, and I believe myself to be within the truth in stating my conviction that the extent of Government land in cultivation would have been at least treble what it is had the assessment during the period of our administration been of moderate amount. It is sad to think of the development of the resources of this fine talooka having been so long retarded by the pressure of an unsupportable taxation; but a day of brighter promise has at length dawned, and hope already beckons its dispirited peasantry to a career of industry that will soon reward them with comfort and abundance.

33. In the subjoined table will be found the average rates of assessment per acre of dry crop, rice, and garden land, during the last twenty-three years and five years respectively, as deduced from the cultivation and collections of the same periods shown upon the diagram:—

Description of Land.	Average for the last 23 years.			Average for the last 5 years.		
	Acres in cultivation.	Realized Assessment.	Rate per Acre.	Acres in cultivation.	Realized Assessment.	Rate per Acre.
Dry-crop	41,790	45,619	1 1 6	33,006	38,538	1 2 8
Rice	7,993	21,222	2 10 6	5,983	18,617	3 1 9
Garden	846	6,600	7 12 10	745	6,378	8 9 3

34. The rates here shown are those of a most excessive assessment, and are useful as beacons to warn us off dangerous ground rather than as guides to follow. We learn from them that the average rates of the new assessment must be very much lower to afford it a chance of success, but they do not much assist us in discovering how great this reduction must be. There are, however, other considerations to be taken into account, to which I shall now briefly allude, commencing with those affecting the

DRY CROP RATES OF ASSESSMENT.

35. In the 3rd paragraph of this report I have described the peculiarities of the climate of Kode, in the south-western portion of which the fall of rain during the monsoon months is in excess of the quantity best suited to the dry crop culture. It is impossible to define with exactness the limits of this division, as the climate alters gradually as we proceed from one village to another, while the region of excessive rain varies in size according to the nature of the season, expanding or contracting as the fall of rain happens to be above or below an average. After giving the subject due consideration, and consultation with the Assistant Superintendent [Mr. Young] who classified the district, I have selected eighty-one villages, of which the climate appears so decidedly over moist for the dry crop culture as to require an alteration to be made on that account in the rates of assessment. These villages I have again subdivided into two classes, of sixty-four and seventeen villages respectively, the latter being situated further to the west, and having the rain in greatest excess. These two divisions correspond in climate with the 2nd and 3rd of the four classes of villages into which I divided

the adjoining talooka of Hangul for the same reasons in my last assessment report, in which the manner of allowing for these variations of climate will be found fully explained. The climate of the remainder of the Kode talooka does not vary to an extent requiring to be taken into account in settling the assessment, and is everywhere favourable for the dry crop culture.

36. Prices are lower on the average in Kode than in the adjoining talookas of Rancee-Bednore and Hangul; but, with the exception of the more northerly villages, which are intermixed with those of the latter talookas, and in the immediate neighbourhood of the main road from Madras and Bangalore to Dharwar, they do not differ within the limits of Kode itself to an extent requiring a corresponding alteration to be made in the assessment. In the extreme south, in the villages of Massoor and Halloor, they indeed range perceptibly lower than in the rest of the district, but then this disadvantage is fully compensated by a more certain fall of rain than elsewhere, so that I have come to the conclusion, that with the exception of thirty villages, situated in the northern part of the talooka, all the rest may be considered very much on a par, in respect of markets. The thirty villages just mentioned are, from situation, exactly on a par, both in respect of climate and markets, with the 1st class of Rancee-Bednore villages, for which a maximum rate of Rs. 1-6-0 was proposed in my last assessment report.

37. The maximum dry crop rates sanctioned for the talookas of this Collectorate already settled are as follows:—

Talookas.	Class of Villages.	Maximum Rate of Assessment per Acre.	Talookas.	Class of Villages.	Maximum Rate of Assessment per Acre.
Hoobullee	1st	2 0 0	Turrus	1st	1 8 0
	2nd	1 8 0		2nd	1 3 6
	3rd	1 4 0		3rd	0 15 0
				4th	0 10 6
Nuwalgoond	1st	1 5 0	Hangul	1st	1 8 0
	2nd	1 2 0		2nd	1 3 6
	3rd	1 0 0		3rd	0 15 0
				4th	0 10 6
Dumbul	1st	1 2 0	Rancee-Bednore	1st	1 6 0
	2nd	1 0 0		2nd	1 4 0
Bunkapoor	1st	1 12 0			
	2nd	1 8 0			
	3rd	1 6 0			
	4th	1 4 0			

38. The climate of the portion of Kode best suited to the dry crop culture I consider about equal, though hardly so good, as that of the 2nd class of Bunkapoor and 1st class of Hangul villages. It is somewhat superior to that of the 1st class of Rancee-Bednore villages; but in regard to markets Kode is more unfavorably situated than any of these three talookas.

39. Finally, the consideration of all the foregoing particulars, viz. the results of past revenue management, climate, markets, and relations, to other districts already settled, lead me to propose a classification of the villages of Kode into four groups, with the maximum rates of dry crop assessment shown below, as the most suitable settlement that I can devise:—

Groups of Villages.	Number of Villages.	Considerations which have determined the position of the Group.	Maximum Dry Crop rate per Acre.
1st	30	Climate well suited for the dry crop culture, and most favourably situated in respect of markets	1 6 0
2nd	134	Climate well suited for the dry crop culture; but less favourably situated than preceding group in regard to markets	1 4 0
3rd	64	Equal to the preceding group in point of markets, but inferior as respects climate, which is over moist for the dry crop culture	1 0 0
4th	17	On a par with the preceding as to markets, but having a still rainy and more unfavourable climate for dry crops	0 12 6

40. A comparison of the assessment that would result from the adoption of these rates for the several groups of villages, with the existing assessment of the same as obtained from the average cultivation and collection of the last five years, is exhibited in the subjoined statement:—

Groups.		Average from Revenue Accounts of last 5 years.				Estimated Results of present Survey.		
Nos.	Villages.	Total Area of Dry Crop Land in Acres.	Cultivated Dry Crop Land in Acres.	Realized Assessment from cultivation.	Average rate of Assessment per Acre.	Total Area of Dry Crop Land in Acres.	Total Assessment of Dry Crop Land.	Average rate of Assessment per Acre.
1st	30	22,685	4,829	Rs. 5,441	Rs. a. p. 1 2 0	22,500	Rs. 16,875	Rs. a. p. 0 12 0
2nd	134	112,724	20,947	26,464	1 4 3	113,500	78,031	0 11 0
3rd	64	35,331	6,462	6,202	0 15 2	39,000	21,937	0 9 0
4th	17	3,534	768	431	0 8 11	5,000	2,187	0 7 0
4	245	174,274	33,006	38,538	1 2 8	180,000	119,030	0 10 7

41. The reduction of assessment resulting from the proposed settlement appears very considerable in the preceding table, where it is contrasted with the average rates on the portion of the whole arable area now in cultivation; but the present cultivation is chiefly limited to the better descriptions of soil, and the average rates of the latter would be higher than those of the whole area, cultivated and waste, shown in the last column of the statement. After making due allowance for this, there will still remain a large reduction of assessment from the adoption of the new rates, but not greater, in my opinion, than the unusually depressed circumstances of this talooka call for; and if I have any doubt at all in regard to the new rates, it is on the side of their being high rather than low.

RICE LANDS.

42. These are both extensive and valuable; but, like the dry crop lands, now in great measure lying waste. They consist, as in Hangul, in part of land suited for the production of sugar-cane, as well as rice, from having a command of water for irrigation during part of the dry season; but this more valuable description is limited in extent, and the greatest part of the land is incapable of producing sugar-cane. A large extent of land once capable of producing rice has become no longer so, from the ruin of the tanks; and the difference in extent of the rice lands, according to the former survey, executed twenty-three years ago, and the present, amounts to no less than 7,000 acres. And although it is probable that much of this difference is due to land having been entered as rice at the former operation merely because it had once been so, and was entered as such in the village accounts, still there can be no question that the state of many of the tanks has greatly deteriorated within the last twenty-three years, and that a considerable extent of

land has from this cause become incapable of irrigation. The present extent of land suitable for rice may be estimated at 20,000 acres.

43. It will not be necessary to make any classification of the villages, as in the case of dry crop land, on account of climate and markets, with a view to the adjustment of the assessment. The climate has been already taken into account in determining the water class of the field, in the manner described in a previous part of this report; and the products of this description of land are so much more valuable and less bulky than those of the dry crop soils, that the difference in the average prices obtainable for them in different parts of the talooka is not of sufficient magnitude to require any change in the rates of assessment. Taking the talooka as a whole, however, the prices of irrigated produce rule lower than in the adjoining districts of Hangul and Ranee-Bednore, and I propose, therefore, to fix the maximum rate for Kode at Rs. 4-8-0 instead of Rs. 5, as in the case of the former talookas. There is hardly any rice land in Ranee-Bednore, but in Hangul it is extensive; and the impression left on my mind in introducing the settlement there last year was, that the rates would prove suitable, but that they were quite as high as could with safety have been tried. I believe, therefore, the slightly reduced rates I have proposed for this district will also be found suitable, and occasion no sacrifice of revenue beyond what is necessary to place this branch of the assessment on a secure and equitable basis.

44. The subjoined table, which is similar to that given in a previous paragraph for the dry crop land, contrasts the results of the proposed with the existing assessment of rice land:—

Average from Revenue Accounts of last 5 years.				Estimated results of present Survey.		
Total Area of Rice Land in Acres.	Cultivated Rice Land in Acres.	Realized Assessment from cultivation.	Average rate of Assessment per Acre.	Total Area of Rice Land in Acres.	Total Assessment of Rice Land.	Average rate of Assessment per Acre.
27,500	5,983	Rs. 18,617	Rs. a. p. 3 1 9	20,000	Rs. 40,000	Rs. a. p. 2 0 0

45. The extent of reduction effected by the new rates is in this statement also exaggerated, owing to the rice lands now in cultivation being better than the average quality. Upon the cultivation the reduction may be estimated at 30 per cent., which I am quite satisfied is by no means greater than is called for. It will be seen from an inspection of the diagram or the table given in my 33rd paragraph how greatly the rice cultivation has fallen off of late years, and that a liberal reduction of assessment is no less urgently needed here than in the case of the dry crop lands.

GARDEN LANDS.

46. The present condition of these will be found very fully described in extracts from a report by my Assistant, Mr. Fanning, and in the 33rd and following paragraphs of one by Mr. Springer, both appended to this report. Their descriptions could hardly be more unfavourable, and the present depressed condition of agriculture in Kode is nowhere more strikingly visible than in the management of the garden cultivation. This, however, is not so much shown by a declension of cultivation and revenue during the period of our management; for these, as will be apparent from the diagram, and as already explained in my 30th paragraph, have been subject to less fluctuation than in the case of the dry crop and rice husbandry, but is chiefly apparent in the neglected state of the gardens themselves. These, in fact, have been gradually deteriorating for many years past in many villages, and in some have been nearly destroyed from neglect; and Mr. Fanning, in the 4th and 11th paragraphs of his report above alluded to, contrasts their miserable condition with the flourishing state of the gardens of neighbouring villages over the border in Mysore. He attributes this difference, not so much to the higher assessment of

gardens in Kode, as to the want of a superior class of cultivators, possessed of considerable capital, in the latter district, similar to those in whose hands the gardens are generally to be found in Mysore, though the great body of the peasantry may be even poorer there than in Kode.

47. I agree in part with these conclusions. The garden assessment of Kode, while extremely unequal, and in many instances excessive, is upon the whole moderate, the average rate per acre for the last five years being Rs. 8-9-3. Gardens which had fallen out of cultivation under our management, owing to the heaviness of the former assessment, have in several instances been given out again at rents so greatly reduced that these can be paid from the produce yielded by the cocoanut and other fruit trees, without any labour whatever being expended on them; and several of these gardens, though entered in the accounts as cultivated, are in reality waste. Their produce is diminishing from year to year, in consequence of no care being taken of the trees; and even the reduced assessment at which they are now rated would, under the present system, be found excessive in the course of a few years, when the gardens would fall waste, and be no more taken into cultivation. The holders of gardens in this course of decay are generally, from poverty, totally incapable of cultivating them properly, and, under a proper system of management, would soon be under the necessity of giving them up. Under the new system, the present low assessment of these neglected gardens would probably be considerably raised, and the holders, on failing to pay it, as they probably will, would be subject to immediate ejectment, and the gardens sold to the highest bidders, should there be more than one competitor for their possession, or otherwise given to any who might agree to pay the survey rent for them. In this way the gardens would gradually fall into the hands of parties able and anxious to cultivate them, and their restoration to a flourishing condition would speedily follow. There are other gardens which have fallen waste from the supply of water necessary for their irrigation having failed, owing to the tanks from which it was obtained having fallen into a ruinous condition, and these of course cannot be restored while the tanks remain unrepaired, upon which subject I have some observations to offer in the sequel.

48. The maximum rate of assessment I have to propose for the tank gardens of Kode is Rs. 15 per acre, which is the rate sanctioned for the talookas of Bunkapoor and Ranee-Bednore, in which the resulting assessment has proved suitable. The tanks of Kode are quite equal to those of these districts, and the more unfavourable position of the former in respect of markets will be taken into account in settling the details of the assessment. The higher rate of Rs. 20 per acre fixed for the neighbouring district of Hangul was intended to meet the case of some tanks there filled from the dams on the Bhurma river, and, therefore, in great measure independent of the actual fall of the rain in the talooka itself, whereas in Kode the filling of the tanks is wholly dependent on the fall of rain in their immediate neighbourhood.

49. The maximum rate of assessment for gardens watered entirely from wells I propose should be fixed at Rs. 5 per acre, as in all the other districts of the Collectorate hitherto settled. The well garden cultivation of this talooka, however, is quite insignificant.

50. The garden assessment at the rates proposed will yield, according to my estimate, an average rate of Rs. 6-8-0 per acre on the whole garden land of the talooka, cultivated and waste, and an average rate of Rs. 7 on the present cultivation, which is a moderate reduction of the existing assessment.

51. The settlement which has now been laid before you will, as in the case of other districts, absorb every tax which has hitherto fallen on the land, which henceforward, when in cultivation, will only be subject to the survey assessment, and the whole produce, of whatever description, will be the property of the holder. Consequently the huks of the Patels and Coolurnees in grain and other produce will be abolished

at the introduction of the settlement, and a temporary compensation awarded them, pending the final settlement of their offices and emoluments, for which proposals are now before Government. The huks in question have been estimated in the accounts at Rs. 3,025, which is probably considerably more than their value. The tax upon sheep, which last year realized Rs. 201, will also be abolished, as the whole of the grazing of the waste will be sold annually field by field, under the new settlement, and the owners of the sheep will have to make their own arrangements for any portion of it they may require. The sale of the produce of fruit-trees, which last year realized Rs. 356, is also an item of revenue that will be absorbed in event of the land on which the trees stand being cultivated, when the produce would belong to the holder. The amount of revenue hitherto obtained from such taxes will be found in the revenue statement of cultivation and collections during past years given in my appendix.

52. I will now shortly notice the general financial results to be anticipated from the adoption of my proposals. The full survey rental of the whole Government land of the talooka, cultivated and waste, I estimate in round numbers at Rs. 1,66,000, viz, dry crop land assessment Rs. 1,19,000, rice land assessment Rs. 40,000; and garden land assessment Rs. 7,000. And the comparison of this rental with the collections of past years is afforded in the following table:—

Periods.	Collections on Account of			Total Collections on Account of Government Land, Cultivated and Waste.	Estimated Survey Assessment of Government Land.	Excess of Survey Assessment over Collections of past Years.	
	Cultivated Land.	Grazing, Farm, Sheep Tax, sale of Fruit, &c.	Huks of Hereditary Officers.				
	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Percent.
Average of last 28 years...	75,579	3,603	3,000	82,182	1,66,000	83,818	102
" " " 5 " "	62,549	7,591	3,000	73,140	1,66,000	92,860	127

53. The new assessment is thus shown to afford an ample margin for an increase of revenue beyond the collections of past years, inclusive of the huks of hereditary officers, for which compensation will have to be provided out of the revenue under the new settlement. The immediate effect of the latter will, of course, occasion a large decrease of revenue for a few years, until a sufficient extent of waste has been brought into cultivation to bring it up to its old standard. The survey assessment of the land now in cultivation I estimate at Rs. 40,000, and the revenue from waste at Rs. 8,000, and these sums together fall short of the collections of last year, inclusive of huks from the same sources, by about Rs. 25,000, or 52 per cent., which will be the extent of immediate reduction effected by the new settlement. This, though a considerable reduction, is, I feel satisfied, not more than is required by the state of this talooka, which has suffered from the effects of over-assessment to a greater extent than any other part of the Collectorate. In the present season a large extent of waste has been already taken into cultivation, in anticipation of the new assessment, and I feel convinced that a very few years will suffice to bring the revenue up to its present amount.

54. The survey operations for the measurement and classification have been also extended to alienated lands within the limits of Government villages, and the rates of assessment which may be sanctioned will also be applied to these lands, with the view of ascertaining and recording their value. The extent of the lands in question, and the revenue now derived from them, are exhibited in the subjoined table, according to the accounts of last year:—

Tenure.							Acres.	Collections on account of Quit-rent.
Jodee	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	45,986	38,704
Surwa Enam	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	28,170	122
Mahal Jodee	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4,793	4,245
Service Enam	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,591	.....
Total.....							71,540	43,071

55. The only one of the preceding items of revenue that will be effected by the new assessment is that derived from land held on the jodee tenure. The jodee or quit-rent upon this land, which is nearly all held by the Patels and Coolcurnees, is very often very heavy; heavier, indeed, in numerous instances, than the ordinary assessment of Government land in the same village; and when it is found to exceed the survey assessment of the whole alienated land, whether altogether or in part only subject to the payment of quit-rent belonging to any single hereditary office, the excess will be struck off, and the full survey assessment levied as jodee for the future. The jodee revenue may, therefore, be expected to be considerably reduced by the operation of the new assessment, though the exact amount cannot be ascertained till the introduction of the settlement, when each case will be inquired into and adjusted. The reduction, so far as it goes, will be very desirable, as a relief to such of the village officers as receive no remuneration for their services to the State, and whose family lands are, besides, heavily taxed. The mahal jodee revenue entered in the preceding table is received from the district hereditary officers, not merely for the land therein entered, but for six villages held by them on the surwa enam tenure besides, so that it will not be subject to any reduction under the new settlement.

56. After full allowance is made for reductions of every description, the revenue of Kode under the new settlement may be expected to exceed very considerably what the district has hitherto yielded, and the condition of the people to be at the same time greatly ameliorated.

57. I would here beg to express my conviction, however, that the speedy and complete realization of this prospect would be greatly promoted by the restoration of the tanks of this district, now in a ruinous condition, and the improvement and repair of those actually in use. Until this is effected, we can hardly expect to see the productive resources of this fine district developed to the degree of which they are easily capable. It is, as I have already at various times had occasion to point out, altogether futile to anticipate that such repairs will ever be effected by the villagers themselves. They have neither the capability of union nor the resources necessary for such considerable undertakings, which, if to be executed at all, must be so by Government; and as a large revenue is derived from irrigated land in excess of what it would yield were means of irrigation not at command, it is at once reasonable and expedient that the chief portion of the expense necessary for the restoration and repair of the works in question should be borne by the State. Such expenditure should, in my opinion, be viewed partly as capital laid out in anticipation of a future return, and partly as promotive of the welfare and prosperity of the community, which may be considered the first duty of a Government. But as cultivators and Enamdars also participate in the benefits derived from works of irrigation, it is reasonable that they too should contribute in part towards their restoration and repair; and I would avail myself of this opportunity to urge the advantage of passing a law of the nature proposed in my letter to the Revenue Commissioner Southern Division, No. 30, dated 14th February 1848, for enforcing and regulating such contributions.

58. But, independent of this law, it is quite indispensable, in my opinion, that the present plan, by which the Collector must obtain specific sanction for every trifling outlay, should be abandoned. The trouble, delay, disappointment, and expense of such a plan of administration are incalculable, and the most zealous and indefatigable Collector would find himself wholly unable to work it.

59. In illustration of the results of the present system, I may notice the cases of the tanks of Teelowullee and Chick-kerroor, two of the most important in Kode. The former is chiefly filled by means of a dam across a considerable nullah some four miles distant, from which the water is led by a canal to the tank. This dam and canal have been in a ruinous condition for several years past, and the injury to both has been of course becoming more and more serious every year; so that the expense of repairing them will

probably now cost at least double what it would have done a few years ago. The villagers do what they can to make the dam and canal available by temporary repairs at the close of each monsoon, but, owing to the annually increasing damage, these expedients become more and more difficult, and will soon be found impracticable; when the valuable gardens under the tank will be exposed to great damage, if not destruction, and the restoration of the works above mentioned will be found to require an outlay of probably ten times the amount that would have sufficed when the need of repairs became first apparent. The state of this tank has been frequently under consideration since then, but difficulties of one kind and another have hitherto interposed to prevent anything being done. An estimate for the repair of the Chick-kerroor tank was submitted by the Engineer, and sanctioned so long ago as 1835, and a small portion of the sum thus placed at his disposal expended. From some cause or other the repairs were not immediately proceeded with, and in 1841 the Engineer would appear to have informed the Collector that the sum sanctioned was insufficient, when the latter officer directed the Mamlutdar to ascertain how much the villagers would agree to contribute in addition. They agreed to contribute Rs. 390, and of this sum about Rs. 380 were immediately collected by the Mamlutdar, and placed in deposit in the district treasury. The sum available was probably still found insufficient, for time passed on without any repairs being made, until at length the contributions of the villagers were finally passed to the credit of Government under the operation of some general instructions regarding the disposal of sums retained in deposit. The case, I understand, has, or is about to be, once more submitted for the consideration of Government, but the thirteen years of delays that have already elapsed will probably be thought evidence enough as to the necessity of some reform of the existing system.*

60. It is without doubt very desirable that no needless expenditure should be incurred on works for irrigation, but in guarding against this, by requiring every proposition to receive in the first instance the sanction of Government, it may be well to consider whether we do not run into the very error we strive to avoid. Under the existing plan a portion of the valuable time of the Collector, of the Revenue Commissioner, and of Government, is unavoidably consumed in the consideration of every reference, however insignificant, and very often, in addition, that of the Executive and Superintending Engineers, and of the Military Board. The value of the time of these officers and authorities may be readily deduced from the amount of pay received by them respectively, and on making due allowance for this, I think it will appear incontestible that the briefest proposition and estimate submitted for sanction could not, under the most favorable circumstances, pass the round of these all under a cost of Rs. 300, and I believe very rarely does so without costing very much more. In the case of all works under this amount, then, it is clear to me that their actual cost is more than doubled by the process required for obtaining sanction, and that even on the worst possible supposition of a work being wholly useless, it would be better to empower the Collector to order its construction, without reference, rather than consume the valuable time of so many high functionaries of the State as the present method requires.

61. But, it may be argued, that as these functionaries must be paid upon either plan, no saving would be effected by transferring the power of sanctioning such expenditure from the head of the Government to the Collector; and the reasoning would be sound if they had all leisure for the consideration of such trifling matters without detriment to more important business. Such a position will, I believe, be at once admitted to be quite unsustainable, as in all departments of the State the pressure of an overwhelming mass of business is keenly felt. The most active feel themselves in danger of being swamped amidst the never-ending streams of routine business pouring in upon them, and their best energies are expended in merely keeping the cumbrous machinery of their departments moving. The state of things here described is clearly traceable to a gradual appropriation by the central authority of much of the supervisory and executive

functions previously exercised by the local officers; and though the change may have led to greater system and uniformity of practice in the conduct of public affairs, it has, in my humble opinion, been pushed greatly too far into details, and has had the effect of so increasing the mass of business in all departments, that it becomes a task of yearly increasing difficulty to prevent it falling into arrears.

62. In the case of the great majority of the tanks in this Collectorate, the repairs wanted are of the most simple description; so that, in my humble opinion, it involves a waste of the time of a scientific officer to require him either to plan or to execute them, and a still greater waste of valuable time to refer his propositions and estimate, through the various intervening authorities, for the sanction of Government. Time cannot be found for such cumbrous proceedings; and the result is, that the tanks are left to themselves, and their ruinous condition continues a standing reproach upon British administration.

63. Now it appears to me that all this admits of an easy and efficacious remedy. All that seems to be wanted is for Government to settle what annual sum can be spared from the public revenues for the promotion of works for irrigation in this Collectorate, and to empower the Collector to dispose of it as he may think fit. The great mass of the repairs would be executed under the superintendence of the village and district officers, on the plan suggested in Government letter No. 408, dated 8th February last, and be thus much more economically executed than they could be by the Engineer's department. The Collector should, however, have the power of calling on the Engineer for his opinion and advice in reference to any such works, and of transferring to him their execution should he deem them too important to be entrusted to his own district officers. A quite sufficient guarantee for the suitable expenditure of the fund might, I think, be found, by requiring the Collector to furnish annually a statement of the various works he had had executed, and the sums expended upon each.

64. The amount to be so placed at the disposal of the Collector remains to be considered. The revenue likely to be derived under the survey settlements from land irrigated from tanks of a size requiring their repairs to be executed through the instrumentality of Government cannot be estimated at less than Rs. 60,000 for the whole Collectorate, over and above the revenue which the same land would yield were the tanks not in existence. Anything within this sum, then, might be expended annually on these works of irrigation, and yet Government be no loser; but if we only appropriate one-fourth of the whole, or Rs. 15,000, for their support, there will remain over a clear profit of the remaining three-fourths accruing to the revenue from their existence and use, which ought, surely, to satisfy us of their financial importance. The sum I have named does not appear to me more than is necessary for the due repair of the tanks now in use, and gradual restoration of those that have become ruinous; and its expenditure in the way proposed will, I feel satisfied, prove of more benefit to the Collectorate than one of much greater amount upon the present plan of specific sanctions. It would not, however, suffice for the construction of any extensive new works, such as the system of irrigation I have suggested in a previous part of this report for the Koomudwuttee river, for which special sanction, as at present, would, of course, be requisite.

65. In addition to the repair and restoration of the tanks, the prosperity of Kode and all the southern talookas of the Collectorate would be greatly promoted by opening a road available for carts, to join the great road to Compta, somewhere west of Sumusgee, which (vide map prefacing this report) is the extreme point of the Hangul talooka in that direction. For, as pointed out in my report on the assessment of Bunkapoor, these southern talookas are cut off from the road in question by a jungly tract, which in its present state is hardly, if at all, available for carts; and unless a road be opened through it, the cotton and sugar of the districts in question, which form a very important trade, will continue to be conveyed to the coast on pack bullocks, as at present, and the benefits the Compta road is calculated to confer on that portion of the Collectorate

be in a great measure lost. The great stream of traffic from the southern districts to the port of Compta now passes through the town of Sumusgee, from which the distance within the Madras frontier to the Compta road does not exceed five or six miles; and there would, I am sure, be no difficulty in arranging with the Collector of Canara for the construction of this portion. A little way east of Sumusgee, the road should divide into two branches, the northern to be taken as far as the town of Havehree, which already possesses a large trade with the port of Compta, and is most favorably situated to become a depôt for the cotton of the valleys of the Wurda and Toomboodra rivers. The southern branch should be carried near the town of Teelowullee, which, also, is a place of considerable trade, and along the high-lying plain forming the centre of the talooka of Kode, as far as the town of the latter name. The length of these communications would only be about sixty miles in all, and as there is fine red soil for nearly every foot of the distance, the expense of making the road would be very trifling; while it would prove of the utmost importance to the southern half of this Collectorate, from all parts of which produce could then be conveyed on carts to the port of Compta. It is needless to enlarge on the impulse which these roads would give to the cultivation of the wide-spreading wastes of Hangul, Kode, and Rane-Bednore; and I will content myself with urgently recommending their immediate construction as one of the most economical means at our command for surely and speedily developing the resources of these districts, and increasing the public revenues.

66. I will now turn my attention to the talooka of Dharwar, which occupies the north-western corner of the Collectorate, being bounded on the east and south by the talookas of Nawulgoond and Hoobullee, on the west by the Madras province of Canara and the Belgaon district of Beedee; and on the north by that of Parrusgurrh. It is managed by a Mamlutdar stationed at Dharwar, and two dependent Mahalkurries at Gurrug and Moogud. The district nominally contains 136 Government and 33 alienated villages, which are attached to the several charges of the above mentioned officers, as shown in the annexed statement. Three of the Government villages, viz. Turrugoondee of the Dewur, Hoobullee Mahal, and Mootahoonshee and Bokinkondhla of the Kiarkop Mahal, have long been lost sight of, and cannot now be traced, though their lands are supposed to form part of jungle tracts, which have, by the present survey, been included within the limits of adjoining villages. Of the 33 alienated villages 26 are held on the jodee tenure, 4 are jagheer, and 3 surwa enam.

Name of Mahal, or old Division to which the Villages belong.	Number and present distribution of Villages.							
	Dharwar Mamlutdar's Division.		Gurrug Mahalkur-ry's Division.		Moogud Mahalkur-ry's Division.		Whole Talooka.	
	Government.	Alienated.	Government.	Alienated.	Government.	Alienated.	Government.	Alienated.
Dharwar	24	9	..	..	..	..	24	9
Ameenbhayee	8	..	..	..	..	..	8	..
Marudgee	3	2	..	..	..	..	3	2
Heblee	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	1
Misrehkote	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Betgerree	..	..	14	2	..	..	14	2
Tudkode	..	..	17	6	..	..	17	6
Morub	..	..	3	..	..	..	3	..
Dewar Hoobullee	..	..	..	..	9	5	9	5
Kiarkop	..	..	..	..	24	..	24	..
Nurrendra	..	..	..	..	13	4	13	4
Tehgoor	..	..	..	..	19	4	19	4
Totals	37	12	34	8	65	13	136	33

67. The appearance and climate of different parts of Dharwar vary considerably. The Belgaon and Hoobullee road divides the district into two parts, of which the one to the north of the road is composed, for the most part, of a level plain of black soil, peculiarly adapted to the culture of dry crops, and containing little irrigated land. To

the south of the road, on the contrary, the country is hilly, and the bottoms of the valleys are generally devoted to the production of rice, while the dry crop culture is, for the most part, confined to the light soil of the uplands. This difference is indicative of the moister climate of the latter division, in which the fall of rain gradually increases as we approach the jungles on the Canarese frontier. And if the whole district were divided by lines running parallel with the jungle in a general direction from north-west to south-east, the villages situated between any two of these lines would be found to possess nearly the same climate, and each succeeding parallel nearer to the jungles would have one more and more rainy.

68. In the black plain portion of the talooka, the climate is admirably suited for the culture of unirrigated crops. The rain is rarely excessive, but generally sufficient, and the droughts to which the villages of Nuwulgoond, lying a little further to the north-east, are very subject, are rarely experienced here. Tobacco grows luxuriantly in some villages, and several descriptions of culinary vegetables, which in most localities require irrigation, succeed here very well without. In point of climate, this division is equal to any in the Collectorate, and when its superior facilities for the disposal of agricultural produce afforded by the camp and town of Dharwar, and the high road to Belgaon and Hoobullee, running from one end of it to the other, are taken into account, it must be viewed as the most favoured of any in the Collectorate for the dry crop cultivation.

69. On leaving the plain, however, for the hilly portion of the talooka, the climate becomes too moist for the dry crop culture, and the deteriorating influence of excessive rain becomes more and more apparent as we proceed in a south-westerly direction, in exactly the same manner as described in my last assessment report in the case of Hangul, which makes it unnecessary for me again to notice this peculiarity in detail here. In proceeding westward, the cultivation of jowarree, which is the great staple of the plain, becomes gradually superseded by that of ragee, and other inferior grains, and nearly disappears in the border villages.

70. There is, comparatively, little produce exported from this district, owing to the consumption of the camp and town of Dharwar, which contains a large trading and manufacturing population. There is, also, a considerable manufacturing population located in different villages throughout the district, and owing to the internal demand thus created, the prices of produce range higher in this district than in any other of the Collectorate. To the same cause is ascribable the fact of there being very little cotton grown, although the climate is admirably suited for the crop. The ryots find it more profitable to raise jowarree, from which, besides the grain, a large return is obtained by the sale of the straw in Dharwar and the villages along the Belgaon and Hoobullee road. Tobacco is cultivated, also, to some extent in certain villages, and is considered a remunerating crop. Wheat, also, is grown sparingly throughout the black plain portion of the district, but jowarree is the great staple of this division. The monsoon variety is alone cultivated, except in two or three of the most outlying villages, where, in consequence of the more precarious fall of rain, the cultivators occasionally try the white or cold weather variety. In the division of the talooka south of the road, rice and sugarcane are the most valuable crops, and, like the products of the plain division, find a ready sale at Dharwar. The dry crop grains are chiefly for domestic consumption, though also disposed of in limited quantity at Dharwar and the other bazars of the district. Manure is everywhere applied to the land, with the exception of a few lands in some villages, where there is enough jungle to burn on the ground. In this case the burning acts as a sufficient stimulant for one or two seasons, when the ground is allowed to lie fallow until the jungle again grows up. This description of husbandry is, of course, only suited to thinly populated villages, with much more land than the inhabitants are able to cultivate, and will be succeeded by continuous cultivation as population increases.

71. Owing to the importance of the Dharwar fort, in former times, the district under report was, perhaps, more frequently than any other subjected to the spoliation of contending armies during the period of Native rule; though it, at the same time, benefitted by their consumption, and that of the garrison of Dharwar. And upon the whole, it seems to have suffered less than most parts of the Collectorate from the disorders that preceded our occupation of the country. Subsequent to the fall of the Annagoondie State, the district was for 129 years under the nominal rule of Beejapoor, during which the management of it was in a great measure left to the hereditary officers, and the period is described as one of uninterrupted suffering. It next fell under the Moguls, whose rule lasted 66 years, and was generally liberal and prosperous. The Mahrattas succeeded, and one of their first measures was to raise the standard assessment by trebling the ancient Annagoondie "Rukhum," though it could not, of course, be collected, and required the constant aid of cowles and similar expedients to give it even a nominal existence. The town of Dharwar was plundered and burnt by Purushram Bhao Putwurdhun in 1790, as were many of the surrounding villages, and the whole district suffered more or less from similar outrages during the disturbed period that followed, until it passed into the hands of the British in 1817.

72. Under our Government the district generally has made considerable advances in wealth and population, though its agriculture has remained in a stationary, if not declining condition. The large thriving town of Dharwar may be said to have grown up within this period; and the population of other places has also been considerably increased. The reason of agriculture not having partaken of this advance is unquestionably, in my opinion, due to over-assessment. As in other districts of the Collectorate, the revenue realized in the first few years of our administration was very large, which gave rise to an exaggerated estimate of the capabilities of the district; and this, unluckily, was made the basis of the assessment of the former survey, which was introduced in 1825-26, and has since formed the ground-work of the annual settlements.

73. The present survey operations were commenced in the season 1846-47, during which 99 villages were measured by two establishments, under the superintendence of Lieutenants Biggs and Kemball, by whom, also, the remaining villages of the talooka were completed in the course of the following year.

74. The classification was commenced and completed in 123 villages by Lieutenant Francis' establishment, during the season 1847-48, and the operation is now progressing towards completion in the case of the remaining villages, under the superintendence of the same officer.

75. The following tables, similar to those given in a previous part of this report for the Kode talooka, show the degree of accuracy with which these operations have been executed:—

Dharwar.		Nature, extent, and result of Test.											
Number of Villages.	Arable Acres.	Nature of Operation.	Number of		By European Officers.			By Natives.			Total.		
			Villages.	Fields.	Number of Acres.	Average Error		Number of Acres.	Average Error		Number of Acres.	Average Error	
						Per Cent.	Per Field.		Per Cent.	Per Field.		Per Cent.	Per Field.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
132	1,79,000	Measurement..	80	580	6,815	1.37	..	278	1.35	..	7,094	1.37	..
		Classification of Soil....	85	819	7,079	..	0 0 7½	2,615	..	0 0 9½	9,694	..	0 0 8
		Do. Water....	..	222	..	..	0 0 3½	..	..	0 0 4½	..	..	0 0 3½

Table of Errors discovered in the Measurement.

Total Number of Fields examined.	Number of Fields in which the difference between Test and Original Measurement did not exceed														
	1 per cent.	2 per cent.	3 per cent.	4 per cent.	5 per cent.	6 per cent.	7 per cent.	8 per cent.	9 per cent.	10 per cent.	11 per cent.	13 per cent.	15 per cent.	20 per cent.	23 per cent.
580	270	161	89	26	7	10	6	2	1	3	1	1	1	1	1

Table of Errors discovered in the Classification.

Number of Fields Tested.	Classification of	Number of Fields in which the difference between Test and Original Classification was						
		Nothing.	Rs. a. p. 0 0 1 to 0 0 6	Rs. a. p. 0 0 7 to 0 1 0	Rs. a. p. 0 1 1 to 0 1 6	Rs. a. p. 0 1 7 to 0 2 0	Rs. a. p. 0 2 1 to 0 2 6	Rs. a. p. 0 2 7 to 0 3 0
819	Soil	98	282	279	107	46	6	1
222	Water	61	125	32	2	2	..	..

76. The average error in the measurement is thus shown to be 1.37 per cent., which, considering that there is a good deal of rice and jungle land rather difficult of measurement in the district, may be considered a fair degree of accuracy. In the case of Lieutenant Kemball's work, the average error is only 1 per cent., and the greatest error discovered 10 per cent., in the case of one field, which is very creditable to this officer, whose establishment contains many young hands, and had been exposed to serious disadvantages, owing to his having been several times withdrawn from the department for considerable periods for military duty. In Lieutenant Biggs' work, the average error is considerably greater, being 1.9 per cent., and the greatest error discovered 23 per cent., in the case of one field only. There are altogether 5 errors over 10 per cent. in the work of this officer, and although they occur in the case of small fields, in which a mistake is of little importance, they indicate that his establishment has not yet arrived at the high degree of efficiency attained by the others, which is partly to be accounted for by Lieutenant Biggs having, like Lieutenant Kemball, been more than once withdrawn from the department for military duty.

77. The classification has been very correctly executed, the average error in the case of the soil being only 8 pies, and the greatest error discovered between 2 annas 7 pies and 3 annas, in one field only. In the classification of the supply of water to rice land, the average error is $3\frac{3}{4}$ pies, and the greatest error discovered between 1 anna 7 pies and 2 annas, in the case of two fields only, which is equivalent to a mistake of two classes. These results, taking into account that the method of classing the supply of water was tried in this district for the first time, show both operations to have been very carefully executed, and are indicative of the high state of efficiency to which Lieutenant Francis has brought his establishment. A further test of the classification will be made during the present season.

78. On the opposite page is a diagram for the Dharwar talooka, in all respects similar to that for Kōde, which has already been described in my 27th paragraph. My proposals extend to 132 villages, but the diagram includes the accounts of 131 only, those of one small village, Venkatapoor, having been left out, in consequence of being incomplete. The large abatements made from the standard assessment every year show how greatly the latter was in excess of the capabilities of the land, and in consequence of this it became a business and a necessity with the cultivator to obtain as large a remission from the settling officer as he could. To attain this object, he did not scruple to resort to every species of subterfuge and deceit to impress the European officers with a belief of his inability to discharge his assessment. The corrupting and debasing influence of

this system on the peasantry may be readily imagined, while its effects were not less hurtful on the village and district officials, who were in the habit of combining with the ryots to deceive the settling officers, on condition of sharing in the remissions granted.

79. The cultivation, as will be seen from the lines of this form — drawn across each column, declined steadily for the first eight years subsequent to the introduction of the former survey, when the collections were generally high. For the next ten years there was a tendency to improvement in the cultivation visible; due, probably, to the large remissions given in several of these years, and to the grant of waste on favourable terms. From 1841-42 to 1844-45 the cultivation once more rapidly declined, and in the last three years exhibits a not less remarkable increase. The latter circumstance is wholly due to the present survey and approaching revision of assessment, but for which the cultivation and collections of the last three years of the diagram would have been, in all probability, below those of the year 1844-45. The additional collections thus realized in these three years exceed Rs. 60,000, which is considerably beyond the entire cost of the survey operations for the revision of the assessment of the district, which may thus be considered to have been effected at no expense to the State whatever. Most of the land taken up in anticipation of the survey settlement has, probably, been the occasion of considerable loss to the holders; but the very fact of their submitting to this for the sake of securing the land shows that there are resources in the district for a large extension of cultivation, and that it was the weight of the assessment alone which prevented this taking place.

80. In Dharwar the dry crop land revenue is much more important than that obtained from rice and garden lands, as will be evident from an inspection of the diagram. Rice cultivation, however, might, and no doubt will, be greatly extended under the revised assessment, as the more westerly villages especially contain many localities well suited for it. The existing rates of assessment upon rice land are occasionally as high as Rs. 10 per acre, and the necessity of reduction is quite as apparent in their case as in that of the dry crop rates.

DRY CROP LANDS.

81. To ensure a proper distribution of the dry crop assessment, a more minute classification of villages will be required in the case of Dharwar than in any district of the Collectorate yet reported on. In my 67th and 68th paragraphs I have noticed its peculiarities of climate, the villages south-west of the Belgaon road having rain more and more in excess as they approach the jungles, and those to the north-east of the road a supply generally ample, except in three outlying villages, where the climate begins to resemble that of Nuwulgoond. In addition to distinctions of climate, the black soil villages immediately around the town of Dharwar enjoy advantages over those at a little greater distance, from the greater facilities of disposing of their straw, obtaining manure, and raising vegetables and other green crops, afforded by the proximity of the Dharwar market.

82. Without taking into account the three villages lost in the jungle, there are 133 Government villages in the Dharwar talooka, but one of these, Kubbenoor, lately transferred from the Nuwulgoond talooka, has been already surveyed and assessed, which limits my present proposals to the remaining 132. These latter I propose to divide into seven classes, with maximum rates of assessment as follows, with the view of meeting all the peculiarities of their respective circumstances above adverted to:—

Groups of Villages.	Number of Villages.	Considerations which have determined the position of the Group.	Maximum Dry Crop Rate per Acre.
1st	7	Climate favourable for the dry crop culture, and enjoying the additional advantages arising from immediate proximity to the town of Dharwar	2 4 0
2nd	53	Climate equally favourable with that of preceding group, but without the advantage of immediate proximity to the town of Dharwar	2 0 0
3rd	3	Outlying villages, more subject to droughts than the preceding groups, and less favourably situated in regard to markets.....	1 12 0
4th	23	Equal to the 2nd group in regard to markets, but with a somewhat over moist climate.....	1 12 0
5th	19	Climate moister than that of the immediately preceding group, and somewhat less favourably situated in respect of markets. .	1 8 0
6th	18	The disadvantages of the immediately preceding group more strongly marked.	1 1 6
7th	9	On the extreme border of the district, generally within the jungle, and more disadvantageously situated in respect of climate and markets than even the 6th group.....	0 14 0

83. These rates, it will be seen on referring to the table given in my 37th paragraph, are considerably higher than those sanctioned for any other talooka of the Collectorate; but not, I think, to a greater extent than the superior advantages enjoyed by this district authorize; and they will, notwithstanding, effect a very liberal reduction of the present assessment, as will be apparent from an inspection of the subjoined table, in which they are compared with those obtained from the collections of the last twenty-three years:—

Groups.		Averages from Revenue Accounts of last 23 years.				Estimated Results of present Survey.		
Nos.	Villages.	Total Area of Dry Crop Land in Acres.	Cultivated Dry Crop Land in Acres.	Realized Assessment of Cultivated Land.	Average Rate of Assessment per Acre.	Total Area of Dry Crop Land in Acres.	Total Assessment of Dry Crop Land.	Average Rate of Assessment per Acre.
				Rs.	Rs. a. p.		Rs.	Rs. a. p.
1st	7	3,838	3,312	6,996	2 1 10	3,840	6,000	1 9 0
2nd	53	48,774	33,777	59,350	1 12 1	49,000	67,375	1 6 0
3rd	3	4,474	3,056	4,271	1 6 4	4,475	5,748	1 5 0
4th	23	16,183	4,412	3,864	0 14 0	16,000	10,500	0 10 6
5th	19	11,901	3,448	1,991	0 9 3	10,000	5,312	0 8 6
6th	18	19,724	5,541	1,791	0 5 2	17,000	7,969	0 7 6
7th	9	12,479	1,286	270	0 3 4	11,000	4,469	0 6 6
7	132	117,373	54,832	78,533	1 6 11	111,315	1,07,373	0 15 5

84. We find from this table that the proposed rates are below those deduced from the average of past collections in all the groups of villages, with the exception of the 6th and 7th, in the neighbourhood of the jungles, and in which, as in the case of Hangul, the new rates will occasion a considerable increase of the dry crop assessment. When introducing the new assessment into the latter district last year, the cultivators complained of this increase, as was to be expected, and in some instances threw up particular fields; but, notwithstanding this, the impression left on my mind, after hearing all they had to say on the matter, was, that the increase was fully warranted by the circumstances, and would not be found to interpose any bar to the extension of cultivation. I further became convinced that the former dry crop assessment in many of these

villages was below the rent that might be obtained for the grazing of this description of land when waste; and this surmise, hazarded in my last report, has, I understand, been confirmed by the results of the sale of the waste in some villages under the new settlement. Owing to the rainy climate of these villages, the poorer descriptions of land are peculiarly suited for pasture grounds, as they yield an abundant herbage during seven or eight months of the year, which will yearly increase in value as the waste of the inland villages is appropriated for tillage; and under these circumstances, it appears to me very doubtful whether it would be of advantage to bring them under the plough for the purpose of raising grain crops. I believe that in the course of a very few years the ryots of the villages under consideration will be able to take up the whole or great part of their waste land at the survey assessment, and obtain a large profit on it by the sale of the grass, and the feeding of cattle, which are likely to be sent there for pasturage in yearly increasing numbers. I do not, therefore, entertain any apprehensions on the score of the proposed rates in the instances in question being found too high.

RICE LANDS.

85. These are not extensive in the Dharwar talooka. They amount in all to about 6,000 acres, of which nearly half are at present uncultivated, owing to the oppressive nature of the existing assessment. The present rates vary from Rs. 12 an acre downwards, the average rate on the cultivation of the last twenty-three years being Rs. 3-8-7, and that of the last five years Rs. 3-15-7 per acre. The extent of rice land in cultivation at the introduction of the former survey settlement twenty-three years ago was 3,804 acres. This had fallen to 2,874 acres in 1845-46, or about one-third, which is convincing proof of the insupportable weight of the existing assessment. Within the last three years a portion of the waste has been again brought into cultivation, in anticipation of the new settlement.

86. The rice lands of Dharwar are almost exclusively confined to the portion of the district lying south of the Belgaon road, that is to say to the 4th, 5th, 6th, and 7th groups of villages shown in the preceding tables. The classification of the supply of water for irrigation provides for the distinctions of climate between these groups. In respect of climate the rice lands may be considered on a par with those of Hangul and Turrus, and their superior value, as in the case of the dry crop land, is owing to their proximity to the large markets of Dharwar and Hoobullee, especially the former. These advantages are very considerable, and will warrant a considerable increase in the rates proposed for the former districts. The maximum rate sanctioned for Hangul was Rs. 5, and for Turrus Rs. 5-8-0 per acre, but the experience gained in the settlement of these districts has induced me to extend somewhat the difference between the maximum and minimum rates, in fixing the relative values of the water classes; so that in the classification of the Dharwar rice lands a maximum rate of Rs. 6 would be about equivalent to the above mentioned Turrus rate of Rs. 5-8-0. I have proposed in the case of the principal dry crop villages of Dharwar (viz. those of my 2nd group) an increase of one-third on the rates of the most favourably situated dry crop villages of Hangul and Turrus, and I propose to make a similar increase in the case of the rice lands, fixing the maximum rate at Rs. 8 per acre in the 1st, 2nd, 4th, and 5th groups of Dharwar villages, which are most favourably situated in respect of markets. There is no rice land in the 3rd group of villages. The 6th and 7th groups are less favourably situated, being removed from 10 to 15 miles from Dharwar, and the high road to Belgaon, on which account I propose to fix the maximum in their case a little lower, viz. at Rs. 7 per acre. These maximum rates, it will be understood, are only applicable to the best description of rice land, capable of producing alternating crops of sugar-cane. The average rate to be anticipated from the adoption of my proposals, compared with that deduced from past collections, is exhibited in the following table:—

Averages from Accounts of last 23 years.				Estimated results of present Survey.		
Total Area of Rice Land in Acres.	Cultivated Rice Land in Acres.	Realized Assessment on Cultivation.	Average Rate of Assessment per Acre.	Total Area of Rice Land in Acres.	Total Assessment of Rice Land.	Average Rate of Assessment per Acre.
5,125	3,154	Rs. 11,150	Rs. a. p. 3 8 7	6,000	Rs. 15,750	Rs. a. p. 2 10 0

GARDEN LANDS.

87. These are of very limited extent in this district, being, according to the accounts of last year, 360 acres, of which 287 acres were cultivated at an average rate of Rs. 8-0-7 per acre. This land is generally inferior to that of the southern talookas, and is for the most part devoted to the raising of vegetables for the Dharwar market. I propose to retain for its assessment the ordinary garden rates adopted for the rest of the Collectorate, with the exception of Hangul, viz. a maximum rate of Rs. 15 per acre for tank gardens, and one of Rs. 5 per acre for well gardens. None of the land under consideration, unless in one or two instances of well gardens, is sufficiently valuable to be assessed at these maximum rates, even after allowing for its advantages of situation for the Dharwar market, when compared with the rest of the Collectorate. I do not, therefore, think it necessary to alter the maximum rates adopted for the Collectorate generally, on account of the latter advantage, as they are sufficiently high to comprise all the Dharwar gardens, and the superiority of the latter in point of markets will be taken into account in fixing the rate in each instance. The average rate under the new settlement I estimate at Rs. 5 per acre.

88. The settlement which has been now laid before you is intended to absorb all direct levies made by the village and district officers, as in the case of all districts hitherto settled. They were valued at Rs. 3,192 in 1842-43, when returns of all their emoluments were obtained from the hereditary officers, and a temporary compensation will be awarded for the abolition of the levies in question, pending a final settlement of the hereditary offices and emoluments throughout the Collectorate. The sheep tax, which last year realized Rs. 198, and sale of the produce of fruit trees (Rs. 65), will be affected by the new settlement as already mentioned in my 51st paragraph in reference to Kode.

89. The full survey rental of the whole Government arable land of the talooka I estimate at Rs. 1,25,000 in round numbers; viz. dry crop land Rs. 1,07,500; rice land Rs. 16,000; and garden land Rs. 1,500; and this rental will be found compared in the subjoined statement with the collections of the whole period of our administration, and of the five years preceeding 1846-47, when the effect of the present survey operations in increasing the revenue first became decidedly apparent:—

Periods.	Collections on Account of			Total Collections on Account of Government Land, Cultivated and Waste.	Estimated Survey Assessment of Government Land, Cultivated and Waste.	Excess of Survey Assessment over Collections of past years.	
	Cultivated Land.	Waste, Grazing, Farm, Sheep Tax, Sale of Fruit, &c.	Huqs of Hereditary Officers.				
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Percent.
Average of last 28 years ..	94,200	3,051	3,192	1,00,443	1,25,000	24,557	24½
Average of 5 years preceeding 1846-47 ..	90,714	4,811	3,192	98,717	1,25,000	26,283	26½

90. Owing to cultivation being more extended in Dharwar than in any other district for which rates of assessment have been proposed, it is not to be expected that the new settlement should hold out an equal prospect of a large eventual increase of revenue; but, nevertheless, the comparison which has just been given is sufficiently promising, even in a financial point of view; and if the settlement succeed, as I anticipate, the collections under it will at least equal, if they do not exceed, those of the past years of our

administration. The immediate effect of the revision will occasion a diminution of revenue to the extent of about Rs. 10,000 compared with the average collections of the period of five years shown in the preceding statement, and to the extent of Rs. 40,000 compared with the collections of last year. The latter, however, were swelled by Rs. 30,000 at the least, owing to the great extent of waste taken up within the last three years in anticipation of the survey settlement, and it would be a fatal error to consider the large collection of the two last years as affording a measure of the capabilities of the district.

91. The alienated lands of Dharwar, to which the new assessment will be applied to the extent noticed in my 54th and 55th paragraphs in the case of Kode, are shown in the following statement:—

Tenure.	Acres.	Collections on account of Quit-rent.
Jodee	20,905	28,813
Surwa Enam	11,848	.....
Mahal Jodee	13,453	25,598
Service Enam	9,919	.....
Total	56,125	54,411

92. The jodee quit-rent alone will be subject to reduction through the operation of the new rates, as in no case hereafter will anything in excess of the survey assessment of the whole land (jodee and surwa enam together) of any hereditary office be levied on account of the jodee cess under the new settlements. In introducing the latter, also, I have always allowed the Jodeedars the option of relinquishing any entire survey fields belonging to their estates, and obtaining a reduction in their jodee cess equal to the survey assessment of the fields so relinquished, which are then entered in the settlement papers as Government land. It could never be for the advantage of the State to oblige any Jodeedar, or other rent-payer, to hold more land than he himself wished, and there is a further advantage in reducing the extent of the jodee estates, as the tenure on which they are held is by no means so favourable for the increase of agricultural capital, and through it of the land revenue, as that of the Government lands. In all cases, I consider the substitution of the khalsat for the jodee tenure to be a most important advantage.

93. Having thus disposed of the talookas of Kode and Dharwar, I have still to consider the Misrehkote division of Hoobullee, in order to the completion of my proposals. The division in question lies immediately south of the Dharwar talooka, having the Mamlutdar's and Turrus Mahalkurry's division of Hoobullee on the east, and the Canara frontier on the south and west. It consists of 100 Government and 24 alienated villages, under the management of a Mahalkurry, stationed at Misrehkote, as more particularly shown in the subjoined table. Of the alienated villages, 18 are held on the jodee, 5 on the surwa enam, and 1 on the jagheer tenures:—

Names of Mahals, or old Divisions, to which the Villages belong.	Misrehkote Mahalkurry's charge.	
	Government Villages.	Alienated Villages.
1. Misrehkote	44	18
2. Kulgutgeh	50	5
3. Bounguttee	6	..
4. Kiarkop	..	1
Totals	100	24

94. I may be very brief in my observations on this district, as a full description of it will be found in the annexed very interesting report by my Assistant, Lieutenant W. C. Anderson, under whose superintendence the operations connected with the measurements were conducted. The surface of Misrehkote is generally undulating, and to

a considerable extent in the southerly and westerly villages is still overrun with jungle. The climate resembles the division of Dharwar west of the Hoobullee road, becoming more rainy as we proceed from north-east towards the Canara jungles. It is in all parts over moist for the dry crop culture, though the latter is extensively prosecuted in the villages along the eastern border. The westerly villages are very thinly inhabited, and many of them deserted. In this quarter there is very little cultivation, and a considerable addition to the present population will be required before the land can be generally brought under tillage. The crops and husbandry are the same as in the adjoining parts of Dharwar and the Turrus division of Hoobullee, for which rates of assessment were proposed in my last report.

95. The chief cultivation is rice, and the revenue derived from irrigated land is more than double that obtained from dry crop land. Tanks generally of small size are numerous all over the district, and their neglected condition is described in the 2nd paragraph of Lieutenant Anderson's report. The cultivators are, I think, in better circumstances than in any other rice-growing district of the Collectorate, and this is to be ascribed to the assessment having been more moderate here than elsewhere, and more easily paid, from the bulk of the produce being rice, which has always commanded a ready sale, as well in the district bazars, of which a detailed account is given in Lieutenant Anderson's 9th and following paragraphs, as in the more distant and larger marts of Dharwar and Hoobullee.

96. The measurement of Misrehkote was commenced in 1846-47, and completed in the following season, under the superintendence of Lieutenant W. C. Anderson. The classification was commenced by Lieutenant Francis in 1847-48, during which about half the villages were classified, and the remainder will be so during the current season by the establishment of the same officer. The degrees of accuracy attained in the execution of both operations are exhibited in the subjoined statements:—

Misrehkote.		Nature, extent, and result of Test.											
Number of Villages.	Arable Acres.	Nature of Operation.	Number of		By European Officers.				By Natives.			Total.	
			Villages.	Fields.	Number of Acres.	Average Error		Number of Acres.	Average Error		Number of Acres.	Average Error	
						Per Cent.	Per Field.		Per Cent.	Per Field.		Per Cent.	Per Field.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
100	108,754	Measurement..	91	1,318	9,950	0·7	..	2,623	0·7	..	12,573	0·7	..
		Classification..	27	271	1,710	..	0 0 6	239	..	0 0 9	1,948	..	0 0 6½
		Of Soil.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
		Of Water....	..	187	..	..	0 0 4½	..	..	0 0 3½	..	..	0 0 4

Table of Errors discovered in the Measurement.

Total Number of Fields examined.	Number of Fields in which the difference between Original and Test Measurement did not exceed							
	1 per cent.	2 per cent.	3 per cent.	4 per cent.	5 per cent.	6 per cent.	7 per cent.	8 per cent.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1,318	1,093	172	33	5	5	4	5	1

Table of Errors discovered in the Classification.

Number of Fields.	Classification of	Number of Fields in which the difference between Original and Test Classification was				
		Nothing.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
			0 0 1 to 0 0 6	0 0 7 to 0 1 0	0 1 1 to 0 1 6	0 1 7 to 0 2 0
271	Soil	50	98	97	16	10
187	Water	39	110	35	3	...

97. The results shown by these statements indicate a very high degree of accuracy in the execution of both the measurement and classification of this district. The average in the case of the measurement is considerably within 1 per cent., and the largest error discovered amounts to 8 per cent., in the case of one field only. In the classification, the average error, as regards the valuation of the soil, is only 6 pies of our classification scale, and the greatest error discovered 2 annas, which last is just equal to the difference between two contiguous classes of our nine kinds of soil. In the valuation of the supply of water to rice lands the average error is 4 pies, and the greatest error discovered 1 anna 6 pies, of the scale in which 1 anna represents the difference in value of any of two contiguous classes. These results are, in my opinion, very creditable to Lieutenants Anderson and Francis, under whose superintendence the operations were executed.

98. The accompanying diagram affords similar information regarding the cultivation and collections of Misrehkote to those already given for Kode and Dharwar. The full assessment is only given for the particular years in which it has been shown in the revenue accounts. In the other years the Jumabundee settlements, *i. e.* the revenue set apart for collection after deducting remissions, alone appears. The information afforded by the diagram, as to the proportion of the collections due on account of rice and dry crop land, is to be received as an approximation only to the truth, as both descriptions of land are to be found in many fields; and in these cases the entire assessment of the field is entered under the head of rice or dry crop, according as one or other of these kinds of culture happens to be more important.

99. The results presented by this diagram differ in some remarkable respects from those of other districts. Cultivation, from the introduction of the former survey twenty-three years ago up to the present time, has fluctuated very little; but at the same time has been steadily though slowly extending. This extension, it is true, would appear to be chiefly limited to the dry crop land, and the rice cultivation for several years past seems to have remained stationary; but I have not much confidence in the correctness of the accounts in distinguishing the two kinds of culture, and my belief is that both have partaken of the improvement above noticed. The difference between the full demand, indicated by the summits of the columns denoted by waved lines, and the collections, indicated by the streaked columns, that is to say the amount of remissions given at the annual settlements, is unusually small. The fluctuations in the revenue collected, for the last nine years especially, are likewise of limited extent. These facts all tend to show that the past assessment of this district has been comparatively moderate, and though not sufficiently so to permit of any rapid extension of cultivation or development of the agricultural resources of the district, which are very great, neither has it been so heavy as to interpose an absolute bar to progress, as in the case of most other parts of the Collectorate.

DRY CROP LANDS.

100. The area of Government dry crop land in the 100 villages of Misrehkote is about 76,000 acres, of which only 14,500 acres are now cultivated, at an average rate of 10 annas per acre, as deduced from the collections of the last five years. In regard to

climate, all the villages of Misrehkote receive too much rain for the dry crop culture, and in this respect may be considered on a par with a greater part of the Turrus division, and the western parts of Dharwar. In regard to markets, they are less favourably situated than those of Dharwar, but possess about equal advantages with those of Turrus. I propose, therefore, to adopt rates equivalent to those of the latter district, which will be found in the table given in my 17th paragraph, dividing, however, the villages into 4 classes, as in the rainy section of Dharwar, the maximum rate diminishing as the climate becomes more rainy, and unfavourable for the dry crop culture. The number of villages, and maximum rates proposed for each of the four groups, are the following :—

Groups.	Number of Villages in each.	Maximum rate of Assessment per Acre.
1st	3	1 5 0
2nd	21	1 1 6
3rd	27	0 14 0
4th	49	0-10 6

101. The assessment that may be expected to result from the adoption of these rates is compared with the collections of the last five years in the subjoined table :—

Groups.		Averages from Revenue Accounts of last 5 years.				Estimated Results of present Survey.		
No.	Villages.	Total Area of Dry Crop Land in Acres.	Cultivated Area of Dry Crop Land in Acres.	Realized Assessment of Cultivation.	Average Rate of Assessment per Acre.	Total Area of Dry Crop Land in Acres.	Total Assessment of Dry Crop Land.	Average Rate of Assessment per Acre.
				Rs.	Rs. a. p.		Rs.	Rs. a. p.
1st	3	3,644	944	954	1 0 2	3,600	2,925	0 13 0
2nd	21	17,109	6,847	5,953	0 12 0	17,000	9,562	0 9 0
3rd	27	18,650	4,011	2,321	0 9 0	16,000	6,500	0 6 6
4th	49	45,594	1,990	732	0 6 0	40,000	11,250	0 4 6
4	100	84,997	13,792	9,060	0 10 6	76,600	30,237	0 6 4

102. The rates proposed will not in reality effect a reduction to the extent indicated by this table, as the limited area now under tillage is composed of soils superior to the average quality of the land of the district, which is indicated by the survey rates shown in the last column of the statement: on the land actually under tillage the reduction effected by the new rates will be slight. The less extent of the total dry crop acres, according to the present survey, is owing to tracts of lands covered with dense jungle, and not admitting at present of being divided into fields, and classified and assessed in the ordinary way, being entered in the survey accounts as unarable, or unassessed, which at the former survey were included in the arable waste. The present method of entering these jungle lands as unarable has been adopted from considerations of convenience, but they may be distinguished in the survey accounts from ordinary rocky waste incapable under any circumstances of aration by the designation of "Forest Land," or some term of similar import. This course has been suggested by Government in Mr. Secretary Lumsden's letter of 22nd September last, No. 5593, in reference to one of the rules for the administration of the survey settlements proposed by the Superintendents of Survey in their Joint Report of 2nd August 1847, and will therefore, probably, be disposed of in the further discussion of the rules in question.

RICE LANDS.

103. These are of considerable extent in Misrehkote, amounting to 15,000 acres, of which rather more than a half, or about 8,000 acres, are now cultivated. The rainy climate of the greater part of Misrehkote makes it particularly suited for the rice cultivation, which might be greatly extended, and I hope will be under the operation of the new assessment. The difference in the quantity of rain falling in different parts of the

district, noticed in the 3rd and following paragraphs of Lieutenant Anderson's report, has been duly considered in classing the supply of water to the different fields, and there does not seem to me any occasion for making any alterations in the rates of assessment on account of markets, as the greater distance of the western and southern villages of the district from the large marts of Hoobullee and Dharwar is made up to the cultivators there by having the large bazars of Kulgutgeh and Bomigutteh within a very short distance of their own doors; and owing to this prices are very much equalized throughout the district. I beg to propose for the rice and sugar-cane lands of Misrehkote a maximum rate of Rs. 6 per acre, which, as explained in my 86th paragraph, is equivalent to the rates already sanctioned for the adjoining villages of Turrus. This maximum will yield an average rate of Rs. 2-1-0 per acre according to my estimate, which is 9 annas less than the average derived from the collections of the last five years, as shown in the subjoined statement :—

Averages from Accounts of last 5 years.				Estimated results of present Survey.		
Total Area of Rice Land in Acres.	Cultivated Rice Land in Acres.	Realized Assessment on Cultivation.	Average Rate of Assessment per Acre.	Total Area of Rice Land in Acres.	Total Assessment of Rice Land.	Average Rate of Assessment per Acre.
14,603	8,245	Rs. 21,958	Rs. a. p. 2 11 0	15,500	Rs. 31,969	Rs. a. p. 2 1 0

104. In this case, again, on taking into account that the present cultivation includes most of the superior rice land, it will be found that the new rates effect a comparatively small reduction of the existing assessment, but it has already been brought to notice, that a great reduction is not called for in the case of this district, which has decidedly, though slowly, improved during the past years of our management. The reduction proposed will, I think, suffice to secure a much more rapid rate of progress hereafter, and place the district, as far as I can judge, on an equality, in regard to assessment, with other parts of the Collectorate.

GARDEN LANDS.

105. There is, I believe, no Government land of this description in Misrehkote, but should any be found in the villages remaining to be classified, or amongst the alienated lands, I propose to assess it at the ordinary standard adopted for the Collectorate in general, of which the maximum rates for tank gardens are Rs. 15, and for well gardens Rs. 5 an acre.

LANDS COVERED WITH JUNGLE.

106. Both in this district, and in Dharwar, large tracts of this description in particular villages have been merely measured, and their external boundaries marked off, without being divided into fields of the ordinary size, which, indeed, could hardly have been done, and, even if accomplished, would have been of no use, as there is already in such villages much more land apportioned into fields than suffices for the wants of the inhabitants. No assessment is proposed to be fixed upon these jungle tracts. I have suggested in a separate correspondence, through the channel of the Military Board, that a portion of them, or other convenient waste, should be set apart as public forest land, for the growth of timber, and managed under special instructions, distinct from the ordinary administration of the survey settlements. The reckless manner in which the timber of these jungles is now being destroyed is described in the 24th paragraph of the annexed report by Lieutenant Anderson. For the remainder, the plan of management mentioned in Rule 13 of the Joint Report of 2nd August 1847, already quoted, would be applicable, viz. "that in event of portions of such fields being brought under cultivation, rates of assessment should be fixed by the Mamlutdar upon the acres under tillage, equivalent to those of similar soils in the same village." I am of opinion,

however, that cultivation should not be allowed to extend to these tracts, until the waste divided into fields and assessed has been brought under tillage. Till then the natural products of the land in question might be sold on behalf of Government, as in the case of ordinary waste subject to assessment.

107. The direct levies made by the hereditary officers will be treated as usual: they have been estimated at Rs. 2,297. The same course will be followed in the case of the sheep tax, &c.

108. The following statement is similar to those already given for Kode and Dharwar, and exhibits the usual financial comparison of the proposed survey rental of Government land, with the average collections on all accounts from the same source during the last twenty-eight and last five years:—

Periods.	Collections on Account of			Total Collections on Account of Government Land, Cultivated and Waste.	Estimated Survey Assessment of Government Land, Cultivated and Waste.	Excess of Survey Assessment over Collections of past years.	
	Cultivated Land.	Waste, Grazing, Farm, Sheep Tax, &c.	Huks of Hereditary Officers.				
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Percent.
Average of last 28 years ..	30,243	504	2,297	33,044	62,006	28,956	87½
Average of last 5 years....	31,060	1,748	2,297	35,105	62,000	26,895	76½

109. The new settlement is thus seen to permit of a large increase of revenue beyond the average of past collections, while the immediate sacrifice to be anticipated from its introduction will be comparatively small, and not exceed 20 per cent.

110. The alienated lands of the Government villages of Misrehkote are the following:—

Tenure.	Acres.	Collections on account of Quit-rent.
Jodee	16,208	14,253
Surwa Enam	5,110	15
Mahal Jodee	7,304	15,675
Service Enam	1,172	.....
Total ..	29,794	29,943

111. The jodee quit-rent will be reduced when in excess of the survey assessment by the operation of the new settlement, according to the method already explained in my 55th and 92nd paragraphs, in reference to the Kode and Dharwar talookas.

112. Lieutenant Anderson's report contains some important suggestions in reference to Misrehkote, but also bearing on the general interests of the Collectorate. He points out the great inconvenience to trade occasioned by the intervention of the Madras territory between Kulgutgeh and Goa, by which, owing to the different duties levied on salt in the former, the whole trade in this article, instead of coming by the direct route of the Diggee Ghaut from Goa, is diverted to the Tulliwadee Ghaut, which entails an additional six or seven days' journey on the traders; and this is not merely the case with the small quantity of salt required for the supply of the Misrehkote district itself, but equally applies to most parts of this Collectorate, for which the Diggee Ghaut offers the most direct communication with Goa. Lieutenant Anderson estimates the loss thus occasioned to the community at 1 anna per maund in the price of salt. The trade of Goa with the interior must be nearly limited to the Bombay Presidency, and the inconvenience to this trade arising from the narrow strip of the Madras Presidency running up between this Collectorate and the former State is one strong argument among many others that might be brought forward in favour of transferring to the Bombay Presidency the tract in question, which is, I believe, mostly comprised in the small district of Hullechal, now attached to the Madras Collectorate of Canara.

113. Lieutenant Anderson also recommends the improvement of the present very indifferent route from Kulgutgeh down to the valley of the Black River, to the port of Sudasheogurh, which, in point of distance, is much nearer to the northern districts of this Collectorate than the port of Compta. It would, no doubt, be very desirable to open out as many roads to the coast as possible; but the question of expense requires to be taken into consideration, and when once the high roads to Compta and to the Coast by the Phonda Ghaut, now in course of construction, are completed, and made practicable for carts, with cross-roads to lead into these trunk lines where necessary, there will, I think, be no very serious inconvenience experienced anywhere in the Southern Mahratta Country from the difficulty of transporting produce to the Coast. Nevertheless, the proposed road would be of great benefit to the country, and, if capable of construction at a small expense, might fully repay the outlay.

114. In his 25th paragraph, Lieutenant Anderson describes the ravages committed by herds of wild elephants of late years in the Misrehkote mahal, and some steps are urgently required with the view of preventing these for the future. I think that a reward of from Rs. 50 to Rs. 100 should be offered for the destruction of each elephant, according to the size and sex of the animal, and means be adopted for giving this publicity in Canara and Mysore, with the view of inducing the elephant hunters there to follow up the herds in their annual visits to this Collectorate.

115. The present Cutcherry of the Mahalkurri at Misrehkote is most inconveniently situated in one corner of his district, and its removal to a more central position is urgently required; but the suggestions I have to offer in regard to this and other points connected with an improved territorial allotment of districts I propose, as intimated in the concluding paragraph of my last assessment report, to make the subject of a distinct communication.

116. In concluding the present report, I would solicit an early sanction to the proposed rates of assessment, to enable me to complete the introduction of the new settlements in the course of the present season, which is absolutely necessary, to prevent the survey operations being thrown into irretrievable confusion; for the labour connected with these settlements devolves entirely upon me, owing to my Assistants being fully engaged in superintending the field operations; and now that the progress of the survey requires two or three districts to be settled annually, it would be wholly beyond my power to overtake again this section of the work were it once allowed to fall into arrear.

117. I shall be prepared to furnish copies of this report for your and the Revenue Commissioner's records, and have to request, therefore, that the original may be forwarded to Government, which will save time, and obviate the risk of mistakes in copying the diagrams and figured statements which it contains.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) G. WINGATE,

Superintendent Revenue Survey and Assessment Southern Mahratta Country.

Belgaon Districts, Superintendent's Office at Camp Baba-Nuggur, 21st December 1848.

Statement showing the Area of Government Land in Cultivation, and Details of Land Collectorate, for the last

Years.	Number of Villages.	Government Land in Cultivation.								
		Acres.	Assessment.	Deduct Remissions.	Remissions on account of					
					Dry Crop Land.		Rice Land.		Garden Land.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
			Rs.	Rs.	Acres.	Rs.	Acres.	Rs.	Acres.	Rs.
1820-21.....	245	....	....	....	....	58,221	....	22,935	....	6,791
1821-22.....	245	....	....	....	....	61,283	....	25,881	....	7,101
1822-23.....	245	....	....	....	....	59,461	....	26,410	....	6,950
1823-24.....	245	....	....	....	....	54,248	....	25,458	....	7,045
1824-25.....	245	....	....	....	....	53,217	....	25,065	....	7,018
1825-26.....	245	48,024	....	....	39,677	48,628	7,488	22,271	859	6,733
1826-27.....	245	54,341	....	....	44,389	54,067	9,052	26,889	900	7,755
1827-28.....	245	56,741	....	....	45,965	55,732	9,853	29,473	923	8,149
1828-29.....	245	56,489	98,615	5,790	45,357	55,530	10,220	29,126	912	8,169
1829-30.....	245	53,601	91,087	13,675	42,917	45,676	9,771	23,991	913	7,745
1830-31.....	245	51,918	86,573	18,317	41,667	42,486	9,343	18,829	908	6,941
1831-32.....	245	49,184	79,267	29,487	39,882	31,164	8,402	13,603	900	5,013
1832-33.....	245	49,443	81,699	19,894	40,444	39,365	8,130	17,331	869	5,109
1833-34.....	245	53,088	1,11,344	34,362	44,045	48,448	8,197	22,360	846	6,174
1834-35.....	245	58,254	1,11,344	20,974	49,275	54,517	8,098	22,034	881	6,335
1835-36.....	245	53,374	95,383	25,961	45,336	44,745	7,251	19,081	787	5,596
1836-37.....	245	54,397	91,205	52,526	46,466	27,889	7,157	7,301	774	3,489
1837-38.....	245	54,175	93,995	24,723	46,402	45,999	6,992	17,821	781	5,452
1838-39.....	245	55,601	97,134	24,710	47,279	46,511	7,549	19,827	773	6,086
1839-40.....	245	55,453	89,161	5,447	46,929	54,507	7,741	22,784	783	6,423
1840-41.....	245	53,539	....	....	44,910	53,784	7,838	24,335	791	6,842
1841-42.....	245	55,879	1,18,711	3,269	46,121	54,226	8,984	25,405	774	7,011
1842-43.....	245	53,160	1,20,271	38,635	44,428	50,198	7,940	24,367	792	7,071
1843-44.....	245	44,419	99,643	26,581	36,533	43,279	7,153	23,015	733	6,768
1844-45.....	245	39,587	87,437	23,704	33,031	38,774	5,855	18,601	701	6,358
1845-46.....	245	37,363	82,988	29,745	31,007	32,117	5,634	15,647	722	5,479
1846-47.....	245	38,187	85,883	24,305	31,927	37,835	5,466	17,079	794	6,664
1847-48.....	245	37,873	85,269	24,138	31,533	37,581	5,539	17,108	801	6,442
General Average .....	.....	50,612	95,106	23,486	41,979	47,462	7,811	21,572	822	6,525
Average of 5 Years from 1843-44 to 1847-48.	.....	39,485	88,244	25,695	32,806	37,917	5,929	18,290	750	6,342

1. Fractions of acres and rupees are omitted in this Statement.
2. The entries in columns 3 to 12 correspond with the diagram in the body of the report.
3. From 1820-21 to 1824-25 the cultivation was not recorded in acres.
4. The total assessment and remissions are not shown in the village accounts prior to 1828-29.

Revenue from all Sources, for 245 Villages of the Kode Talooka of the Dharwar Twenty-eight Years.

Total.	Government Waste Land.			Total Net Revenue from Government Land, Cultivated and Waste, or Sum of columns 12 and 15.	Net Revenue from Alienated Land.			Total Net Land Revenue from all Sources, or Sum of columns 16 and 19.
	Grazing, Farm, and Sheep Tax, Net.	Sale of Fruit, &c.	Total Receipts from Waste.		Jodee Assessment.	Surwa Enam, Puttee, and Mahal Jodee.	Total Revenue from Alienated Land.	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
87,947	3,835	295	4,130	92,077	52,065	6,948	59,013	1,51,090
94,265	3,879	330	4,209	98,474	55,708	4,842	60,550	1,59,024
92,821	4,142	323	4,465	97,286	55,537	3,438	58,975	1,56,261
86,751	3,878	293	4,171	90,922	52,600	4,348	56,948	1,47,906
85,300	280	329	609	85,909	51,606	3,061	54,667	1,40,576
77,632	2,478	347	2,825	80,457	46,062	3,061	49,123	1,29,580
88,711	2,731	369	3,100	91,811	52,835	4,898	57,733	1,49,544
93,354	2,738	378	3,116	96,470	53,574	3,416	56,990	1,53,460
92,825	2,869	372	3,241	96,066	52,936	3,416	56,352	1,52,418
77,412	2,918	409	3,327	80,739	43,371	4,854	48,225	1,28,964
68,256	3,718	402	4,120	72,376	36,737	3,017	39,754	1,12,130
49,780	1,320	115	1,435	51,215	28,845	3,017	31,862	83,077
61,805	1,353	122	1,475	63,280	35,601	4,500	40,101	1,03,381
76,982	1,398	100	1,498	78,480	43,129	2,992	46,121	1,24,601
82,886	1,436	115	1,551	74,437	44,549	2,992	47,541	1,31,978
79,422	1,564	115	1,679	71,101	41,165	4,474	45,639	1,16,740
38,679	1,584	118	1,702	40,381	26,813	2,992	29,805	70,186
69,272	1,680	153	1,833	71,105	42,814	2,992	45,806	1,16,911
72,424	1,686	152	1,838	74,262	43,018	4,474	47,492	1,21,754
83,714	2,888	158	3,046	86,760	49,295	2,992	52,287	1,39,047
84,961	3,201	152	3,353	88,314	49,675	2,992	52,667	1,40,981
86,642	2,648	151	2,799	89,441	50,051	4,547	54,598	1,44,039
81,636	3,275	123	3,398	85,034	48,653	3,144	51,797	1,36,831
73,062	4,140	165	4,305	77,367	46,627	3,063	49,690	1,27,057
63,733	6,778	84	6,862	70,595	40,912	4,548	45,460	1,16,055
53,243	8,169	291	8,460	61,703	37,129	2,988	40,117	1,01,820
61,578	8,865	398	9,263	70,841	38,610	3,063	41,673	1,12,514
61,131	8,708	355	9,063	70,194	38,504	4,555	43,059	1,13,253
75,579	3,362	240	3,602	79,182	44,944	3,774	48,718	1,27,899
62,549	7,332	259	7,591	70,140	40,356	3,643	43,999	1,14,140

5. Column 20 does not contain the amounts actually collected, but those set apart for collection; though the difference between the two is so inconsiderable that we may safely reason on the supposition of the amounts here shown having been actually realized.

(Signed) G. WINGATE,
Superintendent Revenue Survey and Assessment Southern Mahratta Country.

Statement showing the Area of Government Land in Cultivation, and Details of
Dharwar Collectorate, for the

Years.	Number of Villages.	Government Land in Cultivation.								
		Acres.	Assessment.	Deduct Remissions.	Remaining on account of					
					Dry Crop Land.			Rice Land.		Garden Land.
					Acres.	Rs.	Acres.	Rs.	Acres.	Rs.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1820-21.....	131	....	....	....	....	96,756	....	13,217	....	1,111
1821-22.....	131	....	....	....	....	96,862	....	13,474	....	1,238
1822-23.....	131	....	....	....	....	1,01,435	....	15,601	....	2,075
1823-24.....	131	....	....	....	....	80,982	....	11,802	....	1,910
1824-25.....	131	....	1,45,976	57,558	....	73,211	....	13,069	....	2,138
1825-26.....	131	62,140	1,47,717	55,321	58,036	75,671	3,804	14,579	300	2,146
1826-27.....	131	62,647	1,48,366	48,942	58,424	82,652	3,921	14,508	302	2,264
1827-28.....	131	61,896	1,46,112	40,200	57,730	88,560	3,875	15,074	291	2,278
1828-29.....	131	58,002	1,38,342	39,532	54,041	81,320	3,694	15,258	267	2,232
1829-30.....	131	53,202	1,29,024	34,830	49,385	80,369	3,550	11,663	267	2,162
1830-31.....	131	50,977	1,24,681	39,157	47,305	71,224	3,407	12,201	265	2,099
1831-32.....	131	51,574	1,25,099	31,853	48,114	80,542	3,200	10,784	260	1,920
1832-33.....	131	48,051	1,14,880	52,470	44,862	52,867	2,933	8,165	256	1,378
1833-34.....	131	53,642	1,28,611	59,977	50,395	57,143	2,982	9,631	265	1,860
1834-35.....	131	55,835	1,28,985	29,357	52,417	86,870	3,145	10,812	273	1,946
1835-36.....	131	56,139	1,21,897	40,116	52,802	70,968	3,109	8,979	258	1,834
1836-37.....	131	57,016	1,20,451	43,712	54,016	69,383	2,747	5,828	253	1,528
1837-38.....	131	62,337	1,27,539	28,832	59,221	88,077	2,818	8,430	298	2,200
1838-39.....	131	55,558	1,10,317	45,804	52,619	56,528	2,639	5,985	300	2,000
1839-40.....	131	61,888	1,21,530	19,531	58,918	90,371	2,639	9,233	331	2,395
1840-41.....	131	61,736	1,22,443	17,653	58,596	92,067	2,814	9,828	326	2,895
1841-42.....	131	62,469	1,22,732	24,067	59,237	85,943	2,916	10,033	316	2,689
1842-43.....	131	58,666	1,15,149	23,077	55,391	79,002	2,985	10,671	290	2,399
1843-44.....	131	53,961	1,03,395	17,008	50,704	73,483	3,018	11,072	239	1,832
1844-45.....	131	50,390	99,916	13,465	47,078	72,872	3,037	11,488	275	2,091
1845-46.....	131	51,158	99,726	9,730	48,004	76,655	2,874	11,243	280	2,098
1846-47.....	131	59,434	1,18,575	7,610	56,116	96,421	3,007	12,173	311	2,371
1847-48.....	131	64,309	1,30,182	10,699	60,643	1,04,401	3,343	12,638	323	2,444
General Average....		57,089	1,23,725	31,867	53,654	80,808	3,150	11,337	285	2,055
Average of 5 Years, from 1841-42 to 1845-46.		55,329	1,08,184	17,470	52,083	77,591	2,966	10,901	280	2,222

1. Fractions of acres and rupees are omitted in this Statement.
2. The entries in columns 3 to 12 correspond with the diagram in the body of the report.
3. From 1820-21 to 1824-25 the cultivation was not recorded in acres.
4. The total assessment and remissions are not shown in the village accounts prior to 1824-25.

Land Revenue from all Sources, for 131 Villages of the Dharwar Talooka of the
last Twenty-eight Years.

	Government Waste Land.			Total Net Revenue from Government Land, Cultivated and Waste, or Sum of columns 12 and 15.	Net Revenue from Alienated Land.			Total Net Land Revenue from all Sources, or Sum of columns 16 and 19.
Total.	Grazing, Farm, and Sheep Tax, Net.	Sale of Fruit, &c.	Total Receipts from Waste.		Jodee Assessment.	Surwa Enam, Puttee, and Mahal Jodee.	Total Revenue from Alienated Land.	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1,11,084	1,560	....	1,560	1,12,644	34,696	26,405	61,101	1,73,745
1,11,574	1,905	502	2,407	1,13,981	34,463	27,376	61,839	1,75,820
1,19,111	1,678	483	2,161	1,21,272	34,371	23,358	57,729	1,79,001
94,694	1,505	447	1,952	96,646	30,778	23,277	54,055	1,50,701
88,418	702	328	1,030	89,448	31,672	23,509	55,181	1,44,629
92,396	1,311	385	1,696	94,092	30,725	23,289	54,014	1,48,106
99,424	1,732	370	2,102	1,01,526	32,047	23,301	55,348	1,56,874
1,05,912	1,415	420	1,835	1,07,747	31,445	23,465	54,910	1,62,657
98,810	1,737	392	2,129	1,00,939	30,369	23,356	53,725	1,54,664
94,194	1,859	249	2,108	96,302	29,013	23,153	52,166	1,48,468
85,524	2,278	328	2,606	88,130	28,583	27,337	55,920	1,44,050
93,246	2,224	188	2,412	95,658	29,326	26,789	56,115	1,51,773
62,440	2,351	253	2,604	65,014	25,145	24,448	49,593	1,14,607
68,634	2,451	365	2,816	71,450	26,983	25,879	52,862	1,24,312
99,628	2,021	373	2,394	1,02,022	30,008	26,725	56,733	1,58,755
81,781	2,317	260	2,577	84,358	30,347	25,969	56,316	1,40,674
76,739	2,321	294	2,615	79,354	26,724	27,075	53,799	1,33,153
98,707	2,555	395	2,950	1,01,657	29,698	26,479	56,177	1,57,834
64,513	2,442	255	2,697	67,210	25,335	26,245	51,580	1,18,790
1,01,999	3,190	420	3,610	1,05,609	28,295	26,245	54,540	1,60,149
1,04,790	3,026	169	3,195	1,07,985	28,589	26,545	55,134	1,63,119
98,665	2,970	324	3,294	1,01,959	28,870	26,128	54,998	1,56,957
92,072	3,581	260	3,841	95,913	28,672	26,030	54,702	1,50,615
86,387	4,311	350	4,661	91,048	28,375	26,261	54,636	1,45,684
86,451	5,208	107	4,315	91,766	27,541	35,672	53,213	1,44,979
89,996	6,517	423	6,941	96,937	28,012	25,246	53,218	1,50,195
1,10,965	5,810	383	6,193	1,17,158	28,642	25,818	54,460	1,71,618
1,19,483	5,655	75	5,730	1,25,213	28,714	25,598	54,312	1,79,525
94,200	2,737	314	3,051	97,251	29,552	25,392	54,943	1,52,195
90,714	4,517	294	5,768	95,525	28,294	25,867	53,976	1,49,686

5. Column 20 does not contain the amounts actually collected, but those set apart for collection; though the difference between the two is so inconsiderable that we may safely reason on the supposition of the amounts here shown having been actually realized.

(Signed) G. WINGATE,
Superintendent Revenue Survey and Assessment Southern Mahratta Country.

Statement showing the Area of Government Land in Cultivation, and Details of Land of the Hoobullee Talooka of the Dharwar

Years.	Number of Villages.	Government Land in Cultivation.							
		Acres.	Assess- ment.	Deduct Refmis- sions.	Remaining on account of				
					Dry Crop Land.		Rice Land.		Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
			Rs.	Rs.	Acres.	Rs.	Acres.	Rs.	Rs.
1820-21.....	100	....	32,234	574	....	7,620	....	24,040	31,660
1821-22....	100	....	38,531	41	....	6,699	....	31,791	38,490
1822-23.....	100	....	....	....	....	8,077	....	31,699	39,776
1823-24.....	100	....	41,251	10,799	....	8,395	....	22,057	30,452
1824-25.....	100	....	41,208	3,946	....	9,909	....	27,353	37,262
1825-26.....	100	15,519	36,772	3,446	8,541	7,840	6,978	25,486	33,326
1826-27	100	16,973	....	....	8,722	8,497	8,251	25,410	33,907
1827-28.....	100	17,123	35,675	4,478	8,602	7,615	8,521	23,582	31,197
1828-29.....	100	18,399	34,087	210	8,971	7,843	9,428	25,994	33,877
1829-30.....	100	18,183	....	....	8,748	6,647	9,435	19,868	36,515
1830-31.....	100	18,383	34,520	5,274	8,980	6,986	9,403	22,260	29,246
1831-32.....	100	17,277	....	....	8,680	6,451	8,597	19,276	25,727
1832-33.....	100	17,044	....	....	8,734	6,774	8,310	17,851	24,625
1833-34.....	100	17,439	33,881	3,382	9,201	8,383	8,238	22,116	30,499
1834-35.....	100	20,305	....	....	11,583	10,760	8,722	24,821	35,581
1835-36.....	100	17,756	34,153	6,685	10,624	9,145	7,132	18,323	27,468
1836-37.....	100	18,497	32,640	18,520	11,545	7,429	6,952	6,691	14,120
1837-38.....	100	20,165	....	....	12,993	10,618	7,172	14,394	25,012
1838-39.....	100	19,450	....	....	12,742	8,238	6,708	10,353	18,591
1839-40.....	100	18,498	....	....	12,648	11,082	5,850	17,098	28,180
1840-41.....	100	20,233	....	....	13,237	11,248	6,996	18,624	29,872
1841-42.....	100	21,960	35,348	1,619	14,233	10,242	7,727	23,487	33,729
1842-43.....	100	21,639	34,710	2,312	13,955	9,499	7,684	22,899	32,398
1843-44.....	100	21,896	35,228	1,862	14,162	9,853	7,734	23,513	33,366
1844-45.....	100	20,215	32,164	480	12,756	8,697	7,459	22,987	31,684
1845-46.....	100	21,229	32,335	4,322	13,692	9,434	7,537	18,579	28,013
1846-47.....	100	22,163	33,268	3,996	14,548	8,840	7,615	20,432	29,272
1847-48.....	100	22,510	42,417	9,450	14,561	9,667	7,949	23,300	32,967
General Average...		19,254	35,579	4,522	11,411	8,662	7,843	21,581	30,243
Average of 5 Years, from 1843-44 to 1847-48.		21,603	35,082	4,022	13,944	7,298	7,698	21,762	31,060

1. Fractions of acres and rupees are omitted in this Statement.
2. The entries in columns 3 to 11 correspond with the diagram in the body of the report.
3. From 1820-21 to 1824-25 the cultivation was not recorded in acres.
4. The village accounts do not show the total assessment and remissions for the years in which these entries are omitted in columns 4 and 5.

Revenue from all Sources, for 100 Villages of the Misrehkote Mahalkurree's Division Collectorate, for the last Twenty-eight Years.

Government Waste Land.			Total Net Revenue from Government Land, Cultivated and Waste, or Sum of columns 12 & 13.	Net Revenue from Alienated Land.			Total Net Land Revenue from all Sources, or Sum of columns 14 and 17.
Grazing, Farm, and Sheep Tax, Net.	Sale of Fruit, &c.	Total Revenue from Waste.		Jodee Assessment.	Surwa Enam, Puttee, and Mahal Jodee.	Total Revenue from Alienated Land.	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
....	160	160	31,820	12,343	....	12,343	44,163
4	137	141	38,631	15,323	32	15,355	53,986
8	137	145	39,921	15,544	....	15,544	55,465
14	155	169	30,621	14,987	....	14,987	45,608
....	154	154	37,416	14,829	....	14,829	52,245
1	146	147	33,473	16,935	143	17,078	50,551
1	144	145	34,052	16,409	23	16,432	50,484
2	134	136	31,333	14,723	....	14,723	46,056
....	137	137	34,014	14,703	....	14,703	48,717
....	138	138	26,653	13,216	....	13,216	39,869
....	126	126	29,372	14,392	13	14,405	43,777
....	136	136	25,863	13,287	13	13,300	39,163
....	122	122	24,747	12,446	....	12,446	37,193
....	134	134	30,633	14,304	....	14,304	44,937
....	133	133	35,714	15,555	....	15,555	51,269
13	132	145	27,613	14,990	....	14,990	42,603
....	134	134	14,254	10,115	....	10,115	24,369
....	147	147	25,159	14,201	....	14,201	39,360
....	143	143	18,634	12,436	....	12,436	31,170
71	126	197	28,377	14,394	....	14,394	42,771
48	143	191	30,063	14,627	....	14,627	44,690
978	126	1,104	34,833	14,452	15,528	29,980	64,813
1,036	152	1,188	33,586	14,543	15,678	30,221	63,807
1,105	184	1,289	34,655	14,762	15,693	30,455	65,110
1,695	190	1,885	33,569	14,715	15,893	30,608	64,177
1,678	92	1,770	29,783	14,460	15,454	29,910	59,693
1,875	232	2,106	31,379	14,122	15,350	29,472	60,851
1,516	173	1,689	34,656	14,253	15,890	30,143	64,799
628	145	504	30,747	14,324	9,142	18,242	48,989
1,574	174	1,748	32,808	14,463	15,655	30,118	62,926

5. Column 18 does not contain the amounts actually collected, but those set apart for collection; though the difference between the two is so inconsiderable that we may safely reason on the supposition of the amounts here shown having been actually realized.

(Signed) G. WINGATE,
Superintendent Revenue Survey and Assessment Southern Mahratta Country.

CAPTAIN G. WINGATE,

Superintendent Revenue Survey and Assessment,
Southern Mahratta Country.

SIR,

The Hawusbhavee Mahalkurree's division of the Kode talooka adjoins that of Bunkapoor on the north; that of Ranee-Bednoor on the east; that of Hangul on the west; and the Mysore territory on the south. It embraces two mahals, Tilwullee and Kagnelly, composed of 88 villages, viz. 23 in the former, and 60 in the latter; 1 Phootgaon, and 4 Deshgut; and, besides, 4 Jodee and 5 Surwa Enams.

2. On a reference to the map it will be seen that the district is of the most uncompact form, being intermixed with villages of other mahals, particularly those of Adoor, which are within a few miles of the Mahalkurree's Cutcherry at Kagnelly. To make it or that officer's charge a compact one, the villages at present belonging to it, viz. Luckmapoor, Jungumkop, Yutunhullee, Malapoor, Seedeedavapoor, Soomhullee (deserted), Veera-poor, Hurrunguttee, and Kutunhullee, should be transferred to the neighbouring talookas, the seven first mentioned ones to Bunkapoor, and the two latter to Ranee-Bednoor; and, in exchange, to make over the two villages of Heeree and Chick Nundeehullee, under the Kode Mamlutdar, and the following eight villages of the Adoor Mahal, viz. Heeree Bassoor, Doomunhal, Soomsagur, Kaneiswur, Somassoor, Bussapoor, Chick Hoolaul, and Wansun, to Kagnelly. By the transfer of the latter mentioned eight villages, the Wurda river will form the general boundary of the Kode and Hangul talookas, from the village of Toomreekop, situate to the south of the town of Adoor, and on the right bank of the river, to Byatunhal. Hawusbhavee should be made over to the Mamlutdar in exchange for Heeree and Chick Nundeehullee. This town, besides being nearly surrounded by the villages of the Chickaroor mahal, is contiguous to Kode.

3. The whole of the villages of the Tilwullee mahal, with the exception of three situate to the east, are designated as "Mullad," or hill villages, and the whole of those of Kagnelly as "Bye," or plain villages. The term "Mullad" would appear to be applied only to villages or tracts of country where the rice is chiefly cultivated, and the rain from June to October is more frequent and abundant, and not, as the meaning applies, to hilly country; and "Bye" to places where the dry crop is the principal or only product of the soil, and the fall of the monsoon showers is less certain. In contrasting the two mahals, Kagnelly ought to be termed, according to the acceptation of the term, the hilly, and Tilwullee the plain mahal; for, with the exception of a few hillocks and two villages to the extreme north, lying partly within the hills, the latter mahal is, comparatively speaking, quite a level country to that of the former, which is particularly hilly on the western side.

4. The circumstance of the Tilwullee mahal benefitting more by the S.W. monsoon than that of Kagnelly must be attributed to that part of the country being nearer the sea or the Syadree range, and that it is diminished as it proceeds easterly, except in those places where the clouds are arrested by the hills, which procure a larger supply of rain than would otherwise have fallen, as is the case with the villages lying between the river and the town of Kagnelly.

5. The whole of the land of this district is classed under two denominations, with reference to their properties and appearance, viz. "Haree" (black) and "Mussaree" (red); and these two grand divisions are again subdivided by the cultivators. Although the mussaree or red is almost the universal soil of the two mahals, yet extensive patches of black soil are to be met with; but it is only at the villages to the north and east of Haverree where it is seen to any great extent.

6. The country is well clothed with trees, and the hills are also covered with herbage and low brushwood, which, added to the impenetrable forests of date trees, their unbranched stems crowned with feathery foliage, and enormous clusters of gold and purple-coloured berries, with the dense mass of vegetation below them, and patches of jungle, give the scenery, particularly in the Tilwullee mahal, a picturesque and wild appearance. But yet the first impression that naturally intrudes on one's mind at the sight of so many deserted gardens and extensive wastes is the presentiment of a once well-cultivated district, possessing great capabilities of improvement, going to decay.

7. Besides the Wurda river, which, however, is the boundary of only three villages, the country is traversed by innumerable nullas, which form tributaries to the above named river, the drainage in general tending northward. A good many of these streamlets are advantageously dammed up, and form extensive and valuable tanks. The nulla that runs by the town of Kagnelly, for instance, which is the largest, and takes its rise within the lands of Chick Ungee, under the Kode Mamlutdar, supplies six tanks before it joins the Wurda river. The largest of these is the one called the "Haverree tank," partly within the lands of the Bunkapoor talooka, and partly within those of the Kagnelly mahal.

8. The villages are all small and miserable, their sites being distinguished at a distance by a cluster of tamarind trees; but their appearance is most unfavourable about March and April, from the circumstance of those trees being out of leaf, which, added to the blackened roofs of the huts, give them, at that time of the year, a deserted and gloomy aspect. With the exception of a few tiled ones at some of the principal villages, the whole of the houses in the Tilwullee mahal are thatched; and those of Kagnelly, particularly the villages situate to the north, (barring a few tiled and thatched ones,) are all built of unburnt bricks, with terraces of mud. The villages of the former mahal are, however, generally larger and better inhabited than those of the latter.

9. The dirty state of the generality of the villages in this district surpasses anything of the kind I have seen in the other talookas of this Collectorate. The houses—they should be called miserable-looking hovels—are built without the slightest approach to regularity, in which human beings, cattle, and other living animals seem huddled together among heaps of rubbish and filth. The villages are very much subject to fires, from the combustible materials of which the dwellings of the inhabitants are constructed.

10. The only place of consequence is the town of Tilwullee. Hawusbhavree must have been a place of note once, but it now bears the marks of decay: not one-fourth of the space of the former site is at present occupied. Kagnelly derives its importance from being the Mahalkurry's station, otherwise it is little better than the majority of the other villages.

11. To sum up the character of the climate in a few words, it is pronounced damp in the rains, and subject to heavy fogs and dews. The cold and heat, on an average, are similar to those of Hangul; the nights during the hottest parts of the year are cool and pleasant. The present season has proved a remarkably healthy one, which must be attributed to the abundant fall of rain; but the inhabitants suffered dreadfully the preceding two years from the ravages of the cholera. It does not appear that there are any diseases peculiar to the climate but what are incident to the neighbouring districts.

12. The district abounds in antelopes: they are met at times in large flocks, and prove very destructive to the standing crops, particularly to the tender sugar-cane

plants. The "Baker" (the wild goat, or a species of the antelope,) is also to be met with about the hills; wild hogs and wolves are found in the jungle near Naleekop and Bussapoor; cheetahs or leopards prowl occasionally into the Tilwullee mahal from the Mysore territory; hares abound everywhere; and foxes and jackals are quite plentiful. Aquatic birds, and those of the game kind, are abundant; peacocks are also to be met with amongst the domesticated animals. The sheep do not appear to thrive well, and the few flocks that are kept up for the fleece look miserable; and the cattle are generally small, but apparently hardy. The male buffaloes are used in common with the bullocks for the plough or cart.

13. The bed of the Wurda river near Byatunhal produces a great quantity of "Kuskus," the root of a fragrant grass, of which "Tatties" or blinds are made, called in Canarese *Bulludberoo*.

14. The antiquities of the place comprise a few Jain or Boodh temples, and inscriptions on large slabs of stone, either standing or thrown about the buildings, in the old Canarese character, which none of the Natives about the place are able to read. The temples are to be seen at Tilwullee, Satunhullee, Koosnoor, and Hoophoonsee; but the one at the former place, which is the largest, and similar to the one at Hangul, but smaller, claims the greatest attention: it is entirely built of the finest and most durable black granite, and no labour, cost of time, or expense, seems to have been spared in ornamenting both the exterior and interior; and it is still, considering the lapse of time, in a tolerably perfect state of preservation. The Brahmins have taken possession of it, and have dedicated it to their god Kulmeishwur, and the others by the Lingaets.

15. It is estimated that only three-eighths from the whole quantity of arable land in the district are under tillage, and belong principally to Enamdars. For example, in the villages of Koosnoor and Chick Bassoor, out of 2,403 acres of Government and jodee land, belonging to the former, only 229 are cultivated, whilst the whole of the surwa enam (amounting to 365 acres) are under cultivation; and at the latter, out of 665 acres belonging to Government only 154 are cultivated, but all the surwa, jodee, and chakaree enam lands to 794 acres are under cultivation.

16. The market towns in the two mahals are Hawusbhavree, Tilwullee, Hulleebyle, Chick Bassoor, Koosnoor, Kulkerrie, and Kagnelly; and the neighbouring ones that the ryots resort to are Heeree Chowtee, Moodee, and Kopudhaul, of the Mysore territory; Chickaroor, of the Kode mahal; Saisgaree (enam), Aloor, and Doomunhaul of the Hangul talooka; Haverree, Kurujee, and Davehoosoor, of the Bunkapoor talooka; and Bandgee, of the Ranee-Bednoor talooka.

17. The only extensive manufacture carried on in the two mahals worthy of notice is at Koosnoor, which consists of all descriptions of white cloth used by the Natives, but scarcely sufficient for the consumption of the district, the yarn being supplied from Davegaree and Davehoosoor. Small quantities of "Dungaree" or coarse cloth, made to order, and "Kumbees," are fabricated at some of the other villages, the fleece being procured from the "Dungurs" or shepherds at Hoophoonsee and Heroor, a flock of 600 sheep at the former village, and one of 100 at the latter, being kept up for the sole purpose.

18. The district possesses little trade beyond what is carried on at the market towns for the consumption of the inhabitants. It, however, exports dried chillies, jawgree, rice, and castor oil. The imports from the coast consist of salt, dried cocoanuts, oil cloths of British manufacture, &c.; and cotton fabrics from the looms at the town of Hooblee, and from Hurreehur and Damul. From 10,000 to 12,000 bullocks pass annually through the town of Tilwullee from the Rutteehullee, Ranee-Bednoor, and Kode mahals to Koompta, laden with tobacco, cotton, rice, and iron. Although the traders from the latter district have a shorter route through the Mysore territory, yet they prefer the circuitous one, to avoid paying the transit duty still leviable there.

19. The cotton cultivated is barely sufficient for the internal consumption of the district; and the other products, besides the different varieties of rice grown in the Tilwullee mahals, and in localities favourable for it at some of the Kagnelly villages, the usual productions of the gardens, and the cultivation of sugar-cane, are generally confined, on account of the red soil, to the "Khurreef" or monsoon crops, and the scanty "Rubbee" harvest to places where the black soil is found; wheat is only grown at Katunhullee. No tobacco is produced in the district.

20. All descriptions of land, with the exception of the ground intended for cotton, on which jowarree had been sown the previous season, are more or less manured annually, but the black alluvial soil only once in three or four years. The quantity to be laid on an acre depends on the supply on the hands of the farmer, and the extent of his field. No manure is ever purchased, and it consists of sweepings, ashes, loose dung, produce of the farm yard, and the shell of the nut of the sooparee tree. The urine of cattle is also collected by some of the ryots, and poured into the dung pit, but in many instances it is suffered to go completely to waste. The manure intended to be laid on is piled up into small heaps about the fields, and exposed to all kinds of weather for weeks, nay months, before it is mixed up with the soil, and the consequence is that it is hourly diminishing, and by the time it is brought into use it is little better than a mass of useless rubbish. Bone dust, as is well known, forms a highly nutritious manure, and it is a pity no advantage is taken of the bones which are seen strewn about plentifully at every village, particularly near the "Dharewarra." The dread of losing caste, the bane of India, which presents a barrier to all attempts at improvement, deters the cultivators, I believe, from using it.

21. The population is wholly engaged in agricultural pursuits, and in those parts where the sugar-cane is grown in the manufacture of coarse sugar and jawgree. A portion of the females, besides their usual domestic duties, devote their leisure hours to spinning.

22. The Lingaets form the bulk of the population; but the Mahomedans, Wudurs, and Koorburs, also, cut a considerable figure as agriculturists.

23. The food of the people in the Tilwullee mahal consists chiefly of rice, and of those in Kagnelly of jowarree cakes, and porridge made from that grain, which is coarsely ground for the purpose. The meal, whether it be rice or bread, is eaten with a kind of broth made from the tamarind fruit, seasoned with chillies and salt.

24. The seasons, rotation of crops, implements of husbandry, and mode of cultivation, are similar to those of Hangul; and as I have given a description of them in my report on that talooka, a repetition of them here would be superfluous.

25. The village of Yatunhullee, situate N.E. of Haveree, suffers a good deal from annual inundations, occasioned by the meeting near its site of the two large nullas which traverse through the whole length of the district. The great drainage that is made from one of them (the one that runs by Kagnelly) for the purpose of supplying the large tanks along its course, would lead one to conclude that it must be entirely consumed before it reaches the river; but the rush of its water, added to that of the other stream, when the rains are moderately heavy, is so great, that a good portion of the lands, I am told, is completely under water, and in consequence about 218 acres of land, assessed at Rs. 100, were thrown up last year. The ryots are, besides, put to the greatest inconvenience in carting manure to their fields from the steepy and miry state of the nullas. The latter evil may be overcome by the erection of bridges; but the former, I fear, could only be averted at a great outlay, by the cutting of a canal.

26. The abkaree revenue derived for the current year from the sale of the juice of the date tree amounted to Rs. 3,310 for the whole talooka, including the enam villages. It is a pity to see a tree so useful to mankind used in these parts for the vilest purposes. If it were left untapped, and regularly cultivated, would not the fruit attain the size of

those exported from Arabia? It is not unlikely. For instance, look at the cocoanut and sooparee trees (which are of the palm species): unless they are irrigated, manured, and care bestowed on their growth, they do not bear at all, and if they do, the fruits are small, and drop off before they attain to perfection. However, should it prove a fallacy, there is another profitable field open to the enterpriser—the manufacture of sugar from the juice of the tree, which, as it is well known, contains a great quantity of saccharine matter; and it is only surprising that no attempts have been made as yet towards a branch of industry well worth attending to. The soft and candied sugar I have seen made from it resembled both in colour and flavour that of the cane, but jellies, I am told, made from it, do not congeal, otherwise it answers all the purposes of domestic use.

27. The tree would appear to grow on any description of soil, and often where no other trees would thrive; and its vegetation is so spontaneous that a field lying waste for a year or so is filled with the single leaves of the young plant, which are seen to protrude immediately from the ground; but it is not until the lapse of several years that there is any indication of the stem, and when once formed it grows upwards of a uniform thickness. I have seen a singular phenomenon in the Tilwullee mahal of one of these trees, after attaining the height of 18 or 20 feet, throwing out three separate stems, and were about 6 or 7 feet long, and well clothed with leaves.

28. The Brahmuns and Lingaets, although they do not scruple to eat the fruit, under the plea that it is not the produce of the same description of tree, will not, if it could possibly be avoided, sit on a mat made from its leaves, or appropriate any portion of it for building purposes, except it be to erect sheds for cattle, and consider any attempts at its cultivation beneath their caste and dignity.

29. The fruit of the date tree, when perfectly ripe, assumes a dark purple colour, and is quite palatable; and it is often exposed for sale on market days, and bartered for grain to the children of those classes of the inhabitants who do not scruple to drink the juice of the tree.

30. As the prosperity and revenue of the Tilwullee and Kagnelly mahals depend in a great measure on the tanks, I hope I shall be excused for giving a detailed account of a few of those which require clearing out and repairing, either from the accumulation of mud, or from the delapidated condition of the bunds and water-courses.

31. I have often questioned the ryots, when they complained to me of the state of their tanks, why they did not keep them in repair themselves, by removing the sediments annually deposited by the freshes, (if my memory serves me rightly, I think lands on which a sediment is left by the overflowing waters of rivers and nullas in the Deekan are, or were, assessed somewhat higher than either black, red, or burrud,) and laying them on their fields, as it would not only tend to improve the sterile and indifferent soils, or lands that have been deteriorated by repeated cropping, but do away, in a great measure, with the necessity of manuring their fields, of the materials for which there is at present a scarcity, owing to the best and greatest portion of the farm-yard manure being consumed for fuel. The reply I have invariably received was that it was a good suggestion, and worth trying; but, I suspect, without there ever being the remotest intention of acting on it, for it would interfere with existing practice.

32. It would be premature to offer an opinion as to the effect which the introduction of the new assessment in the district may have in inducing the ryots to keep their tanks in order; but it is evident, that however willing they may be to contribute their quota, the present pecuniary circumstances of the cultivators, and the thinness of the fixed population of the district, preclude their undertaking any work of magnitude without the aid of Government. Any present outlay would speedily, I think, be repaid by the increased rent of the lands that would be brought under cultivation.

33. The Kagnelly tank, which is the largest in the district, covering an area of 223 acres, was thoroughly repaired in 1844-45, at a cost of Rs. 2,300. If the season prove

a favourable one, like the past, the quantity of water collected in it is ample throughout the year for the whole of the gardens, and also for the irrigation of 103 acres of turree land. Exclusive of the supply it receives from the nulla, it was fed by a water-course brought from the vicinity of the hills near Chivakuttee, a distance of 3 miles; but it has been out of repair for the last seven or eight years, the water finding its way into the Heere-Lingdulle tank, situate to the north of it. The supply, however, from this water-course, was only taken advantage of in case of a deficiency of rain.

34. The tank at Tilwulle, which is next in magnitude, extending over an area of 173 acres, is supplied by a large canal, the water of the Nagurhulla, which takes its rise in the Mysore territory, being diverted into it by a dam thrown across the stream near the village of Poorkoodrekop; but from its having given way about eight or nine years ago, only a moiety of the water finds its way into it, and this is again completely lost by its bursting a passage within the last few years near the village of Yatunhulle, and at a short distance from the tank, and it is now merely supplied by the drainage of the surrounding country. It is roughly estimated that the repairing of the dam, which must have been a very substantially built one, and the filling up the gap, will cost about Rs. 2,000. All that is required are mortar and labour. The materials, consisting of large hewn blocks of black granite, are strewed about the spot. The foundation, I believe, is perfectly sound. The dam in question is built across the nulla where the boundaries of three villages meet, viz. those of Poorkoodrekop, Kuchvee, and Baindegeree; the two former of the Tilwulle mahal, and the latter of the Mysore territory; and in its present delapidated state retains a good deal of water for some miles upwards, which is used by the inhabitants of the latter village in irrigating the extensive gardens planted on its right bank near the dam; and as the repairing of it will also be to the advantage of the proprietors of those gardens, I think they should be called upon to contribute towards it. The Tilwulle tank irrigated about 1,191 acres of baghaet and turree; from this quantity 145 acres of the latter description of land belong to Byrapoor. Out of 85 baghaet Numbers, including jodee and surwa enam, 21 Numbers belonging to Government had either become turree, koosgee, or were lying waste till the settlement of the last Jumabundee, when some of them were given, I am told, on reduced rates. This is attributed, partly to the deficiency of water in the tank, and partly to over-assessment; but, I suspect, in a great measure to the former cause.

35. The tank at Heere-Lingdulle of 28 acres is completely filled in with mud, and in consequence only 1 No. of 4 acres, out of 15 baghaet Nos. to 85 acres, is under cultivation, the others having reverted to dry crop cultivation.

36. There are two large tanks at Kuchvee, both partially filled in, the one extending over an area of 90, and the other 66 acres: the former, which is within the lands of Mudloor, is supplied by a nulla, and the latter by a water-course. Besides 12 Nos. of baghaet to 19 acres, about 600 acres of turree land are watered from them.

37. Of the two principal tanks at Chick Bassoor, the larger, covering an area of 60 acres, is in splendid order, and contained a large sheet of water when I saw it in May last; the small one has completely filled in, and 4 baghaet Nos. that were irrigated from it have fallen into turree and koosgee. The large tank supplies 18 garden Nos., and is also used for the irrigation of extensive sugar-cane cultivation; out of 31 baghaet Nos. 14 have been out of cultivation for the last six years. I have not been able clearly to ascertain the reason for so many being relinquished, the assessment being very moderate, averaging Rs. 6 per acre; but I suspect it arises either from poverty or paucity of lands.

38. There are 10 baghaet Nos. at Kubboor, which have reverted to turree and koosgee since our obtaining possession of the country. All that is now to be seen of their former prosperity are a few cocoanut trees. These gardens were, however, watered from wells, but for want of annual clearing out, they became choked up in course of time, and, as the then occupants had not the means of doing it, they were eventually given up, and have continued so up to the present moment.

39. The wells used in garden lands, in this as well as in the neighbouring districts, are nothing more than so many ponds of all sizes and shapes, and as they are not regularly built up, or have a parapet wall, a great quantity of mud and filth is carried into them by the rains, which is added to by the falling in of the sides, and they become, unless cleared out regularly, choked up and useless in a few years. They are generally used about March, at which time of the year, either from a scanty monsoon, or from other causes, the supply of water in the tanks begins to fail. When the water is on a level with or near the surface, the "Gooda" (a basket used by two persons for throwing up the water) is used, and when it lowers 5 or 6 feet the "Kuplee" or "Mote." Many of these wells are of no great depth, and have consequently no permanent springs, drying up at the same time with the tanks.

40. The baghaet lands at Kurra Mutteehulle (9 Nos. to 28 acres) are watered from a tank within the Kubboor lands, for a period of four months, and they are afterwards irrigated from the nulla, on the right bank of which they are conveniently situated, by sinking shallow wells in the bed of it, and raising the water by means of kuplees. Although there is one or more wells in every one of them, they are all filled in.

41. There are 12 baghaet Nos. to 34 acres at Galpoorgee, but they have all reverted to turree during the administration of the late Government, from the filling in of the tank. There are wells in every one of them, but the water does not last throughout the year.

42. The large tank at Hawushhavee is filled in considerably, and the supply of water does not last till the end of the hot season, and the cultivators are obliged, in consequence, to resort to the wells. Out of 31 baghaet Nos. 19 Nos. to 35 acres are watered from it, as well as 121 acres of turree land.

43. The village of Koomoor must have once boasted of a good many gardens, but, like those at Kubboor and Galpoorgee, they are only to be traced by the cocoanut trees, which encumber the soil, without producing any benefit. The reason assigned for their reverting to turree cultivation is the oft-repeated tale, the filling in of the tank.

44. In the above remarks I have only touched upon the principal tanks, but there are others in them, as well as in the remaining villages, that are more or less in the state of those I have attempted to describe.

45. Before concluding this subject, I beg to draw your attention to the unnecessary wastage of water whilst irrigating the sugar-cane fields, particularly those situated at a distance from the tanks. The water-courses are so carelessly constructed, that before the water reaches the place of destination a good portion of it is completely lost, and in many instances flooding fields that were not required to be watered. Some specific instructions should, therefore, be drawn up for the guidance of the village authorities, in regulating the supply, and to see that no wastage is occasioned. I do not know the rules that appertain to the use of the water in tanks, but I suspect the Patels and Cooleurnees generally manage to take the lion's share for their jodee lands, and give the remainder to their own creatures, thereby occasioning a good deal of bickering and ill-will.

46. With reference to the information required in the 3rd paragraph of your letter to Lieutenant Francis, dated the 17th October last, an extract of which was forwarded to me, regarding the capital required to be laid out in forming new gardens, and the profits derived after they come to full bearing, I do myself the honor to submit in the annexed statements all that I have been able to collect on those subjects both in the Hangul and Kode talookas, as given me at the baghaet villages by the cultivators themselves.

47. It will be seen from the discrepancies, as exhibited in the statements, what little dependence can be placed on the assertion of the ryots, to enable me to arrive at a clear understanding as to the number of beetle vines, cocoanut and sooparee trees to be planted within an acre of land, and as to what the rate of produce, expenses, profits or losses may be. Whether this proceeds from sheer ignorance of such matters, or from sinister

views, under a mistaken notion that were they to state the real facts there would be no abatement in the assessment, I am unable to state; but the prevaricating accounts given by them, almost in the same breath, lead me to think that they are the most uncalculating race of people to be met with. All that they look to is the present; carry them beyond it and they are lost in a chaos of uncertainty. In all their undertakings they do not like to wait for a tardy result, and in case of failure they have not the heart to persevere; and, therefore, in forming new gardens, they generally take the precaution of commencing gradually, by planting a few trees the first year, and increasing the number, or extending the cultivation annually, according to their means, appropriating the unoccupied portions for sugar-cane, grain, and vegetables.

48. There is no regular system, it would appear, as to the number of trees that should be within a given space; for in some gardens the cocoanut and sooparee trees are planted pretty far apart, while in others they are crowded so closely together that one would imagine they would deprive each other of nourishment, and be stifled for want of air.

49. To arrive at the truth, or as near the mark as possible, the best plan would be to take the average, as given by the cultivators of both districts, of the number of trees to be planted, the outlays and profits of which will stand as follows:—Cocoanut trees 37, sooparee trees 223, plaintain trees 82, and beetle vines 1,081. Now, deducting the returns derived on the twelfth year, Rs. 109-1-10, when the whole of the trees come to full bearing, (the time the cocoanut trees begin to produce, as given by the ryots at the town of Hangul, is twenty years, and by those of some of the Kode villages is from ten to sixteen years; but it is too well known that if the trees are regularly watered and manured they generally bear the twelfth year,) from the annual expenses, Rs. 54-5-4, it leaves a clear profit of Rs. 54-12-6 per acre, exclusive of what the farmer may make by the sale of vegetables, plantain leaves, limes, mangoes, jack-fruits, &c. The capital to be laid out amounts to Rs. 738-10-8, and the returns to Rs. 553-3-4, exhibiting a loss of Rs. 183-7-4 during that period.

50. The information I have received from one Thaman Naik, an inhabitant of Kagnelly, (vide foot of Kode statement,) differs considerably from that given me by the ryots both in the Hangul and Kode districts. It may, however, be of importance, coming from an uninterested party, and one who, apparently, seems to have some experience in such matters. He is a respectable old man, and was employed under the Peshwa's Government as a Mamlutdar. He has an enam garden of his own of 5 acres, and rents a Government one of 4 acres besides.

51. The cocoanut and sooparee trees are watered once in fifteen or twenty days, and often once a month, and the beetle vines and plaintain trees weekly.

52. The condition of the baghaet cultivators, contrasting them with the other ryots, evidently indicates that their situation is much more eligible: they cultivate other descriptions of land in common with their brethren, have one or more hired servants throughout the year, and others occasionally to assist them, and are often the leading members of the village community.

I have the honor, &c.

(Signed) J. H. SPRINGER,

Assistant Superintendent Revenue Survey.

Assistant Superintendent's Office, Dharwar, 6th August 1847.

Extract paragraphs 1 to 4 and from 11 to 12 of a Letter from Lieutenant F. FANNING, Assistant Superintendent Revenue Survey and Assessment Southern Mahratta Country, No. 6, dated 23rd September 1847.

1. Before leaving Dharwar at the end of last monsoon, I had the honor to receive your memorandum No. 164 of 1846. In reference to it, I beg to observe, that during a residence in the Kode talooka from November 1846 to June 1847, I endeavoured to avail myself of every opportunity which presented itself to make inquiries regarding the condition of the "Bagayet" cultivators, and other matters connected with garden cultivation. As far as was practicable, I have tested information given me by others by personal observation, and, after a careful comparison of conflicting statements, am led to infer as follows:—

GARDENS AND TANKS.

2. But, before entering on the subject in detail, I may observe, that in the district to which my remarks are confined, the principal gardens are at Yellapoor, Chick-kerroor, and Chin Moolgoond. Of these the Yellapoor gardens only can be properly considered tank bagayet. The tank from which they draw their supply of water, though of no great extent, is one of the best that has fallen under my notice, and has, I believe, even in the most unfavourable seasons, never been seen quite dry. At this village, the cultivators trust to the tank entirely to irrigate their gardens, as there are no wells in any of them. The tank at Chick-kerroor is of much greater superficial extent than that at Yellapoor, and, if kept in proper repair, would probably nearly always hold some quantity of water. During the hot season of 1846, however, I am informed that it was perfectly dry, and the plantations lying below it were only saved from destruction by the supply of water in the wells, of which nearly every garden at this town contains one or more. At Chin Moolgoond there is a tank from which the gardens may be watered during the early part of the season, but it is small and shallow, and cannot be calculated on to afford sufficient water to irrigate the gardens after the middle of February. In the district assigned to me for measurement during the past season, there are gardens at many villages besides those mentioned above. They are, however, of small extent, and the remarks above made regarding the Chin Moolgoond tank may be generally considered equally applicable to nearly all those from which these smaller plots of garden land are irrigated during part of the year only.

3. The gardens in the district are generally cultivated in a very slovenly manner, and are, in consequence, inferior, I think, to those in other talookas of the zillah. If a ryot in Kode holds a garden consisting of an acre or more, he scarcely ever appears to care about making his land yield as much as (properly attended to) it is calculated to produce. In one corner of it, perhaps, are a few goontas planted with "Pan-well," which yield present produce, and do not interfere with the prospective advantages of a young sooparee plantation growing up on the same ground. Between the rows of pan-well, and perhaps in other parts of the garden, are a few plantain trees, and, scattered about with very little attention to regularity in planting, are from thirty to sixty cocoanut trees. Probably the remainder of the garden is altogether uncultivated, or, perhaps, sown with some kind of produce which would grow nearly equally well elsewhere as in gardens, to attend to the growth and care of which little labour is necessary, and from which the profits derivable are proportionately small. Scarcely any of the gardens

Description of the
kind of Gardens which
now exist in Kode.

which have fallen under my observation produce nearly as much as, with adequate capital and skill applied, I am confident they would yield.

4. In some of the Mysore villages adjoining the western limits of the Chick-kerroor mahal the case is very different. Here many of the gardens are in a very flourishing condition, and the land is apparently made the most of; and I am informed that the quantity of garden cultivation has increased in nearly all these villages during late years, and has fallen off in none. During the same time, a great decrease in this kind of cultivation appears to have taken place in the Kode villages lying close to the Mysore border. The lands of the Chick-kerroor mahal, and those of Mysore, which are alluded to, are so immediately adjoining each other, that difference of climate cannot, I think, in any way account for the diminution of bagayet cultivation in the one, and the increase in the other. I would assign as the cause neither climate, soil, nor situation; nor, I think, can it be justly altogether attributed to the generally stated fact that the assessment on gardens in Mysore is much lighter than that on those in the neighbouring British territory.

11. I will now glance at what I consider the probable causes of the great decline in the quantity and quality of bagayet cultivation in Kode, as compared with a very different state of things in the adjoining lands of Mysore. It is remarked above in paragraph 4, that difference in the rate of assessment is not sufficient to account for the fact that gardens in Mysore multiply and flourish, while those in the neighbouring Kode villages appear to be passing away altogether. The effect is evident, though, perhaps, to discover the true cause is not easy; and in what follows I am recording an opinion, founded rather on doubtful information and conjecture than on ascertained fact. In the Mysore villages the ryots generally are, I conceive, even poorer than those of the district in which I was during last season employed. But in each of them, or at any rate in many of them, I am told, one or more comparatively wealthy persons reside (not unfrequently Brahmins), who possess much influence, and have amassed considerable sums, which they invest, very profitably to themselves, in cultivating gardens. If this be true, the existence of such a class of persons would, I imagine, more fully account for the increase of garden cultivation in Mysore than any other circumstance whatever. In the district of this zillah adjoining Mysore, I believe that in some cases where the assessment on gardens was higher than they could bear, the cultivators over burdened relinquished them: other parties then entered on possession, agreeing to give rent amounting to perhaps one-half of what was paid by their predecessors. The object of these persons was, probably, in many cases, not to go to the expense and trouble of cultivating the gardens properly, but merely to obtain possession of the produce of coconut trees, &c. which had been planted by the former holders, the value of which very much exceeded the rent. The payment of this reduced rent may be considered to be their almost only expenditure in connection with the gardens, for, judging from their present state, little, indeed, seems to have been expended on most of them, beyond what was absolutely necessary to preserve the trees they already contained from premature decay. So long as the trees planted by the original tenants yield sufficient produce to make it worth the while of their successors to pay the light rent at which they have agreed to hold the land, they retain it. These trees of course leave off bearing in time, and as no expenditure of money or labour has been made to replace them, the land becomes after a lapse of years entirely unproductive, and in this way I believe that many gardens in Kode are now fast approaching extinction. In other cases the rates remain unchanged, but the cultivators always ask for large remissions, and frequently, perhaps, obtain them. Thus, a garden in Chick-kerroor assessed at Rs. 31-8-0 has since 1825 paid no higher rent than Rs. 10. These reductions and remissions seem, however, to have had little effect in causing any improvement in the state

of the bagayet cultivation. To fix an assessment which is certainly not too high, but is still sufficiently so to render imperative exertion on the part of the cultivator to raise produce enough to meet all demands on him, is, perhaps, what in most cases should be done; but to decide on what that amount of assessment involves so many considerations, that, without much experience in such matters, it must be always most difficult to arrive at satisfactory conclusions. Too burdensome an assessment and too light a one appear to be both evils: the gardens in Kode have, I believe, suffered from the former, and in many cases now, under the effects of the latter, are, at any rate, showing no signs of improvement. The amount of rent now collected in the gardens at the three villages mentioned in paragraph 2 is shown below:—

	Highest Rent per Acre.	Lowest Rent per Acre.	Average Rent per Acre on all the Gardens.
Chick-kerroor	15 0 0	4 12 9	8 10 0
Yellapoor	20 5 0	2 0 0	7 13 11
Chin Moolgoond	36 8 0	12 4 0	21 8 0

From this it will be seen that at Chick-kerroor no gardens pay higher rent than Rs. 15 per acre, and although no greater assessment than this has been collected since 1835, the gardens at this town appear as if they were becoming extinct altogether, as the trees planted in them many years ago gradually die off. At Chin Moolgoond, where, I am told, the gardens generally pay the full amount of the rates at which they are assessed, and have done so since 1825, the bagayet (though perhaps not of a very good description) is better than that at the other villages; and here, also, I have observed many more young sooparee and other trees newly planted to replace those which are decaying than I have noticed elsewhere.

12. My ideas will, perhaps, appear absurd—I am by no means confident that they are not so; but in by far the majority of cases the bagayet cultivators with whom I have become acquainted will rest satisfied with the condition of their gardens, however poor it be, if the profits derivable from them are sufficient to enable them to pay their rent without inconvenience, rather than exert energy enough to draw from the soil all that with proper treatment it would yield. If the rent is high, but still within the capabilities of the garden, the land will in more cases be made the most of than will happen when one-fourth of the burden is imposed on it.

To

CAPTAIN G. WINGATE,

Superintendent Revenue Survey and Assessment,
Southern Mahratta Country.

SIR,

In compliance with the request contained in your letter No. 156, of 15th October 1846, I have the honor to forward the following report on the Misreekota Mahal of the Hooblee Talooka.

1. This mahal is about 22 miles in extreme length, and 12 in breadth. The surface of the country is extremely undulating: in the northern part of the mahal a range of hills, called the Boodneegood, runs from north-west to south-east, and is about 8 miles long; they are excessively rocky and precipitous, but of inconsiderable height, probably not exceeding 500 feet above the level of the surrounding country. The western part of the mahal is hilly, and the jungle small and scrubby on the border of the open country; but the trees gradually increase in size towards the west, until, near the boundary of the Canara zillah, it becomes a fine timber producing forest.

2. The whole surface of the country is thickly dotted over with tanks of various sizes, from a quarter of an acre to 75 acres each. With the exception of some three or four, all are commonly dried up by the beginning of March, and the majority two months before. But little appears to have been done for many years, either in the way of constructing new tanks, or of keeping the old ones in perfect repair, judging from the numbers to be seen almost filled up with mud, and next to useless, and the bad state of repair into which many of those now serviceable are rapidly falling.

3. There is a great difference in the quantity of rain that falls in the eastern and western parts of this mahal: places at but small distances apart have climates differing greatly. The principal crop, rice, being entirely dependent on an ample and constant supply of water, and the quantity and time of rain falling varying as it does, it will, I think, be found necessary to make two classes in the rates for this cause alone; yet, as regards seed-time and harvest, this mahal cannot be made into less than three divisions.

4. The 1st comprises the large jungles situated in the south-western corner of the mahal, to the westward of a line drawn on the map from Koodulgee to Kehrawar: these jungles extend without interruption over the intervening country belonging to the Canara zillah, to the Syhadree or Western Ghat range, distant from 25 to 30 miles. From the first commencement of the S.W. monsoon, that is from the first steady setting in of the S.W. wind, till the end of the monsoon, the atmosphere here seems to be saturated with moisture: the clouds coming up from the sea seem to be arrested in their course, and attracted near the surface of the earth by the hills and trees. The monsoon rain falls here much earlier than in districts clear of jungle, though at no greater distance from the Ghats. In these villages such a thing as a failure of the rice crop from drought is, I imagine, unknown, the ground having been thoroughly moistened by the thunderstorms usually occurring about the end of April. In the most western of these villages rice is sown about the first week of May, or earlier, and in the most eastern villages not later than the middle of May. The harvest takes place about the middle of October. These villages being few in number, the population excessively scanty in those that are inhabited at all, and nine-tenths of the land waste,—land represented to be among the best for rice in the country,—it would, perhaps, be inexpedient to rate the lands of this division higher than those of the following. Doing so would probably tend to restrain

the inclination at present existing to re-people some of the deserted villages, and cultivate their lands.

5. In the 2nd division I would include all those villages situated between the eastern boundary of the 1st division and a line drawn from Mungoondie on the north to Wudagerie (also called Kowlapoor) on the south. In these villages the supply of rain is generally ample, though not so early in its first fall as in the villages of the first mentioned division: an indifferent crop may occasionally occur, but an entire failure from an insufficient quantity of rain, I imagine, is unknown. Last year, when the rice crops in the immediate neighbourhood of Dharwar were so bad as in many places to be not worth reaping, the crops in this division of Misreekota were little below the usual average. Sowing generally takes place about the latter end of May, and the harvest in the beginning of November. In this and the first mentioned division, after the rice crop has been reaped, an after crop of grain, moong awuree, or linseed, can be raised in all but the highest situated turree lands.

6. In the 3rd division I would include all the remaining villages of the mahal, situated to the eastward of the last mentioned division's eastern boundary. These are situated nearer to the cotton plains, and appear to partake in some measure of their climate. A degree of uncertainty existing as to whether rain will fall in sufficient quantity, or at the time it is required, rice is not grown as much as in the western parts of the mahal: an occasional entire failure of the crop may occur. Rice here is not sown for the most part till the middle of June, or later; the harvest takes place about the middle of November. From its being so late, an after crop cannot be raised except in low moist places.

7. The crops and manner of culture are much the same as those of the adjoining mahal of Turrus, reported on two years ago. Except in the times of sowing and harvest, the abovementioned 3rd division of Misreekota only corresponds with the Turrus mahal: here, also, cotton is not cultivated, (the climate being too moist,) except in small quantities, in some of the most eastern villages. Sugar-cane is not grown to the extent that might be expected from the abundant supply of water: the small white sugar-cane seems to prevail. The reasons assigned by the cultivators for their preference of this description are, first, it requires a smaller supply of water than the large white and red kinds, and, consequently, is less troublesome to irrigate; indeed, after it has once fairly taken root, but little artificial irrigation is required, the rains alone proving nearly sufficient; secondly, though the large canes give a much greater quantity of juice, it contains much less saccharine matter in proportion than that of the small canes, and requires far more boiling to make goor: the goor, also, made from the small cane, is also considered to be of superior quality. On account of its hard, bamboo-like texture, the small cane is much less subject to the depredations of wild animals than the large. Strange as it may seem, jackals and jungle cats are universally represented to be the animals most destructive to the sugar-cane.

8. The rice cultivators are, if they choose, independent of any bazar in disposing of their produce, a great portion of the rice trade being carried on directly between the growers and wholesale merchants at their own doors. These merchants come from a distance in the plains, bringing bullocks laden with jowarree, wheat, or other productions of the plains, which they dispose of in Hooblee or Kulguttee, and then, peregrinating the country, re-load their bullocks with cleaned rice, bought directly from the ryots. Many of the larger ryots also find it worth their while to carry their rice cleaned from husk to Hooblee for sale. The goor produced in the district is entirely consumed there, and over and above a considerable quantity is imported. Rice is sold wholesale throughout the district by the candy, goonee, pilee, and seer, measures of capacity—4 seers making 1 pilee, 40 pilees 1 goonee, 10 goonees 1 candy. One seer of rice in husk weighs 86 tolas, on an average. Goor is sold by the seer, dhura, and maund: 12 seers (the current kucha seer of the country, each of 20 tolas,) make 1 dhura, and 4 dharas 1 maund.

9. There are five bazars within the Misreekota mahal; namely Misreekota, Hoolkop, Koodulgee, Kulguttee, and Bomiguttee, besides the Turrus bazar, and that held at Hullihal, in the Canara zillah, both of which are resorted to by the people of the neighbouring villages of Misreekota.

10. The Misreekota bazar, held every Friday, is a small one, principally resorted to by the people of the surrounding villages only. The Koodulgee bazar, held every Sunday, is also of little importance, the neighbouring tract of country being very thinly populated. At Misreekota there are about 24 looms, and weekly about 50 rupees' worth of coarse cotton cloth is manufactured, from 8 to 12 yards of which are sold for one rupee, according to the quality.

11. At Hoolkop a bazar is held every Monday: besides the people of the neighbourhood, it is also frequented by merchants from the plains, from Jumkhundee, Ramdroog, &c., for the purpose of buying rice, of which a considerable quantity is produced about Hoolkop itself, and in the adjoining villages of the Canara zillah. In Hoolkop alone, 450 families, nine-tenths of the whole population, are said to be employed in cleaning rice from the husk, during the time that they are not required in the fields. At Hoolkop, also, there are six families, containing, with servants, about 40 men, employed in iron working: there are six furnaces, employing from five to seven men each. A furnace turns out about five maunds of iron every week; it is entirely consumed in the neighbourhood: one maund brings about Rs. 1-8-0. The iron is considered to be of bad quality, being hard and brittle, and unfit for the fabrication of anything but coarse agricultural implements, and pans for boiling sugar.

12. The bazar held at Kulguttee every Tuesday is the most important of the district: it is numerously attended by merchants coming for rice from a considerable distance in the plains, from Ramdroog, Nurgood, Bagulkota, Kuladgee, &c. There is a good deal of traffic between Goa and Kulguttee: cocoanut oil, coconuts, coir, kashew nuts, katechu, and a large quantity of sooparee, are imported thence; the greater part is consumed in the neighbourhood, but some is exported to Hooblee. The principal article imported from Goa is salt, of which yearly about two thousand bullock loads, containing five thousand maunds, and worth about Rs. 6,000, are imported. The maund is of 80 rats (a Goa weight of 80 tolas). The direct road to Goa is by the Diggee Ghat, but that being on the frontier of the Madras Presidency, and the duty on Goa salt there being much higher than that exacted on the Bombay frontier, all the Goa salt is taken round by the Tulleewadee Ghat, at the expense of six or seven days longer spent on the journey. From Goa to Kulguttee, by the Diggee Ghat, is about ten days' journey for a loaded bullock, and about sixteen or seventeen days' by Tulleewadee. One maund of salt in Goa costs 1 anna; the Portuguese exact 3 annas per maund duty on its leaving their territory; 12 annas duty is taken on entering the Bombay territories, at Tulleewadee: 4 annas for carriage and profit makes up Rs. 1-4-0, the average price in Kulguttee. The present duty at the Diggee and other Ghats on the Canara frontier is Rs. 3 per maund. Five years ago the duty there was only 9 annas per maund. Salt was then sold in Kulguttee at Rs. 1 per maund; the 3 annas less than the present 12 anna duty at Tulleewadee, and 1 anna less for carriage on account of the shorter journey, making up the difference, 4 annas, between that and the present price. It is difficult to see what can be the motive of the Madras authorities for imposing a duty, the payment of which is so easily evaded. In the neighbouring villages there are about fifty looms, and weekly about 80 rupees' worth of coarse cotton cloth is made and sold in the Kulguttee bazar. Besides this, about 100 rupees' worth of cloth is brought from Hooblee and sold every bazar day. In addition to this, one single sowkar represents himself to import cloth from Hooblee and Luxmeshur to the amount of 100 rupees' worth monthly.

13. The bazar held at Bomiguttee every Wednesday is nearly as large as that of Kulguttee: it is principally resorted to by the people of the surrounding rice growing

country. There is also an extensive traffic with the country to the southward, belonging to the Canara zillah; there is little trade with the coast or the country beneath the Ghats. Rice is the principal article of trade here, about 600 rupees' worth being sold every bazar day throughout the year. About 600 bullock loads of sooparee, each load worth from Rs. 13 to 14, are yearly imported from Yellapoor and Bhurtunhulle, in the Canara zillah, not one-tenth of which is consumed at Bomiguttee—it is mostly carried on into the country. Weekly, about 30 bullock loads of plantains, worth Rs. 1-10-0 per load, are imported from Bhurtunhulle, the greater portion of which are again exported to the interior. Salt is imported from Ankola, but in quantity only sufficient for the consumption of the neighbourhood. Cotton cloth is imported from Hooblee 100 rupees' worth, and from Arleekuttee, in the Turrus mahal, 50 rupees' worth weekly.

14. Traffic is carried on between the Misreekota mahal and four ports on the western coast, Goa, Sudashew Ghur, Ankola, and Koompta. Goa is by Sambrancee and the Diggee Ghat distant from Kulguttee 42 koss; each koss may be estimated at $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles. The principal trade with Goa I have mentioned when speaking of the Kulguttee bazar.

15. Sudashew Ghur, by Yellapoor and the Burbulle Ghat, is said to be 20 koss from Kulguttee: the road is a mere track through the jungle beyond Yellapoor, only passable for laden bullocks. The Ghat is represented to be a bad one at present, but nothing whatever has been done for it by art: the road follows the course of the Black River down the Ghat, and in fact in the dry season the way is, in many places, in the bed of the river itself. Sudashew Ghur itself is represented to be by no means a bad harbour; it is formed by the mouth of the Black River: this river is navigable for moderate sized pattamars up to Mullapoor, 14 or 15 miles from the sea, and small boats can get up 5 or 6 miles further. Could the Ghat and road be slightly improved between Dharwar and Sudashew Ghur, it would be of the greatest benefit to all the northern part of the Dharwar Collectorate, the greater portion of which is a cotton growing country. By this route, Hooblee, the principal emporium of the cotton trade, would be brought within 60 miles of a port connected with the sea by 14 miles of navigable river. Hooblee is from Koompta, the present port, by the made road *via* Sircee, distant about 110 miles, and Koompta is situated on the coast 35 miles to the southward of Sudashew Ghur; thus, by the Yellapoor and Burbulle Ghat route to Mullapoor, Hooblee would be brought 50 miles nearer to water carriage than it is at present.

16. By the made road from Moondagode to Sircee, and by the Neelkoond Ghat, Koompta is distant from Kulguttee about 100 miles; by the most direct route, *via* Yellapoor and the Aribyle Ghat, it is not more than about 80 miles. This road is but a mere track through the jungle, and the Ghat in its natural state, but it is a good deal frequented, and a considerable quantity of cotton finds its way to Koompta by this route. The Aribyle Ghat is said to be naturally a good one, and though 3 koss long, easy of ascent and descent—much more so than the Neelkoond Ghat, on the Sircee road to Koompta. The only difficulty met with by this route between Kulguttee and Koompta is in crossing the estuary between Mirjair and Koompta, about 4 miles from the latter place. It is represented to be 300 or 400 yards broad, and, even at low water, always unfordable. There is little doubt but that in the neighbourhood of Mirjair, formed by the mouth of the Toodree river, a far better harbour might have been found than that existing at present at Koompta.

17. Ankola, *via* Yellapoor and the Aribyle Ghat, is distant about 78 miles from Kulguttee: the made road now in process of completion between Moondagode and Koompta has diverted much of the traffic, never very great, from this port.

18. The Misreekota mahal is infested with mendicants, and vagrant tribes of various descriptions, to a greater degree than any other district I have ever seen. Some cause for this may be found in the existence of abundance of pasture and water in the jungles of this mahal and the country to the westward. These vagrant tribes have various ostensible means of gaining their livelihood, but it is more than probable that thieving

is a greater source of gain to many of them than the occupation they profess to be engaged in. The Lumbanees, considered to be identical with the Gypsies, are the most numerous of these tribes. They possess large herds of cattle: in one camp near Kulguttee there were as many as 800 head, and many other camps contain an equal or greater number. Their principal employment is fetching and carrying between the coast and interior for hire; they often, also, trade on their own account, many of them being reported to possess considerable wealth. They locate their tanda, or camp, in any place that pleases them, but almost invariably at a distance from any inhabited village, and often remain for years in one place. The villagers do not seem, in general, to dislike the neighbourhood of a Lumbanee tanda, considering them to be tolerably honest people, though they allow that they may occasionally appropriate stray cattle, and steal grain when stacked in the fields. In one instance that came to my knowledge, the Naik or head man of a tanda was the chief money-lender of the villages in his vicinity. The villagers seem to stand in some awe of the Lumbanees, on account of their reputed skill in witchcraft: this belief has probably originated in the fact of their being great cattle doctors, and most diseases, both in man and beast, of which the cause is not at once apparent, being imputed to witchcraft, the power of curing them is only attributed to an intimacy with the producing cause. During the fine season, most of the able-bodied men will be found absent from the tanda, said to be gone to the coast; but the numbers of Lumbanees to be found in most of the jails afford pretty clear proof that they have dishonest as well as honest pursuits. Like the Gypsies of every country, they are, without doubt, cattle-stealers, and the wandering life entailed by their trade must afford great facilities for conveying away stolen goods, and disposing of stolen cattle, as well as being a cloke for every other kind of rascality. The pure Lumbanees are Hindoos, though men of every caste may be found among them, their tandas being a ready refuge for all who find it advisable to absent themselves from their accustomed haunts. They originally profess to have come from Guzerat, their own language to this day being corrupt Guzerattee, though, of course, they are perfectly conversant with the language of the province they may be located in.

19. The next most numerous among the vagrant tribes are the Koriwees, and are the most dangerous class of all. These people, also, live in moveable camps, sometimes near, and sometimes at a distance from villages: their professed occupation is making grass ropes and baskets, but they are almost to a man notorious thieves; so much so that they are in common mentioned, as a caste, as the Kul or thief Koriwees. They are Hindoos of low caste, just superior to the Dhers: they are originally from the direction of Bellary, and their own language is Telingee.

20. There are also several other descriptions of vagrants of minor importance. The Wuddurs, who follow their different occupations: there are timber-cutting Wuddurs, stone Wuddurs, and earth Wuddurs. The two latter descriptions are the builders and repairers of tanks: they may be supposed to be more honest people than the Lumbanees or Koriwees. They are originally from the direction of Bellary; their language is Telingee, and their caste just superior to the Dhers. Their chief peculiarity is feeding on rats, which no other caste will do; but they profess to prefer it to any other kind of food. There are also the Sikuldars, Mahrattas, who are polishers of swords and iron implements, and the Phanssee Pardees, who are antelope and bird-catchers. These, though not as notorious thieves as the Koriwees, may certainly be reckoned among the thieves by profession. About harvest time the country is visited by bands of religious mendicants, Jungums and Gosaeens: the former go about begging, either singly or in small parties, seldom exceeding two or three; the latter go about in large parties, also begging. They are generally well-clothed, sturdy-looking vagabonds, and almost invariably carry arms of some kind—a sword, spear, or formidable-looking club. On one occasion I met on the road thirteen in one gang, every man armed; and it is, I believe, no uncommon thing to meet with much larger gangs than this: during the harvest season they may certainly

reckon on finding few but old women in the villages, and these vagabonds may be reasonably suspected of asking charity in a style resembling that of the robber in Gil Blas. Nothing seems more likely to check the thievish propensities of the vagrant tribes than what has, I believe, been often before proposed—the compelling them to reside at some place fixed upon by the police authorities, and under their strict surveillance; but this measure would be worse than useless, unless taken in concert with the police authorities beyond our frontier, since it appears to be the practice of these vagabonds to refrain, as much as possible, from doing anything that might excite the active enmity of the villages in the neighbourhood of their encampment, restricting their depredations to a distance, so that if driven by any harsh measures from one district into those where they would meet with treatment less harsh, our districts, though rid of their permanent presence, would be worse plundered than ever.

21. The population of the 100 Government villages of the Misreekota mahal, containing about 140,000 acres, is 32,728, according to the census taken at the beginning of the present year: this will give 149 and a fraction to each square mile. Considering that about one-third of the area is jungle and hill, entirely destitute of inhabitants, this is by no means a scanty population: it is of a more mixed description than is to be found in any other part of the Dharwar Collectorate. The bulk of the population consists of Canarese, similar to those of any other district in the Collectorate, but there is a large admixture of Mahrattas, who have emigrated from their own country, driven by famines or other causes. A considerable number have originally come from Kolapoor, and others from the Rutnagiree Collectorate, and compose the sole population of entire villages in Misreekota. There is also a considerable sprinkling of Christians, who have originally come from the Goa territory. In one village near Kulgutgee, they have a chapel, and are visited once a year by a Portuguese priest from Goa. They seem to be Christians in little more than name, as caste is retained in full force among them. There are Rajpoots, Dhungens, and Dhers, who neither intermarry, nor eat together. The Abyssinian or Hubshee countenance, so rare in the eastern districts, is by no means uncommon. Canarese is the language of the district, but two out of every three of the people we meet understand Hindoostanee or Mahratta—in fact in many of the villages towards the Canara frontier the latter is the vernacular.

22. The people appear to be in general in easy circumstances. In every village a considerable number of well built tiled houses may be seen. The height of every ryot's ambition is to build himself a tiled house as soon as his circumstances will admit, living in one being looked upon as the strongest proof of being well to do in the world. The villages in general seem to be in a very discreditable state, unprovided with any efficient drainage, and as more or less rain falls during eight months of the year, this cannot but injuriously affect the health of the inhabitants. During the rains, the main streets of every village of any size are literally ankle-deep with a steaming mixture of dung and mud. Every one is perfectly alive to the nuisance, and if asked why they do not of themselves do away with it, say—"Who will give us the order? Order us and we will do it." Intoxication prevails among all castes to a great extent. On bazar day, the street in the vicinity of every spirit shop may be seen filled with drunken brawlers. Some cause for this may, perhaps, be perceived in the excessive wetness of the climate during so large a portion of the year.

23. The roads in this district are as bad as they well can be: it is only by taking a considerable circuit that it becomes possible to take common carts from one place to another, and then only at the risk of an overturn every two or three miles. It seems worthy of consideration whether something resembling the English parish system could not be introduced, for the execution of minor works for the general good. It is not expensive roads, fit for the transit of mail coaches, that are required: it would prove sufficient for the present wants of most districts were the present ways cleared of their occasional

obstructions, so as to render them everywhere passable for loaded carts, if driven with moderate caution.

24. The most wanton destruction of the timber in the jungles to the westward of this mahal is going on yearly: teak and black-wood are protected by order of Government, but the useful woods muttee and honee or hassan are being rapidly exterminated year by year. The places where large timber is to be got are becoming more distant from the open country: at present not a tree of more than a few inches in diameter is to be found within miles of the edge of the jungle. The Wuddurs are the agents of this work of destruction: they find that the greatest demand is for logs about twelve feet long, one foot wide, and three and a half to four inches thick. To obtain such a log, a tree a foot or thirteen inches in diameter is felled and chipped away at the sides, till reduced to the abovementioned dimensions: ten or twelve such logs are put on one cart drawn by two buffaloes, and at Kulgutgee sell for four or four and a half rupees the load. With proper economization of the wood in squaring the rough log, the trees that produced these four rupees' worth of timber would have given logs worth more than double the value. I had no means of ascertaining the quantity of timber yearly cut in these jungles, but I saw almost daily, during the fine season, strings of from ten to fifty carts going to the eastward; and unless the present rate of destroying timber is checked in time, in a very few years none will be attainable, except at enormously increased prices.

25. The villages in the south-west of this mahal have become yearly subject to the ravages of several herds of wild elephants: they have come up from the Canara jungles for a few years back every year in greater numbers, about the beginning of October, when the rice ear begins to be formed, and remain till about the middle of November. Last year there were about thirty or forty in three or four herds. Seven or eight elephants in a single night eat or trample under foot two or three acres of standing rice, or pull down and destroy a stack, the produce of several acres, in spite of all the ryots can do, by lighting fires and firing guns to drive them away. Last year two men were killed by them: up to that time they had never hurt any one. The people of the country do not imagine that they can be killed with fire-arms, so carefully refrain from firing at them, for fear of exciting their anger, as no reward is given by the Bombay Government for the destruction of an elephant, and it is not worth the while of the regular elephant hunters to come up from Mysore. A considerable quantity of land has been thrown up from fear of their depredations, and yearly more will be thrown up if they continue.

26. Labour is in great demand throughout all the western part of the mahal: in the eastern part of the Hooblee talooka Rs. 0-1-4 is the common daily pay of a coolee; here 2 annas a day is everywhere the customary rate. Some cause for this may be found in the quantity of hand labour required in rice cultivation.

27. Vaccination is pretty generally known and appreciated. I have often been asked by the people how they could get a vaccinator sent among them, owing to their being but one vaccinator for the whole Collectorate. In the two years I was in this district, he could only pay them a single visit of two days, not performing the operation for one-hundreth part of those who wished to have it done, had his stay been longer.

I have the honor, &c.

(Signed) W. C. ANDERSON, Lieutenant,
Assistant Superintendent.

Dharwar, September 1st 1848.

(True copies and extracts)

(Signed) G. WINGATE,

Superintendent Revenue Survey and Assessment Southern Mahratta Country.

EXTRACT FROM A REPORT

BY

C. J. MANSQÑ, ESQUIRE,

ASSISTANT INAM COMMISSIONER,

ON THE

HISTORY, &c. OF THE DISTRICT OF CHIKODEE, IN THE BELGAUM COLLECTORATE.

DATED 1ST MAY 1853.

1. THE Governments of Poona and Kolapoor had rival pretensions to sovereignty over the district of Chikodee, and another called Munolee, whose history is closely akin to that of Chikodee. It was natural, therefore, that these districts should be a continual source of active contention between the two States. At last the fights for their possession created such general insecurity throughout the Southern Mahratta Country, that in the year A. D. 1812 the British Government determined to interpose its authority, and arbitrate upon the claims of both parties. After an investigation by the Honorable Mountstuart Elphinstone, who was duly constituted the arbitrator in the case, the cause of the Peshwa was taken up by the British Government, the Kolapoor Raja forced to make peace, and the two districts declared by treaty to belong henceforward in absolute sovereignty to the Peshwa.

2. My object in the present introductory report is to make a careful examination into the past management of the Chikodee district up to the period of the Peshwa's downfall, and the accession of the British Government in A. D. 1818, in order to bring under a general view the manner in which the alienations from the public revenues were affected by the many changes of masters through which the district passed, and to point out what alienations may be regarded as authorized, or the contrary.

3. The forthcoming records in the Poona Dufur, bearing upon the early history of Chikodee, describe the manner in which, after the reign of Adilshah, and during the dynasties of Sivajee and Aurungzebe, the Dessaees of the Hookeree purgunna (including the district of Chikodee) had renounced all obligations of allegiance, assumed the independent title of "Sawusthániks," and, by means of frequent encroachments, succeeded in acquiring a firm hold over the district. They maintained themselves in this refractory attitude until A. D. 1763-64, when the Peshwa reduced them to obedience, deprived them of their usurped villages, and afterwards entered into an agreement with

the Ranee of Kolapoor, by which Chikodee, and other districts in the Carnatic, were made over to her on payment of a nuzzur of five lacs of rupees.

4. Mr. Elphinstone, in his letter to the Government of India dated 3rd February 1813, mentions, that during the period of the sixty or seventy years, or a part of it, that the Dessaees were carrying on their rebellious career, they are alleged by the Raja of Kolapoor to have been tributary to his Government, and by the Peshwa to have paid tribute and furnished military aid to that of Poona.

5. From A. D. 1763-64 up to A. D. 1768-69 the revenues of the district were received by two individuals named Bhugwunt Apajee and Shesho Narayan, in part payment of their pecuniary demands against the Kolapoor State. In the last mentioned year a quarrel occurred between the Ranee and the Peshwa, which seems to have been the cause of the Peshwa's resuming the district from the Kolapoor State, and appointing to its management a Mamlutdar of his own, named Ramchundra Mahadew Paranzpay. This order of resumption was not carried out until the 25th Rujjub of the year A. D. 1770-71.

6. In the year A. D. 1772-73, the Peshwa made a fresh engagement to give over this district (with Munolee) to the Kolapoorkur, on condition of receiving a nuzzur of twelve lacs and one rupees, and issued an order for its transfer to Apajee Shamjee, the Ranee's Karbharee, or Minister. Six lacs were paid at once by the Ranee, through the two individuals named Ramchundra Mahadew and Abajee Naik Kabruz, who also agreed to make good the remainder. The district was assigned to them by the Ranee as collateral security for the repayment of their advances, and they obtained, at the same time, a letter of assurance from the Peshwa that he would not interfere with the district until they had been fully reimbursed out of its revenues.

7. During A. D. 1775-76 the district was held in mortgage by a Kolapoor Sowkar, named Muheepat Krishna; but the next year, this man's manager was removed by the Peshwa, the district placed under attachment, and consigned to the charge of Purushram Ramchundra Putwardhun.

8. In A. D. 1777-78 Purushram Ramchundra was ordered to restore the district to Muheepat Krishna, on account of his money claim against the Kolapoor State, and although duly transferred, it would appear, from the following extract from the Articles of Agreement entered into between the two States in this year, that the district could not have been held for any considerable time by the Raja :—

Demand of the Peshwa.

"The two Talookas of Chikodee and Munolee have been given on account of debt to a Sowkar of the Raj Mundul [Kolapoor Government]. Let, therefore, a Sunnud be given for the entire possession of these two Talookas, and let it be to the effect that when the Sowkar's debt has been liquidated, the two Talookas are to be given to the Peshwa, and to be held by him, or, that on his [the Peshwa's] paying off the Sowkar's debt, he may take possession of them."

9. Mr. Elphinstone tells us how Mahadajee Sindia's "request" for the delivery of the two districts on this occasion was supported :—

"In the Arabic year 1178 [A. D. 1777-78] a war broke out, in consequence of the predatory incursions of the Raja's troops into Meritch. In consequence, Mahadajee Sindia was sent against Kolapoor with an army. He took possession of both districts,

Raja's Reply.

"In consequence of Mahadajee Sindia having come and requested that the two Talookas of Munolee and Chikodee may be given to you [the Peshwa], the entire Talookas have been so given. Agreeably to this a Sunnud shall be issued."

and dictated a treaty at the gates of Kolapoor, by which Chikodee and Munolee were restored to the Peshwa."

10. But the arbitration award of A. D. 1812-13, a document which I shall presently notice fully, and of which an unattested copy has been found in the Poona Duftur, mentions that the Peshwa did not at this time assume actual control over the district. He seems to have allowed it to remain in the hands of the Ranee's creditors. Mr. Elphinstone, too, states in his letter, that "no sooner had Sindia received these districts by treaty than he abandoned them, and repaired to Poona to take his share in the intrigues and faction of that period."

11. An A. D. 1780-81 another agreement was concluded, by which the district was to be given back to the Kolapoor Government. It is observable, however, from the sunnuds issued subsequently, during this and the next year, that the terms of this agreement were not adhered to, and that Purushram Ramchundra was appointed as "Teerhayet," i. e. referee, or trustee, for the express purpose of adjusting the claims (after an examination of accounts) of three creditors against the Kolapoor State, viz. Muheepatrow Krishna, Ramchundra Mahadew, and Apajee Shamjee.

12. The circumstances which led to this last agreement were, according to Mr. Elphinstone, that "about the Arabic year 1181 [A. D. 1780-81] the Government of Poona began to suffer severely from the pressure of the war with Ragoba and his allies, and resolved to purchase a peace with Kolapoor by a cession of the disputed districts. A treaty was accordingly concluded, by which they were ceded to Kolapoor. The Raja, however, never received possession, having agreed to their remaining in the hands of the Poona State for the liquidation of some pecuniary demands. Afterwards Purushram [i. e. Purushram Ramchundra, or, as he is more commonly called by the Putwardhun family, and spoken of in history, "Purushram Bhow,"] again attacked the Raja, and extended his conquests beyond the point to which they had reached before the treaty."

13. There are no forthcoming accounts from which to ascertain the general condition of the district between A. D. 1780-81 and A. D. 1785-86, but for this year, and up to A. D. 1789-90, the Taleebunds, and other important documents, are regularly drawn up in the name of Purushram Ramchundra, or that of his Mamlutdar, Lukshman Huree. After A. D. 1789-90 there occurs a gap in the Peshwa's records until A. D. 1800-01.

14. The state of the district during a part of this period can, nevertheless, be accurately surmised by a reference to the arbitration award of A. D. 1812-13. The circumstances of the past Government of the district are recapitulated in that paper, allusion being expressly made to *fifteen years of undisturbed management by Purushram Ramchundra*, which, it is said, was "conducted with the consent of both parties." Reckoning, therefore, from A. D. 1781, when this officer was chosen as a trustee, and immediately after the last agreement between the two States, Purushram Ramchundra must have continued to hold the district on the part of the Peshwa until the commencement of A. D. 1796.

15. And this accords very closely with Mr. Elphinstone's account, who in his letter states, that after the war in A. D. 1780-81 between Purushram Bhow and the Kolapoor Raja, a settlement was concluded between these two parties, "which is represented by the Raja to have been a personal arrangement between that chief and him, and by the Peshwa to have been a formal treaty between the States, by which Chikodee and Munolee were ceded to that of Poona"; and that this treaty was followed by an interval of tranquillity, which lasted from twelve to thirteen years, during which time Purushram Bhow remained in possession.

16. The arbitration award goes on to show, that at the close of the fifteen years Purushram Bhow was placed under surveillance by the Peshwa, and the Raja of Kolapoor seized the district; that afterwards, the Peshwa fought for it again, and gradually recovered it; but that the fights never ended until the agreement was concluded between

the allied Governments of the Honorable Company and the Peshwa on the one part, and the Raja of Kolapoor on the other, in the year A. D. 1812.

17. It is difficult to fix the precise periods at which the district passed from the control of one Government to that of another, after the year A. D. 1796, when disturbances broke out in it afresh. Sir John Malcolm in his Memorandum (drawn up in A. D. 1803) on the state of the southern Rajas, Sirdars, and Jagheerdars, in the Southern Mahratta Country, relates that Purushram Bhow was "confined in a fort near Poona, from which he was not released till July 1798, when he was ordered to collect troops for the Peshwa"; and Mr. Elphinstone mentions that no sooner had Nana Furnavees lost his ascendancy on the death of the Peshwa Suwae Madhowrao, in A. D. 1795, and escaped to Mhar, than "he wrote to the Raja of Kolapoor to instigate him to attack the possessions of Purushram Bhow, who was the most active of Nana's enemies, and was at the time Prime Minister of Poona. The Raja accordingly attacked them, took Chikodee and Munolee, plundered Purushram Bhow's jagheers," &c., and that a little more than three years after this period "Purushram Bhow recovered possession of Chikodee and Munolee, but was defeated and killed after a very short interval, and the Raja again recovered the districts."

18. Sir John Malcolm's narrative continues—that the first object of the Bhow after his release in A. D. 1798 was to revenge himself on the Raja of Kolapoor; that after carrying on the war for some time with the Raja, the Bhow "lost his life in an engagement which took place in 1799, near the town of Kolapoor. It is said he fell from his horse in the action, and was taken alive to the Raja, who ordered him to be beaten to death with bamboos; but of this fact there are different accounts." According to Grant Duff, he "fell mortally wounded in an encounter with the Raja's troops in the month of September 1799, near the village of Puttunkoondee."

19. Mr. Elphinstone, in pursuing the account, explains to us how the war, having been carried on by the Poona Government, the Kolapoor State would have been subverted, had not a revolution taken place "in Sindia's camp at Poona, which entirely altered the face of affairs. This was the accession of Sukharam Ghatgay, commonly called Serjee Row, to the office of Prime Minister to Sindia. Ghatgay was born a subject of Kolapoor, and bred up at the Raja's court, and his attachment to that prince had been preserved by liberal promises of pecuniary advantage. His first measure, after his elevation, was to order Sindia's battalions to desist from the siege of Kolapoor, and to act against the Putwurdhuns. The army before Kolapoor, in consequence, immediately broke up, and not long after, *Serjee Row compelled the Peshwa to sign a treaty with Kolapoor, by which he once more ceded the disputed districts to the Raja.*"

20. I find that the history of the district under report is so interwoven with the principal events then occurring at the seat of Government in Poona, that before going any further, I think it would be useful to take a brief retrospect of the circumstances which led to Dowlut Rao Sindia's usurping the authority of the Peshwa, and laying violent hands on Chikodee, as I shall show he did.

21. It is matter of history that Mahadajee Sindia, who had become the most formidable of the Native princes of his day, and other subordinate chieftains, were aiming at establishing their ascendancy in the Mahratta empire, the legitimate and constitutional representative of which was the Peshwa.

22. The triple alliance of A. D. 1790, between the English, the Peshwa, and the Nizam, against the Power of Mysore, had threatened to defeat Sindia's ambitious views, and at the end of the year A. D. 1792 he moved a large army (the artillery and infantry of which were disciplined, and principally commanded by French officers,) to the vicinity of Poona, with designs evidently hostile to the interests both of the British Government and of its ally the Peshwa.

23. Mahadajee Sindia died in A. D. 1794, but left his nephew and adopted son, Dowlut Rao Sindia, to carry on the daring schemes which he had projected, with ample

means for their completion. The death, in October of the following year, of the young Peshwa Suwae Madhowrao, who destroyed himself, produced a fierce contest among the principal Mahratta chiefs, about the appointment of a successor, which terminated in Bajee Rao's being eventually established on the musnud in October 1796. During this period of domestic strife, however, Dowlut Rao Sindia lost nothing of his undue influence, and continued to rule the Poona court.

24. His usurpations now proceeded with great rapidity. Well knowing the timid and capricious character of Bajee Rao, and his jealousy and distrust of a more intimate connection with the British Government, he soon made him become a mere instrument for the accomplishment of his own purposes. Sindia placed such implicit reliance on the power of the French to uphold him in his design of uniting the Mahrattas under his entire control, that he scorned all overtures for an alliance with the British Government; and otherwise manifested his unfriendly, if not hostile, disposition, by threatening the dominions of our ally the Nizam on two occasions, the first time having been before the expulsion of the French in October 1791, when our relations with the Hyderabad Court were in such jeopardy, and before the Nizam had been restored to the condition of an efficient ally; next, by preventing the Peshwa Bajee Rao from co-operating with the English according to the terms of the subsisting treaty to resist the aggressions of Tippoo Sooltan; then, by engaging with the Peshwa in an amicable correspondence with Tippoo, and encouraging the Sultan's cause throughout the war, and, even after the fall of Seringapatam, trying to raise opposition to the final settlement of Mysore; and lastly, by prevailing upon Bajee Rao to reject the proffered grant of a portion of the territories acquired by the English and the Nizam in the war with Tippoo.

25. To such a pitch had Sindia's rapacity and violence reached in the year 1800, that the Governor General was expecting every moment to be obliged to interfere, with a view to circumscribe that chieftain's extravagant pretensions, and to restore the Peshwa to some degree of credit and power. "My latest advices from Colonel Palmer [the Resident at Poona] indicate an approaching crisis of a nature which may demand our speedy and active interference in support of the just authority of the Peshwa. It is possible that I may receive an early and urgent application for that purpose from the Peshwa himself."—(Letter from Marquis of Wellesley to Lord Clive, dated Fort William, 23rd August 1800.)

26. At this conjuncture, the famous adventurer Dhoondia Waugh made his appearance in the southern portion of the Peshwa's dominions, where he seized and garrisoned several forts. Dhoondia had given much trouble to the English in the Mysore territory, and had escaped from Colonel Stevenson in August 1799, taking refuge within the Mahratta frontier, any violation of which was, at that time, strictly prohibited; and he afterwards entered the service of the Kolapoor Raja.

27. Dhoondia's rebellion was beginning to assume a most alarming aspect, when his further progress was arrested by the opportune arrival of Colonel the Honorable A. Wellesley, who was now empowered to cross the Mahratta frontier in pursuit of the rebel. Sir John Malcolm relates how Chintamun Rao Apa Saheb Putwurdhun, and other southern Jagheerdars, attended to the remonstrances of Colonel Wellesley, and, forgetting for a moment their own quarrels with each other, "united their exertions with the British Government to destroy so formidable a freebooter." A brief but vigorous campaign of about five months' duration put an end to Dhoondia's career.

28. The correspondence of that time between Colonel Wellesley and Colonel Palmer shows that Dowlut Rao Sindia was well aware of his present opportunity for striking an effectual blow at the Peshwa's power. The general state of confusion in the Southern Mahratta Country, owing to the weakness of the Poona Government, but more immediately to the internal dissensions among the Jagheerdars in those parts; the reappearance of Dhoondia; the

Vide Autograph Letters of the Duke of Wellington, in connection with Proceedings from A. D. 1798 to A. D. 1802, on the Records of the Bombay Secretariate.

hostility of the Kolapoor Raja to the Putwurdhuns, and therefore to the British Government; were all favorable to his designs. He increased his army, and was meditating an extension of territory by a swoop on the southern fortresses of Savanoor, Dharwar, and Kittoor.

29. Colonel Wellesley's policy for countervailing Sindia's views was to try and effect a reconciliation between the sons of Purushram Bhow and the Kolapoor Raja; to force the latter, if necessary, to make peace; and to set up Chintamun Rao Apa Saheb as the chief authority in those districts which might be recovered from Dhoondia, and in all the country south of the Krishna.

30. But Sindia used his utmost influence to thwart these plans. He made a point of attacking and plundering the possessions of every petty chieftain who came to Colonel Wellesley's aid; he received an agent from Dhoondia, and sent some of his own battalions to the Kolapoor Raja to act against the Putwurdhuns. The Raja, whilst pretending to co-operate in Dhoondia's extirpation, was also secretly assisting the marauder. Sindia next prevailed upon Bajee Rao to attack the possessions of Purushram Bhow's sons. Colonel Wellesley remonstrates:—"If Sindia is to be allowed to ruin the Bhow's family, to seize their possessions north of the Krishna for his own use, and those south of that river probably for the same purpose, or at all events to deprive the family of them, and to bestow them on one of his dependents, it will become incumbent on us to look for the security of our own frontier and of that of the Raja of Mysore under such an arrangement."—(Letter dated 16th August 1800.)

31. The seizure of Chikodee, in particular, by Sindia's battalions, is thus noticed by Colonel Wellesley. The Bhow's sons say that "Chickowree [Chikodee], of which place Sindia has lately taken possession, Nerlegy, to which place he is now laying siege, and Manowly, belonged originally to the Kolapoor Raja, and that they were ceded to Purushram Bhow in payment of a debt. Sindia takes possession of them on the part of the Kolapoor Raja. All that they desire is that Sindia may be prevailed upon not to interfere with their disputes with the Kolapoor Raja.

"I give you their statement of their own case, for the truth of which I cannot vouch."—(Letter dated 20th October 1800.)

32. I have gone over this familiar ground in order to show how completely Sindia had usurped the Peshwa's authority, and, before recurring to the subject of the treaty noticed in paragraph 19 above, I will give a few extracts from the despatches of the day, depicting the actual state of degradation in which the Peshwa must have been at the time of signing that treaty.

33. The letter of the Governor General quoted above desires Lord Clive to "inform Colonel Wellesley without delay, that on his receiving authentic and unquestionable intelligence either of the *flight* or *imprisonment* of Bajee Rao, [unless some obstacle should exist from the position of Dhoondia, or some other force,] the British army is directed and authorized to take immediate possession, in the name and on behalf of the Peshwa, of all the country as far as the bank of the Kistna. Colonel Wellesley should also summon on behalf of the Peshwa such forts and strong places within the limits described as it shall be judged expedient for the British troops to occupy."

34. Again, in Colonel Palmer's letters of later date, as follows:—

Letter dated 7th September 1800. "So long as Sindia, by his position near Poona with a superior military force, continues to hold the Peshwa in subjection," &c.

"He [the Peshwa] is in a manner a prisoner in the hands of Sindia, who has posted a large body of troops in the city on the pretence of compelling a chief called Pehotyneddy [Prutteeniddhee] to dismiss a party of Arabs from his service, but in reality to watch and control the motions of the Peshwa, whom he suspects of an intention to withdraw."

Letter dated 7th September 1800.

"The Peshwa, though not under that degree of restraint in which he was, is still narrowly watched and attended by the spies of that chief [Sindia] to prevent his flight; which he certainly meditates, though I doubt his resolution to attempt it."

Letter dated 15th September 1800.

35. Under the state of duress above described was it that the Peshwa was "compelled by the notorious Serjee Rao Ghatgay to sign the treaty," (vide paragraph 19 *supra*,) by which "he once more ceded the disputed districts to the Raja." Mr. Elphinstone again alludes to this treaty in the following words:—"His Highness, however, declares that he would have abided by that treaty if the Raja had not commenced a new war, in the manner which will be related hereafter. The sincerity of his desire to abide by the treaty is rendered *very doubtful* by the fact of his having requested Lord Wellington, *immediately* after it was signed, to resist the execution of it; declaring that it had been obtained by the violence of Serjee Rao, and against his own consent."

36. The new war alluded to by Mr. Elphinstone was the Raja's incursion into the district of the Serallah, about the end of A. D. 1802. It had belonged to the Peshwa, but in 1796 had been seized upon by the Raja of Kolapoor. In 1800 Serjee Rao Ghatgay obtained a grant of it from the Peshwa. When Serjee Rao was obliged to leave for Hindoostan, he ordered it to be given up to the Raja of Kolapoor; but Chintamun Rao Apa Saheb re-took it for the Peshwa. The Raja then marched an army into the territory, levelled the fort of Serallah with the ground, and refused to surrender the district to an officer of the Peshwa's Government. Mr. Elphinstone continues, on the subject of the treaty:—"The Peshwa represents this aggression as sufficient to justify him in considering the treaty which he was compelled to sign by Ghatgay as annulled."

37. I have been unsuccessful in my endeavours to procure any information from the Poona records as to this treaty of A. D. 1800; but there is the registry of a sunnud issued by the Peshwa on 10th Rubee-ul-akhir, A. D. 1800-01, ordering Ramchandra Purushram (son of Purushram Bhow) to make over to the Komavidars of Sukharam Ghatgay Serjee Rao the districts of Chikodee and Munolee, and whatever Phootgaoms* he might be managing, which belonged to the Kurveerkur's (Kolapoor Raja's) surinjam.

38. I am unable to explain what the last sentence in this sunnud can mean. Perhaps this sunnud was the result of the treaty spoken of by Mr. Elphinstone. At any rate, the treaty was not entered into with the Peshwa's free will and consent. It was "extorted" just as much as (Colonel Palmer records) was the sunnud by which the Peshwa transferred the whole of Purushram Bhow's jagheer to Sindia, one of the transactions doubtless alluded to in the 11th paragraph of the letter of Mr. Edmonstone, Secretary to the Government of India, to Lieutenant Colonel Barry Close, of 23rd June 1802, reviewing the past events at the Poona Residency. "Those negotiations were closed in the month of September 1800, when various unprecedented acts of violence and *extortion* on the part of Sindia had aggravated the pressure of the Peshwa's affairs, and virtually annihilated his authority," &c.

39. It will be observed, moreover, in the course of this sketch, that the Peshwa never afterwards formally recognized or confirmed this treaty, which, in inquiries by our department, is the more important point for consideration, in whatever way the treaty may have been originally concluded; and it certainly appears, from extracts which I shall give a few paragraphs further on, that during the period that Major General Wellesley acted as Political Agent in the territories of the Peshwa, and of the Mahratta States, and Chiefs of the Decan, that is between the 26th June 1803, when he was vested by the Governor General with full political as well as military power, and the 24th June 1804, when he resigned the same, *he* recognized *only* the right of the Peshwa's officer Apa Dessae, the Nepaneecker, to hold the two districts of Chikodee and Munolee.

* Detached villages belonging to one authority situated in a district belonging to another.

40. Meanwhile, a serious revolt took place in Sindia's possessions in the north, joined in by his active and inveterate enemy Juswunt Rao Holkar, and fomented underhand by the Peshwa himself. The peril of the crisis was now over. Baffled by Holkar, and overmatched at last by Bajee Rao, Sindia hastened off towards Malwa, and by these means Bajee Rao emancipated himself from his iron grip, without letting the British Government acquire that ascendancy in the Mahratta State deemed absolutely necessary for his support. Ever since A. D. 1798 the Peshwa had been carrying on a series of illusory negotiations with the Resident, professing to desire a more intimate union with the British Government, to be based on the principles of the Treaty of Bassein, subsequently ratified in December A. D. 1802; but it was now seen that his policy had all along been to avail himself of the reputation of the British power, whenever hard pressed by Sindia or other formidable neighbours, rather than of its actual exercise. Colonel Wellesley says:—"From these letters it appears that the Peshwa is at least as adverse to us as he is to Sindia, and that there is no prospect that the arrangement will be carried into execution which Lord Wellesley had in contemplation when he gave orders that I should remain within the Mahratta territory."....."It is obvious now that Sindia is not the only bar to our obtaining our wishes at Poona: if he were removed, we should not be nearer to them than we have been hitherto, and we must now look to other modes of accomplishing them."....."It is true that the Peshwa has not hitherto made any objection to my retaining a position within his territory; most probably because he thinks that thereby Sindia is prevented from entering and establishing himself to the southward before he shall be obliged to proceed to Hindoostan."—(Letter dated 28th October 1800.)

41. Referring again to the Poona records, the next forthcoming document is found to be a list taken from the Peshwa's diary, dated A. D. 1800-01, of Sirdars and Silledars to whom had been assigned portions of territory, either in "Zat Surinjam," i. e. for their family expenses, or in "Fouj Surinjam," for military service to the State, as well as of Inamdars. In this list the name of Siddoojee Row Naik Nimbalkur, commonly called "Apa Dessae," the Nepaneeekur, is for the first time entered as the holder of the Chikodee district, and other mahals and villages. As there is no date to this list, it cannot be determined whether it was drawn up before or after the sunnud issued this year.*

42. There is no registry of any *sunnud* having been issued in A. D. 1800-01, making over to *Apa Dessae* the Chikodee district in surinjam, or on any other tenure; but it is very likely that he did get possession of it at the end of A. D. 1801, and held it during a portion of A. D. 1802, either for himself or the Peshwa. Grant Duff says, that when Serjee Rao Ghatgay, who had seized it for Sindia, was called away to Malwa at the close of the year A. D. 1801, to assume command of Sindia's army against Holkar at the battle of Indore, he gave over charge of the districts of Chikodee and Munolee, "belonging to Kolapoor," to his brother Vishwas Row Ghatgay. Vishwas Row would have been driven out by the Raja of Kolapoor, had he not been supported by *Apa Dessae*, who afterwards took them for himself. This account may or may not be true as regards the transfer of Chikodee to Vishwas Rao. General Wellesley, however, proves that Munolee was occupied by the Nepaneeekur in A. D. 1800; and Mr. Elphinstone states that "*Munolee* was the Peshwa's possession at the time of the Treaty of Bassein," i. e. in December 1802.

"I suspect also that they [i. e. the Peshwa's Government] have misinformed you

Letter of Major General Wellesley, dated 12th November 1803, to Lieutenant Colonel Close.

regarding the manner in which *Apa Dessae* got possession of Munolee. I took the fort in 1800, and gave it to Baji Kischen Bhow. He transferred it to *Apa Dessae*; and if he is at Poona he will inform you by what motive he was urged to do so. I suspect that it was some arrangement made between him and *Apa Dessae*, and that the

* Ordering the transfer of the Chikodee and Munolee districts to Serjee Rao Ghatgay.

† The Dewan, or minister of Chintamun Row Apa Sahab Putwurdhun.

fort, by being transferred to the latter, was saved from the attack of Sindia's campoos, which were in the neighbourhood when I quitted the Mahratta territory in November 1800."

43. At any rate, if *Apa Dessae* gained the mastery during part of A. D. 1801-02, as he certainly seems to have done, he could not have been left to hold it very long in quiet; for Mr. Elphinstone mentions that at the time of the Treaty of Bassein the two States of Poona and Kolapoor were at war about the possession of *Chikodee*.

44. Reverting, again, to the general narrative, I will first allude to the catastrophe which brought about the Treaty of Bassein, and then follow *Apa Dessae*, the Nepaneeekur, through the campaign of A. D. 1803-04, to his return to Poona; in order to show by evidence from the Wellington Despatches, that although recognised by the highest political authority of the time as the authorized holder of the Chikodee district, *Apa Dessae's* Amildars must have lost possession during their master's absence from the mahal.

45. After the victory gained by Sindia over Holkar, on the 14th October 1801, in the battle of Indore, this enterprising antagonist soon busied himself in reorganising and adding to his shattered forces, and early in A. D. 1802 was in a condition to do further mischief. He led off his troops by the way of Rajpootana and Khandesh, levying contributions, and carrying devastation throughout his march, until, on the 24th October A. D. 1802, he arrived at Jejooree, within a few miles of Poona. By way of revenging himself on Sindia, and with a view to his own aggrandisement, he had formed the bold project of getting possession of the Peshwa's person, and compelling him to establish such an administration as might secure his own ascendancy in the State, to the exclusion of Sindia's power; or, if this failed, he intended to set up the son of Amrut Rao (the adopted son of the late Raghoba) as Peshwa, and himself to take command of the troops of the State.

46. Sindia had despatched a force from Oojjein, under Suddasew Bhow, to co-operate with the Peshwa in the defence of Poona. After a fruitless attempt at negotiation by the Peshwa, the two armies engaged on the morning of the 25th October. The combined forces sustained a complete defeat, and Holkar became master of the city of Poona, and of the Peshwa's Government. Bajee Rao managed to escape to Mhar, and threw himself on the protection of the British Government, having previously to the battle signed an agreement, which contained all the principal objects of the Treaty of Bassein. Amrut Rao was nominated Regent for his son Venayek Rao, who was raised to the musnud by Holkar.

47. It will be seen that Lord Wellesley's prophetic warnings regarding this event proved perfectly correct, viz. that Bajee Rao only entered into the defensive alliance from conviction that "he had no other way of recovering any part of his just authority, or of maintaining tranquillity in his empire;" and that "on his affairs taking a favorable turn, he would, supported by the sentiments of the different branches of the Mahratta empire, be desirous of annulling the engagements he had made with the British Government."—(Political Despatch to Court of Directors, December 1804, quoted by Prinsep.)

48. This threatening aspect of Mahratta politics had rendered it necessary for the British Government to take precautionary measures. At Huryhur, on the Mysore frontier, an army of observation had been assembled, to serve the double purpose of demonstrating our strength, and protecting our own provinces, and those of the Nizam, and Mysore Raja. A detachment from this army, under Major General Wellesley, was destined to advance in co-operation with the southern Jagheerdars, towards the Mahratta capital, in order to restore the Peshwa to his legitimate authority. The detachment left Huryhur on the 9th March, A. D. 1803, and, on its progress through the Southern Mahratta Country, was joined by the troops of various chieftains. On the 24th March,

A. D. 1803, Apa Dessae, the Nepaneeekur, who, as I have said, was the chieftain entered in the Peshwa's list of A. D. 1800-01, as the holder (in military surinjam, apparently,) of the Chikodee district, fell in, at Naisurjee, with his contingent of horse.

49. The force arrived at Poona on the 20th April 1803, completing the last sixty miles in a march of thirty-two hours, and thus saving the city from being burnt by Amrut Rao. On the 13th of the following month the Peshwa, Bajee Rao, was duly re-established on the musnud.

50. Sindia and the Berar Raja (one of the competitors for the supreme seat at Poona) now evinced manifest intentions of subverting the objects of the Treaty of Bassein. They attempted an accommodation with Holkar, who promised co-operation against the British Government, but nevertheless did not afford it. A junction was effected between the forces of Sindia and the Berar Raja, on the 4th June, at Cheeklee, on the frontier of the Nizam's territories. So soon as Major General Wellesley heard of the failure of Colonel Collins's negotiations with the confederate chiefs, war was declared; and hostilities commenced on the 8th August 1803, against the important fortress of Ahmednuggur. It capitulated on the 12th. The army then advanced towards Aurungabad, and Jalnapoor was carried on the 2nd September; the glorious but sanguinary battle of Assaye having been fought on the 23rd of the same month.

Letter to the Governor General, dated 7th March 1804. At the close of the campaign, Major General Wellesley left the army, on the 23rd February 1804, "with the troops under Goklah and Apa Dessae, and a squadron of Native cavalry, to go to Poona, where he arrived on the 27th."

51. My object in making the following extracts from the Wellington Despatches is, as I have already said, to show that the highest political authority of the time never recognised the right of the Kolapoor Raja, or indeed of any other person than Apa Dessae, the Peshwa's officer, to hold the districts of Chikodee and Munolee; and next, to prove, that although his right to hold them was thus recognised, Apa Dessae must have lost actual possession during his absence on the campaign of Assaye.

52. As to the recognition of Apa Dessae's right to the districts:—

"Apa Dessae has sent to me this day to inform me that the Peshwa is in negotiation with Neelkunt Rao Sindia, and Goorparah, to give one of them his place of Manowly and Moorgoor. He likewise has fears that he may be attacked in that quarter by the Raja of Kolapoor and Suckaram Ghatgay. I wish that you would speak to Rugonaut Rao upon this subject; but Apa Dessae is anxious that it should not be known that he has informed me of the above particulars. *In respect to the Raja of Kolapoor, I will send him a letter which may have the effect of stopping him.*"

Major General Wellesley hopes that the Peshwa will not forget Goklah's claim upon Nulgoond, "or Apa Dessae [s] upon the two places granted him as surinjamee," which, from specifying two places in this letter, and speaking in other letters of the Dessae's jagheers generally, seem to refer to Chikodee and Manolee, the two disputed districts.

A letter has been written by Serjee Rao Ghatgay to Apa Dessae "to communicate to him the Peshwa's orders, that he should relinquish possession of Manowly."

"I believe I told you that Serjee Rao Ghatgay has written, as he said, by the Peshwa's order, to Apa Dessae, to give up the fort of Manowly. I desired Apa Dessae to tell him to mind his own business, and that if anybody should venture to attack that fort, *the English would defend it*," and doubtless Chikodee also, since the Dessae seems to have had as good a right to the one as to the other district.

53. More than one allusion is made in despatches of later date to irruptions into the Dessae's country, the plunder of his villages, and the capture, by a Polygar under the Kolapoor Raja, of the fort of Munolee; which was, *under orders from Major General Wellesley*, recovered by Major General Campbell in December 1803.

Letter of Lieutenant General Stewart to the Governor General, dated 9th January 1804.

54. Next, the serious straits the General was put to by being obliged to make large advances of money out of his own limited resources, in order to pay Apa Dessae's contingent of horse, owing to the reiterated assertions of the Dessae that he could not obtain the rents of the lands which had been assigned to him for the express purpose of supporting that contingent, are made apparent by the following extracts among others that I could quote. And this circumstance goes to prove, that notwithstanding the registry of the sunnud of A. D. 1800-01, assigning the two districts to Serjee Rao Ghatgay, the Peshwa himself must have intended the districts for the Nepaneeekur, according to the list of A. D. 1800-01, quoted above, or else that he was playing fast and loose with the British Government, in his usual manner; and, whilst pretending that the districts were for Apa Dessae's support, was secretly inciting Ghatgay's adherents to interfere with the Dessae's possession.

Apa Dessae "represented that he had not been able to obtain possession of any one of the places which had been made over to him by the Peshwa in jagheer; and that when his Amildars had gone to the villages with the Peshwa's sunnuds, they had been ill-treated, their troops attacked, and His Highness' sunnuds torn. He said, that as the Peshwa's ministers had refused to consent to incur the expense of paying a proportion of the troops which had marched with me to Poona, he had been obliged to discharge and pay the arrears of all above the number of 1,000, for which he obtained grants of surinjamy lands," &c.

Letter to Lieutenant Colonel Close, dated 24th July 1803.

"My whole time and attention, which are required by many other objects, are taken up in disputing with Goklah and Apa Dessae about their pay. The latter swears that he cannot get possession of his jagheers, and that till he does get them his troops must have money; and, certainly, what he says upon on this subject appears reasonable.

.....Only conceive what a drain upon my resources of money 75,000 rupees monthly to Goklah and 60,000 monthly to Apa Dessae will be," &c....."It is useless to say that Goklah ought to serve for his jagheer in Savanoor, and Apa Dessae for his in various other places; for they neither can nor will serve at such a distance from those places; particularly the latter, who has never got possession of the lands allotted to him."

"In respect to Apa Dessae's demands, the pretence of the Peshwa's Government that he ought to serve for his surinjams is too ridiculous. The fact is, that the man cannot get possession of his lands..... I have not time to argue and dispute with the latter [Apa Dessae] whether he ought to serve for the rent of lands of which he has never got possession."

Letter to Lieutenant Colonel Close, dated 29th August 1803.

55. After the Dessae's return to Poona he (apparently through the instrumentality of Major General Wellesley) received sunnuds from the Peshwa, making over to him in foug surinjam, for the maintenance of troops to be kept up for the service of the Poona Government, several mahals, valued at Rs. 5,41,120, besides the Munolee district, together with purgunna Hookeree, talooka Chikodee, *exclusive of Doo-malla or alienated villages*. A portion of the above lands, valued at Rs. 2,13,120, was intended for the support of the rank of "Sur Lushkur," a title which Sir George Anderson, in his Report on the Chieftains of the Southern Mahratta Country, mentions was conferred on Apa Dessae by the Peshwa for his services during the campaign with Major General Wellesley.

56. Seeing that he could not obtain possession of all these districts, Apa Dessae made an application for the assistance of the British troops to Major General Wellesley, who, in a letter to the address of E. S. Waring, Esq., dated 20th March 1804, suggested that Major General Campbell might be requested to aid the Dessae, if he should happen to pass in the neighbourhood of the districts, and if it should be found convenient; also, if the duty could be performed without a contest with some of the great southern chiefs, or the Raja of Kolapoor.

57. Very soon afterwards the Raja of Kolapoor preferred his claim to the district of Chikodee. Lieutenant Colonel Close, the Resident at Poona, handed it up for the instructions of Major General Wellesley. He replied on the 28th April:—"I must consider the case of Manowly and Chickoory" [Chikodée]. Again, on the 1st May:—"Having fully considered the contents of the paper transmitted with your letter of the 25th April, on the subject of the Raja of Kolapoor's claims to Chikodee, I deem it most proper to decline giving my opinion upon it, and to request you to forward it to be laid before His Excellency the Governor General.

"Some time has now elapsed since I referred the whole question regarding the southern Jagheerdars and the Raja of Kolapoor to His Excellency; and as I am entirely unacquainted with His Excellency's sentiments upon that reference, I cannot venture to recommend that any measure be adopted which may afterwards prove inconsistent with what he may order."

58. This must have been the "summary inquiry" by the Resident at Poona into the Raja's claim, alluded to in Mr. Elphinstone's letter, the result of which was forwarded to the Governor General, "but no further notice taken of it."

59. The Raja of Kolapoor then resisted Apa Dessae, and continued at war with him for some months, "after which," says Mr. Elphinstone, "a peace was concluded, but without any treaty being executed. Chikoree and Munowlee, with some other lands, remained to the Peshwa, and Apa Dessae received the Raja's daughter in marriage. After this, there was peace for three years; but in the beginning of 1811 the Raja raised an army, and attacked Apa Dessae."

60. On reference to Dajee Pundit, the Minister at Kolapoor, I find that Apa Dessae the Nepaneekur married Yesoo Bae Aka Saheb, the Raja's daughter, in A. D. 1809 (the month cannot be ascertained); and Bhow Chapekur, the family Vakeel of Lukshmun Rao Ana Saheb of Meeruz, a man well acquainted with the history of the Southern Mahratta Country, informs me that the negotiations for this alliance caused the cessation of hostilities. The Deshpanday of the Hookeree purgunna makes an assertion that the Raja maintained himself in the district until A. D. 1808, an account which will tally with Mr. Elphinstone's.

61. In the year A. D. 1810, Yesoo Bae Aka Saheb died, and after her death the Raja in A. D. 1811 renewed hostilities by an attack upon the Dessae. But Mr. Elphinstone states that the Raja was defeated "after a short interval, and was obliged to grant some lands to the Nepaneekur on his own account; after which there was peace again till last February" [A. D. 1812]. The fights, however, seem to have then commenced again, and continued until the period when the British Government found itself compelled to interfere, in order to stop further bloodshed, and restore public tranquillity. During these latter fights, at any rate, Apa Dessae successfully repulsed the Raja, and was besieging him in his own capital at the time of the intervention of the British Government, as the following extract from a letter from Mr. Elphinstone to Lieutenant Colonel Dawes, commanding Doab Field Force, dated 12th September 1812, shows:—

"11. The Raja of Kolapoor is at war with the Peshwa about the districts of Chikodee and Munowlee, to which he has advanced a claim. These districts form part of the jagheer of Apa Dessae, by whom the whole weight of the war with the Raja has hitherto been sustained. He has, however, exerted himself with such success that he is now besieging the Raja in his capital. I have lately signed a treaty

with the Raja of Kolapoor's Vakeels, which, if ratified by the Raja, will put an end to all enmity with him. If he should refuse to ratify the treaty, such measures will be taken as will prevent his disturbing you. His force before his defeats amounted to 12,000 men, but is now greatly reduced."

62. In discussing the question of right to the two districts of Chikodee and Munolee, Mr. Elphinstone points out in the first 26 paragraphs of his letter, that as the Peshwa made known to the Resident of Poona, in A. D. 1804, his intention of conferring the districts on Apa Dessae, and no objection was raised to it; that as he referred the dispute to the arbitration of the British Government, when the Raja of Kolapoor claimed the districts; that as he regularly announced to the Resident the cause and progress of the several fights which took place for their possession between A. D. 1804 and the end of A. D. 1812; that as the Resident acquiesced more than once in the Peshwa's measures, and afforded protection to Apa Dessae, who was entrusted with their execution; and that as the Raja had repeatedly rejected the Peshwa's overtures for an arbitration, it appeared to result that the British Government, from its intimate alliance with the Peshwa, was bound to consider His Highness' claim a good one, until the reverse was proved.

63. Accordingly, the Raja of Kolapoor was called upon by the British Government, to submit to an arbitration; being at the same time informed, that unless he agreed to an investigation, the British Government would support the Peshwa's right to the two districts. The Raja, however, would not consent to this proposal. A treaty was then drawn up, and signed by the Raja's Vakeels, and forwarded for the Raja's signature. He returned it signed, but with such offensive conditions annexed to it as at once showed, that had the proposed arbitration been accepted by him, and not terminated to his advantage, the only security for acting up to the award would have been the dread of the British arms.

64. The period fixed for the due ratification of the treaty having fully expired, and there having been good reasons for doubting the Raja's pacific inclinations, all further negotiations on the basis of the arbitration were considered at an end, and the war was renewed on the 23rd September 1812. Colonel Montresor advanced on Kolapoor, and the Raja, after having been sufficiently intimidated, signed the treaty.

65. By the 2nd clause he bound himself as follows:—

"The Raja of Kolapoor on his own part, and on that of his heirs and successors, hereby renounces all right and claim of whatever description on the districts of Chikodee and Munolee, and all dependencies which have hitherto been comprehended in those districts. The districts aforesaid are henceforward to belong in absolute sovereignty to Row Pundit Pradhan Peshwa Bahadoor, his heirs and successors."

66. The right of possession to the Chikodee district having been thus decided by treaty in the Peshwa's favor, it follows that all acts done by him with regard to the alienation of the public revenues, between the end of A. D. 1802, when the dispute was considered by Mr. Elphinstone to have commenced (as far as the British Government were concerned), and the day of the ratification of the treaty, are thereby rendered valid; and all similar acts done during the interval in question by the Raja of Kolapoor and his subordinate officers must be treated as the acts of invaders; having force in those instances only which were confirmed or recognised by the Peshwa.

67. After the treaty was concluded, a dispute arose as to the precise extent of territory comprised within the Chikodee district; and Mr. Elphinstone was nominated by Government as the arbiter between the two litigating States. Various modes of settlement were proposed and rejected, until it was finally determined that the state of the district as when managed during the *fifteen years of undisturbed possession* by Purushram Ramchundra was to be considered the criterion for determining the controversy. This arbitration award is a most useful document, of which the following is a translation of such portion as relates to the Chikodee district:—

The disputed claims to Chikodee and Munolee between the two States of the Peshwa and Raja of Kolapoor having occasioned constant wars throughout the Carnatic province, the Honorable Company's Government, acting on the friendly alliance which has long subsisted between it and the Peshwa, and with the consent of the latter, resolved to mediate between the two States, with a view to a settlement of their differences, as well as for the restoration of public tranquillity. Accordingly, having become guarantee to the Raja, the Company's Government addressed to him a communication, to the effect that whatsoever claims against the Peshwa he might bring forward should be adjusted, after reference to the Peshwa, conformably to justice and propriety, and that there was no necessity for having recourse to arms. But the Raja having declined to accede to this mode of settlement, it became incumbent on the Honorable Company's Government to aid their ally in asserting his claims, and a treaty was concluded between the allied Governments and the Raja, by the second clause of which the Raja bound himself as follows:—

“The Raja of Kolapoor on his own part, and on that of his heirs and successors, hereby renounces all right and claim of whatsoever description on the districts of Chikodee and Munolee, and all dependencies which have hitherto been comprehended in those districts. The districts aforesaid are henceforward to belong in absolute sovereignty to Row Pundit Pradhan Peshwa Bahadoor, his heirs and successors.”

Afterwards a question arose as to the exact extent of territory to be transferred to the Peshwa, and the contracting parties agreeing to abide by the arbitration of the Honorable Company's Government, Mr. Elphinstone was authorised by the Right Honorable the Governor General to adjudicate in the matter; whereupon it was determined that both States should exhibit their records by which the decision was to be guided. But on comparing the accounts with one another, these were found to be at complete variance, and with respect to Chikodee itself there was a discrepancy of three hundred and fifty villages. When it appeared that an award could not be arrived at on such data, it was next proposed that a comparison of the accounts of the Hoozoor with those kept by the Zumeendars should be made; and then the Raja objected, that because the mahal was under the Peshwa's authority, the Zumeendars could not be trusted to render faithful accounts, and he suggested that the talooka should be placed under the temporary charge of the Honorable Company's Government, and then the Zumeendars' accounts might be inspected. But this fell to the ground, and so the matter rested. A third plan was, that the agreement entered into in A. D. 1777-78 should be referred to, by the provisions of which Chikodee and Munolee had been made over to the Peshwa, and, by ascertaining therefrom the extent of territory surrendered, to dispose of the affair. To this the Raja in the first place represented that the Peshwa had not then assumed the actual government of the district; and secondly, he produced a note of relinquishment in the name of the Komavisdar, relative to twenty-one villages. When this was laid before the Peshwa, he rejoined that he could not perceive that either he or Sindia had ever ratified the document. After this, the Raja declared that in ancient times only twenty-one villages had been comprehended within the Chikodee talooka; to which the Peshwa answered, that as a new agreement had been now concluded [*i. e.* of A. D. 1812-13] the matter should be decided on other grounds than that of ancient custom, and the more recent state of the district should be maintained. On examining this, the Raja's Vakeel admitted that all that portion of territory circumjacent to Hookefee, which for forty years had been acquired and lost by the Peshwa, was entered in the accounts as belonging to Chikodee, and the people of those territories also spoke of it as such. Besides, in some of the agreements and documents belonging to the Raja, the district is described in this same manner; while the Peshwa has never admitted in writing, or by word of mouth, that Chikodee only contained

twenty-one villages. Considering this, and that the Raja had agreed to give up Chikodee, he could not expect that the Peshwa would take fewer villages than were formerly managed by him, or, in other words, that he would only receive twenty-one villages, and give the remainder to the Raja. Therefore, whatever portions of territory were during the forty years managed by the Peshwa as under Chikodee were to be so considered. But out of these forty years, the government of the district was *undisturbed for only fifteen years*, and the management during this period was conducted with the consent of both parties. It therefore appeared, that whatever territory was managed as under Chikodee *during these fifteen years* was to be designated ‘Chikodee.’ After this *period of fifteen years*, Purushram Ramchundra Putwurdhun was placed under surveillance by the Peshwa, and the Raja took the country. Then the Peshwa fought for it again, and gradually recovered it: the fights continued, however, until the treaty was concluded.” [*i. e.* of 1st October 1812.]

‘It now remains to be decided what tracts of country are included in the Chikodee talooka. The Peshwa claims the ninety-eight villages attached to Hookeree, and under Chikodee, which in Purushram Ramchundra's time were in the possession of the Raja, besides the two hundred and seventy managed by the Peshwa's own officers. It is replied, that it has not been proved by the accounts that the whole of Hookeree appertains to Chikodee. As many villages as were managed during that time [*i. e.* of Purushram Ramchundra] as under Chikodee, so many constitute the ‘Chikodee Talooka’. Hookeree [*i. e.* all the mahal of Hookeree] is not in Chikodee. ‘In accordance with this, as many villages as had been actually managed as under ‘Chikodee’ are considered to belong to the Chikodee talooka.’

Other clauses relate to Samanghur, Munolee, Wullubghur, and Kagul.

68. * There is no forthcoming record of the actual management of the district between A. D. 1812-13 and A. D. 1817-18. It must, however, have remained with the Nepaneeekur, as there is a detailed Yad drawn up in A. D. 1816-17, showing the valuation of the villages in this and the Munolee district, with the Phootgaons in Raybag, which together constituted a portion of the surinjam assigned to that Sirdar, and which indicates that a one-third portion of the whole surinjam was resumed by the Peshwa, and the remaining two-thirds confirmed to the Nepaneeekur.

69. Grant Duff's account of this forfeiture by the Nepaneeekur of one-third of his jagheer, (or, as he gives it, “one-fourth,”) explains that it was caused somewhat in the same way that Rastia, and other powerful Mahratta families, lost their possessions, through the Peshwa's intrigues against them, and often by the agency of the British Subsidiary Force. Bajee Rao never forgave the principal Jagheerdars, and immediate vassals of the State, for deserting his banners in the hour of need at the battle of Poona, when Holkar's successful rebellion forced him to apply for the aid of the British Government. For fourteen years after the Treaty of Bassein he systematically pursued the vindictive, but also crafty policy, of reducing these families to a state of indigence and obscurity. Partly by this means, but mainly by the protection afforded by the British Government, he consolidated his authority in his own territories, and replenished his coffers. The narrative will soon show to what use he applied his new resources.

70. Grant Duff says, that the act of deprivation in question was brought on by the Peshwa insidiously counselling Apa Dessae to refuse “to comply with certain claims devolving on the Peshwa by the late settlement, [*i. e.* of A. D. 1812-13,] or to give up some territory belonging to the Raja of Kolapoor.” A detachment from the Poona Subsidiary Force was sent down at the close of the rainy season of 1816 to enforce the forfeiture, a duty which was not completely effected until the middle of December, and even then proved to have been a bootless expedition. The absence of the detachment from Poona enabled Cheetoo's Pindaries to make incursions into the Peshwa's territories as far as Ahmednuggur; whilst no sooner had the troops left the Southern Mahratta

Country, than the Nepaneekur recovered his lost possessions. Sir Thomas Munro, in his letter of the 8th July 1818 to Mr. Elphinstone, writes:—"I have always declined giving up a number of villages of his jagheer resumed by Bajee Rao, and restored by him, or seized by Nepanee last year, and afterwards occupied by my Amildars.

"He re-took the whole of the resumed one-third of his jagheer, but I expelled his people from the greater part of it."*

71. The treaty with the Peshwa of the 13th June 1817 is the next public record which requires my attention. The events which led to this treaty were briefly as follows†:—

By the 14th Article of the Treaty of Bassein it was provided, that the British Government should arbitrate upon the claims of the Peshwa on the Gykwar State. Gungadhur Shastree, the Gykwar's Minister, came to Poona, under the British guarantee of protection, to try and adjust differences. One point for discussion, the renewal of the lease of the Peshwa's share of Ahmedabad, that prince would not accede to, but conferred its Soobahship on Trimbukjee Denglia. This man intrigued to set up Seetaram as a rival to Gungadhur Shastree, and by this means to establish at the Baroda court the influence of the Peshwa, in lieu of that of the British Government. His attempts, however, ended in complete failure, and the murder of the Shastree was agreed upon. He was inveigled on a pilgrimage to Punderpoor, and there, almost within the temple, barbarously murdered by Trimbukjee and his associates. After some very difficult negotiation, Trimbukjee was surrendered a prisoner to the British Government on the 19th September 1815, and confined in a fort at Tanna. He, however, effected his escape on the 12th September 1816, and in February 1817 was busying himself in the collection of troops, and then heading an insurrection in the vicinity of Poona under the covert support of the Peshwa himself, who, ever since Trimbukjee's surrender in 1815, had with increased energy been carrying on his machinations at all the Mahratta courts, to try and bring about a general combination against the British power. On the 21st March, the relations of friendship with the Peshwa were declared at an end. Bajee Rao still refused to give up Trimbukjee, and on the 4th May he was allowed one month for the capture of this "eminent offender," and made to deliver up the three hill forts of Singhur, Poorundhur, and Ryghur, as pledges for the performance of his engagement. Some of Trimbukjee's adherents were seized by the Peshwa on the 20th May, and a proclamation was issued, offering a high reward for the apprehension of Trimbukjee. Mr. Elphinstone considered this a sufficient atonement, and resolved to accept Bajee Rao's submission. But when, on the 1st June, the terms on which this would be received were explained to that prince, he endeavoured, with his accustomed chicanery and artifice, to evade the demands. As, however, there was ample proof pouring in from all quarters of Bajee Rao's perfidy, and the 7th of June had now arrived without the surrender of Trimbukjee; and as the levy of troops was diligently progressing, Mr. Elphinstone insisted on the immediate ratification of the treaty. On the 13th June 1817 it was signed, and then the Subsidiary Force returned to Seroor.

72. During the remainder of A. D. 1817, Sir Thomas Munro was engaged in the occupation of the territories in the south ceded by the Peshwa to the British Government under that treaty. Other portions of the British troops had marched away towards the haunts of the Pindaries, when suddenly the Peshwa broke the treaty, and commenced hostilities. The action of Kirkee was fought on the 5th November, and it now became necessary for Sir Thomas Munro to attack and reduce the Peshwa's strongholds, and effect the complete subjugation of the Southern Mahratta Country.

73. Apa Dessae, the Nepaneekur, had been won over by the Peshwa in October 1817, notwithstanding his harsh treatment of him in confiscating so large a portion of

* Vide operations of Sir Thomas Munro, quoted in Gleig's Memoirs.

† Prinsep's History, 1813—1823.

his jagheer lands. The Dessae remained with that prince until the end of April 1818, after the rout at Soonee, and, as Sir George Anderson states, "though in correspondence with Mr. Elphinstone, showed a good deal of vacillation before finally quitting his [the Peshwa's] standard, and making his submission to the British Government." He was now compelled to surrender the districts of Chikodee and Munolee, which were shortly afterwards made over to the Raja of Kolapoor, in reward for his conduct in having espoused the cause of the Honorable Company's Government during this last Mahratta war.

74. The order of Sir Thomas Munro, dated 2nd August 1818, directs Ram Row, Mamlutdar of Chikodee, &c. to transfer to the Kolapoor Raja the whole talooka, according to a list accompanying, except the three villages of Nepanee, Seergoopee, and Belkoor, which were to remain with Siddoojee Rao Naik Nimbalkur, Sir Lushkur, the Nepaneekur. The arrangement was confirmed by Mr. Elphinstone, and further declared valid by the 4th Article of the Treaty between the Honorable Company's Government and Raja of Kolapoor, concluded on the 24th January A. D. 1826.

75. This district, and that of Munolee, continued in the possession of the Kolapoor Government until A. D. 1827, when, in consequence of the Raja having repeatedly infringed the rights and privileges of the Zumeendars, Inamdars, and Wuttundars, in direct violation of the conditions on which the districts had been ceded to him, and having acted in hostile opposition to the British Government, a fresh treaty was entered into between the two powers, by the 2nd Article of which it became "necessary that His Highness should give back to the British Government the said talookas in the same state in which he received them, and His Highness hereby agrees to do so." The treaty here quoted is that ratified by the Governor General in Council on the 1st August A. D. 1829. The Raja had already been deprived of possession of the districts by the preliminary treaty of the 24th October A. D. 1827.

76. When the Political Agent, Mr. Nisbet, went to Kolapoor in 1827, with the military force sent to bring the Raja to terms, the latter attempted to evade compliance with that officer's orders that the districts were to be given back "in the same state" in which the Raja received them, according to the 2nd Article of the treaty. The Raja wished to reserve the inam grants he himself had made, but the Political Agent refused to receive the districts on these conditions, and insisted that they should be given back of the same extent as when they were made over to the Raja in 1818.* The districts were accordingly restored by the Raja without reservation.

77. The above outline of the past general management of the district has been brought down to the period when the Raja was, for the second and last time, formally divested of all authority over it, and the direct control assumed by the present Government. It has, however, been ruled, on the question arising, that the resumption of the district from the Raja in A. D. 1827 entirely annulled, *ab initio*, its previous assignment to him in A. D. 1818; so that the introduction of the present Government as paramount, with respect to the alienations of revenue, must be reckoned from the date of the resumption of the district from the Nepaneekur by Sir Thomas Munro in A. D. 1818.

78. In his letter to Mr. Elphinstone on the state of the Southern Mahratta Country, dated the 28th August 1818, Sir Thomas Munro reported that "all inams had been already guaranteed to their owners by proclamation; but many inams will be found on examination to have been given clandestinely by revenue officers without authority." He then describes the nature of the frauds usually committed in the alienation of the public revenues by revenue officers, from the lowest to the highest of them, and

* Vide correspondence of A. D. 1827-28, alluded to in Mr. Hart's report on the case of Annajee Nursingh Deshpanday.

suggests that all such unauthorized grants made in districts south of the Krishna, (like Chikodee,) after the removal of Nana Furnavees from power, and of Bajee Rao's succession, *i. e.* after the 4th December 1796, ought to be resumed, unless by long possession they have become in some degree the fair property of the possessors; "because there has since been no regular control over the disposal of the Sirkar's property."

79. Paragraphs 23 to 32 of Sir Thomas Munro's letter treat of revenue subjects: they are thus noticed in paragraph 11 of the reply of Mr. Adams, the Chief Secretary to the Supreme Government, to the Honorable Mr. Elphinstone, dated 7th November 1818:—"The suggestions of Brigadier General Munro regarding the principles and details of the revenue administration may be confidently adopted, as the result of his long experience, and of the successful application of his eminent talents to that branch of affairs. They appear to be founded on solid principles of general policy, and are, no doubt, adapted to the character and habits of the people of the country."

80. Subsequently, when Sir Thomas Munro was Governor of Madras, he was requested by the Bombay Government to furnish certain information relative to the transfer of Chikodee and Munolee to the Kolapoor Raja. Mr. Secretary Newnham's letter, No. 379, of 26th March 1825, to the address of the Sole Commissioner in the Deccan, conveys a transcript of the Madras Governor's reply, from which I extract the two following sentences, as bearing upon the present question:—

"The expression in the proclamation desiring the inhabitants to enjoy their lands, and render obedience to the Raja, is a mere official form, and is never considered, I believe, as anything more."

"The purgunnas in question had only been a few months in our possession. We had during that time granted no new rights to the Wuttundars and other landholders."

81. The language in the first sentence goes to illustrate the intention of future inquiry, (notwithstanding the issue of a proclamation,) as implied in Sir Thomas Munro's letter of 28th August 1818 to Mr. Elphinstone, just quoted; and the assertion in the second sentence is borne out by the letters addressed by Sir Thomas Munro in 1818 to the Dessaees, Deshpandays, Patels, Coolkurnees, and a Jagheerdar of the Chikodee district, announcing to them the transfer of the district to the jurisdiction of the Kolapoor Raja, and enjoining them to obey the Raja and enjoy their wuttuns, inams, jagheers, &c. मामूल बमोजीब (*Mámool ba Moujib*), *i. e.* according to established or ancient custom.

82. But I have found that claimants place stress on the fact that Sir Thomas Munro's list of 2nd August 1818 (noticed in paragraph 74) enters their names as Inamdars. That list simply distinguishes the villages which its framer was given to understand were then existing as Khalsat, and alienated villages. It contains no specific guarantee that the alienations so entered were to be continued for ever, without reference to title or tenure. It does not profess to distinguish the alienated villages, by classing certain of them as *Dewsthan* holdings, and therefore, in their nature, essentially permanent; others as *Wuttun* holdings, and, therefore, with pretensions to hereditary continuance; nor others as hereditary grants to particular branches of families, in only male, or both male and female descent, according to whether the holder be Hindoo or Muhammadan; nor others, again, as having been assigned to particular individuals for purely personal distinctions, and, therefore, neither permanent nor hereditary in their nature, but simply life-holdings; nor the various other kinds of grants on which alienated possessions are held, and which a man of Sir Thomas Munro's knowledge of the force of various descriptions of grants would not have left unnoticed had he intended any particular guarantee, or, in fact, anything more than a mere specification of the existing

state of things.* All that can be proved by the list in question is that the parties whose names are entered therein as the holders of alienated villages were in *actual possession* in A. D. 1818. The question of whether they were in *authorized possession* was one which, I think, it is evident Sir Thomas Munro intended to leave for after inquiry.

83. For instance, as regards the guarantee in Section IV. of the Treaty of the 24th June 1826—"the Raja engaging on his part to respect the rights and privileges of the Zumeendars, Inamdars, and Wuttundars of the said districts." The obvious meaning of this is that the Raja engages to respect the *bonâ fide* rights of the Zumeendars, Inamdars, and Wuttundars; and *not* that the guarantee could have been intended to debar the Raja from inquiring into such alleged rights, and thereby to prevent him from discontinuing a village in inam or wuttun, or otherwise, or altering its present tenure to its former one, if he found that although entered in Sir Thomas Munro's list, the village had been either recently acquired in the disturbed times immediately preceding the Peshwa's downfall, or, perhaps, improperly entered in the list on erroneous or fraudulent information. An alienation of this description could not be considered as coming under the category of those held *Mámool ba Moujib*, *i. e.* according to ancient custom.

84. But that such erroneous or fraudulent entries in the accounts were possible is, I think, pointedly admitted by Sir Thomas Munro himself, when in his characteristically cautious language he writes:—"All inams have been guaranteed by proclamation, *but* many inams will be found, on examination, to have been given clandestinely by revenue officers without authority." &c.—(Vide paragraph 78.)

85. This in reality suggests that the accounts of the alienated revenues, as rendered on the first occupation of a district by the Native officials of the former Government, should not be admitted, without test, by the officers of the Government which might succeed to its administration, whether that Government be of Kolapoor or Bombay, and Mr. Elphinstone's rules, promulgated on the conquest of the country, were based on the same views.

86. I would here lay before you the fact that when the yad of valuation of a portion of the Nepaneeekur's surinjam was drawn up in A. D. 1816-17, the estimate of the villages in the Chikodee talooka was framed in accordance with the accounts of A. D. 1788-89, of "Purushram Ramchundra's Karkeerd," or time of management. The sunnud of A. D. 1804, granting the surinjam, does not particularize the exact number or names of the villages made over to the Nepaneeekur, but it informs us that the whole district of Chikodee, exclusive of Doomalla or alienated villages, formed a portion of the surinjam. It follows, then, that in accepting in A. D. 1816-17 the accounts of A. D. 1788-89 as a correct indication of the surinjamee or Government villages, the Peshwa must also have generally recognised the right of those individuals who were holders of Doomalla villages in A. D. 1788-89 to be considered Doomaldars still in A. D. 1816-17.

* The following extract from a minute of Sir Thomas Munro, dated 16th January 1823, seems conclusively to show that he would not consider a mere specification of existing tenure as a guarantee for its continuance:—

"In this country, under the Native Governments, all grants whatever are resumable at pleasure: official grants are permanent while the office continues, but not always in the same family; grants for religious and charitable purposes to individuals, or bodies of men, though often granted for ever, or while the sun and moon endure, were frequently resumed at short intervals; grants of jagheers, or inam lands, from favour or affection, or as rewards for services, were scarcely ever perpetual. It was rare that any term was specified, and never one or more lives; but it made usually little difference, whether the grant was for no particular period or perpetual—the [Altumgha] perpetual grant was as liable to resumption as any common grant, containing no specification of time: it was resumed because it was too large, or because the reigning sovereign disliked the adherents of his predecessors, and wished to reward his own at their expense; and for various other causes. There was no rule for the continuance of grants but his pleasure: they might be resumed in two or three years, or they might be continued during two or three, or more lives; but when they escaped so long, it was never without a revision and renewal. I believe that the term of their lives is a longer period than grants for services were generally permitted by the Native princes to run."

87. The fact of the Peshwa having cited the year A. D. 1788-89 in the said yad of A. D. 1816-17 would lead to the inference that in A. D. 1804 the surinjam had been originally assigned with the accounts of A. D. 1788-89 for a basis as to the precise extent of the Chikodee district, and the proportionate number of its Government and Doomalla possessions.

88. But there is a "Soodbund" account of A. D. 1803-04, which will not admit of such an inference being conclusive. This account enters the number of Government villages in the Hookeree Purgunna at 123, and the Doomalla at 222½; which is in exact conformity with the Taleebund and Ghurnea accounts of A. D. 1771-72; whereas the Deh Jhara and Taleebund of A. D. 1788-89 show the Government villages to be as many as 146, and the Doomalla as many as 226½.

89. The next account, which is a Deh Jhara of A. D. 1812-13, again enters the Government villages at a number not only higher than that of A. D. 1803-04, but also than that of A. D. 1788-89; showing that the Nepaneeekur was managing as Khalsat, or Government villages, 29 more than Purushram Bhow held as such in A. D. 1788-89.

90. The reason for not calculating the value of that portion of the surinjam situated in the Chikodee talooka, according to the recent Soodbund account of that talooka for A. D. 1803-04, seems to have been, because this Soodbund tallied with accounts of A. D. 1771-72; and the award of A. D. 1812-13 shows that when the two States of Poona and Kolapoor submitted their dispute regarding the extent of the district for the arbitration of Mr. Elphinstone, they were unable to arrive at an adjustment by reference to treaties or accounts of years prior to A. D. 1781, which was the first year of the *undisturbed possession of fifteen years* by Purushram Ramchundra. The Peshwa seems, therefore, to have determined on fixing upon one of those fifteen years, and he fixed on the seventh.

91. If it be asked why that particular year was chosen in preference to A. D. 1795-96, the fifteenth and last of Purushram Bhow's period of administration, I would endeavour to explain that the year A. D. 1788-89 was in all probability the last for which accounts were rendered to the Peshwa by Purushram Bhow; for there are no Taleebunds of that officer or his deputy forthcoming after A. D. 1788-89, and only one Azmas of A. D. 1789-90. Purushram Bhow himself was actively engaged from June A. D. 1790, during A. D. 1791, and part of A. D. 1792, in command of the Mahratta army, which advanced to Seringapatam in the confederacy of the Honorable Company's Government, the Mahrattas, and the Nizam, against Tippoo Sooltan.*

92. Whilst on this campaign, Dhondia Punt Goklah seems to have been the principal manager of his affairs, and he was not a likely agent to have rendered accounts, as Sir John Malcolm's description of him will show:—

"When the Bhow went to Seringapatam in 1792, he left Dhondia Punt Goklah to collect money of the Raja of Khytoor [Kittoor]. When the Bhow returned, he found Dhondia Punt had made himself so strong by his intrigues in the country in which he had been left, and by applying the money he had raised from the Raja of Khytoor [Kittoor] to the raising of troops, that the Bhow was under the necessity of temporising with him, and from that period Dhondia Punt Goklah maintained more the character of an independent adherent than an obedient servant of the Putwurdhun family."

93. Afterwards, on the death of the Peshwa Madhow Rao in A. D. 1795, Purushram Bhow repaired to Poona, and "entered on a scheme of political intrigue for which he was wholly unfit, and which, of course, terminated in his personal disgrace and ruin." His doings between that period and his release from confinement in July 1798, are

* See narrative of the operations of Captain Little's detachment, and of the Mahratta army commanded by Purushram Bhow, during the late confederacy in India against Tippoo Sooltan Bahadoor, by Edward More, Lieutenant, Bombay Army.

further told by Sir John Malcolm in these words:—"In November 1795 we find the Bhow one of the five Brahmin chiefs who resolved, in concert with Nana Furnavees, to instal an infant Peshwa of a distant branch, to the exclusion of the family of Rugonant Rao, who were the true heirs of that dignity; and in March 1796, a fear of the power of Sindia made him join Nana to anticipate the intention of that chief, by releasing Bajee Rao from his confinement, and placing him on the musnud; and in the May following he became the active instrument of Sindia in dethroning Bajee Rao, and placing that prince's brother Chimnajeepa on the throne—a measure to which he was induced by the prospect of governing the empire as Dewan to the young Peshwa, to which office he was immediately appointed. His power was of short duration. Sindia soon afterwards found it his interest to enter into a combination with the chief Sirdars for the restoration of Bajee Rao to the office of Peshwa, and of Nana Furnavees to that of Dewan. The first effect of this combination obliged the Bhow to fly from Poona: he took Chimnajeepa with him, and lodged that prince in Juneer. He was followed by the forces of Sindia, Holkar, and other chiefs, and after an unequal contest, in which he displayed his usual gallantry, he fell a wounded prisoner into the hands of his enemies, and was confined in a fort near Poona, from which he was not released till July 1798, when he was ordered to collect troops for the Peshwa."

94. This continued absence of the Bhow from the mahal, and the stirring events of the times, might have prevented further accounts reaching the Peshwa; or, what is not unlikely, the Putwurdhun family were now in great power, and their allegiance to the Poona court having become quite nominal, it may not have been thought necessary by the Bhow to render more accounts.

95. Between A. D. 1796 and March 1804 (when the Nepaneeekur was created in due form a Fouj Surinjamdar of the Peshwa, with the title of "Sir Lushkur,") nothing but anarchy and confusion prevailed, and it would be an unavailing search indeed for regular accounts in the Poona Duffur for this period. To recapitulate the incidents of the time: the peace was first violently disturbed by the aggressions of the Kolapoor Raja at the instigation of Nana Furnavees, the district seized, but recovered some months afterwards by Purushram Bhow, who next lost his life in September 1799, when the Raja again got the upper hand. The Bhow's sons carried on the contest against him, when suddenly Serjee Rao Ghatgay fell upon the district with Sindia's battalions, occupied it for that prince, and then forced the Peshwa to cede it in sovereignty to the Raja. Vishwas Rao Ghatgay subsequently held it for his brother during a part of A. D. 1801-02, but there are good reasons for believing that Apa Dessae drove him out, and took it either for himself or the Peshwa, but was unable to keep it during his absence with Major General Wellesley in the campaign of A. D. 1803-04, when the Raja again forcibly established his authority.

96. Grant Duff's allusion to this resumption of one-third of the Nepaneeekur's jagheer would prompt the suggestion that self-interest would certainly have been a motive of the Peshwa in the instance also of fixing upon a particular year, and that year A. D. 1788-89, as the criterion of the relative extent of the Government and alienated villages. But I do not think it was; otherwise the Peshwa would have cited the Deh Jhara of A. D. 1812-13, which shows that the Nepaneeekur was managing twenty-nine more Government villages in the Chikodee district than Purushram Bhow had charge of in A. D. 1788-89; that is, he had resumed as Khalsat twenty-seven of the alienated villages of A. D. 1788-89, and acquired two new villages from the Kagul purgunna; and the Peshwa's one-third share of such resumptions and new acquisitions would, of course, have added to his revenues.

97. It is a matter of very great consequence, the determination of a certain year as a correct standard of the number of the Government and alienated villages in a district like Chikodee, which from A. D. 1763-64 to A. D. 1781 was repeatedly changing masters,

in treaty, between the two States of Poona and Kolapoor (the provisions of these treaties being never scrupulously observed, as their clauses show); and which, between A. D. 1796 and A. D. 1804, was likewise subject to the authority of invaders, each of whom, when holding temporary sway over the district, would naturally exercise his privilege of exempting portions of territory from the payment of assessment, and of confirming or revoking the grants made by his predecessor;—a period, in short, in which (as Sir Thomas Munro expresses it) “no regular control over the disposal of the Government property could have been exercised.” And I would ask, what fairer year could have been fixed on by any uninterested person, solicitous for even-handed justice between the Government and Doomaldars, than one of the years of the reign of peace, *i. e.* one of the fifteen years of “undisturbed possession” by Purushram Ramchundra?

98. There are two important inferences deducible from this act of the Peshwa: firstly, that he could not have recognised any alienations of whole villages which may have been made in the Chikodee district between A. D. 1788-89 and A. D. 1816-17, by either Purushram Ramchundra Putwurdhun, the Raja of Kolapoor, Dowlut Rao Sindia, the family of Serjee Rao Ghatgay, or Apa Dessace, the Nepaneeekur, or by any of their subordinate officers; and secondly, that all resumptions of alienated villages which may have been made by any of the above authorities during the same period must have been thereby rendered nugatory.

99. In all my reports, therefore, on claims in this district to wuttuns, and emoluments for service performed to the State, I purpose being guided entirely by the accounts of A. D. 1788-89, whenever forthcoming, as the standard of proof of a claimant's title to holdings of this nature.

(True extract)

W. HART,

Inam Commissioner.



Page i, line 8, *for* Dated 1st May 1853 *read* Dated 2nd May 1853.

„ v, „ 15, *for* 1791, *read* 1798,

„ vii, „ 15, *for* district of the Serallah, *read* district of Serallah,

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