

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

OF THE

PUDUKKOTTAI STATE,

FOR THE OFFICIAL YEAR 1892-93.

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L. C. MILLER, Esq., Political Agent for Pudukkottai, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Trichinopoly, 20th October 1893, No. 144—0—1604.

I have the honour to submit the Diwan-Regent's report on the administration of the Pudukkottai State for fasli 1302.

2. *Rainfall, Season and Crops.*—The total rainfall of the year was 29 inches against 24 inches in the previous year, but it was not altogether seasonable and was unevenly distributed, with the result that the dry crops were indifferent and poor and wet crops suffered much from want of water. In November, December and January, there was a prolonged drought and prices of food-grains rose very high and are reported to have reached famine point, but the highest price actually reached has not been reported. Scarcity of water was greatly felt and agricultural stock suffered for want of fodder.

3. *Public Health.*—Public health is reported to have been remarkably good throughout the year, but no statistics are given from which death-rates or birth-rates can be

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deduced. There was a considerable increase in the number of patients treated at the hospital at Pudukkottai, the increase in fever cases being notably large. There was no cholera case treated in any of the State hospitals during the year.

4. *Demand, Collection and Balance.*—The demand under land revenue was Rs. 5,19,458 as against Rs. 6,06,687, and under extra sources Rs. 2,53,242 as against Rs. 2,48,121 in the previous year. The decrease of Rs. 87,229 under land revenue is due to the reduction of the excessive rates of assessment on wet and dry lands, to the abolition of special rates on garden produce and the tax on patta lands, to the remission on lands taken up for roads and tarak cusbah, improvements and to the absence of the abnormal amount which accrued last year from the sale of escheated inam lands. The slight increase under "Extra sources" is not explained by the Diwan-Regent. The percentage of collection to the current demand was 83.9 as against 92.5 in the previous year. The deficiency is explained as being due to the disastrous character of the season. There were 129 sales of property (immoveable and moveable are not distinguished in the Diwan-Regent's report) in order to enforce the demand, as against 168 in the previous year. The arrear balance under land revenue and extra sources has considerably decreased since last year. The balance under land revenue was Rs. 6,843 as against Rs. 13,369 in the previous year, and that under quit-rents has decreased from Rs. 80,609 to Rs. 66,811. The Diwan-Regent states that endeavours are made to write off all irrecoverable arrears after careful scrutiny.

5. *Balance Sheet.*—The year's expenditure was Rupees 8,77,476 as against Rs. 7,76,400 in the previous year and

the year's receipts were Rs. 7,11,613 as against Rs. 8,47,906, causing a deficit of Rs. 1,65,863 in the year's revenue and necessitating the taking of a loan of Rs. 1,25,000 from the accumulated manovirti and other funds.

RECEIPTS.

6. *Land Revenue.*—The decrease of Rs. 1,44,128 under this head is due to circumstances detailed in paragraph 4.

7. *Excise.*—The decrease of Rs. 2,653 under this head is probably due to the unfavorable season and consequent increase in the price of food. The receipts, however, exceeded the figure of the revised estimate by Rs. 1,479.

8. *Assessed Taxes.*—The decrease of Rs. 817 under this head is outstanding and is expected to be collected as arrears in the following year. I do not find any information as to the nature of these taxes.

9. *Forest.*—The large increase of Rs. 5,411 under this head is due to sale of firewood for Sircar kilns and sale of casuarina trees cut from plantations made by the State.

10. *Registration.*—The increase under this head is due to general increase of business and the opening of a new sub-registrar's office during the second half of the year.

11. *Interest.*—The decrease of Rs. 1,485 is due to less money being left in deposit with Messrs. Binny and Co. than was the case last year.

12. *Post Office.*—The trifling decrease under this head needs no remark.

13. *Law and Justice.*—The increase of Rs. 2,258 under this head was mainly derived from court fees due to a rise in the number of suits.

14. *Education*.—The increase of Rs. 710 under education is due to the introduction of new scale of fees.

15. *Tolls*.—The increase of Rs. 3,081 under this head is due to heavy traffic in grain from outside the State.

16. *Miscellaneous*.—The decrease of Rs. 3,350 under this head is not explained. The budget figure was 10,000 and the actuals 9,466.

DISBURSEMENTS.

17. *Refunds*.—The decrease under this head is not explained.

18. *Assignments to the Rajah's Family (Palace)*.—The increase of Rs. 8,738 over the expenditure of last fasli and Rs. 15,000 in excess of the revised budget figure of Rupees 2,17,000 was due to the purchase of rifles, cartridges, boat, &c., fishing-rod, cob, tents, &c., not foreseen when drawing up the revised estimate.

19. *Compensation to the Western Palace Jaghirdar*.—The increase of Rs. 1,656 under this head is due to the grant of periodical allowance and cost of carriage and outfit of the second son on the occasion of the visit of His Excellency the Governor to Pudukkottai and to the house-rent paid to the second son at Trichinopoly. The expenditure is, however, within budget allotment.

20. *Inam Settlement, Revenue Survey, &c.*—The increase under this head is not clearly explained, but the expenditure is within the budget allotment.

21. *Salt*.—The increase under this head needs no remark.

22. *Excise*.—The revised estimate shows a provision of Rs. 9,000, expenditure Rs. 9,550. The excess over budget allotment, viz., Rs. 550 is not clearly explained, but it is stated that the increase over last year is due to the purchase of a spare still, for which provision was made in the revised estimate. Possibly the cost was not correctly calculated.

23. *Forest*.—The increase of Rs. 618 under this head is due to new plantations.

24. *Registration*.—The increase of Rs. 2,292 is explained as having been incurred in the opening of the new office at Kudimiamalai.

25. *Compensation to Pagodas*.—The decrease is due to less claims preferred during the year.

26. *Post Office*.—The increase of Rs. 220 is due to the opening of a new Post office at Kudimiamalai.

27. *General Administration*.—The necessity for the increase of Rs. 1,541 under this head for furniture is not very clearly explained. Apparently this amount was expended on office furniture and fittings.

28. *Law and Justice*.—The increase under this head is not explained.

29. *Jails*.—The increase of Rs. 548 is due to rise in the prices of provisions.

30. *Police*.—The decrease of Rs. 1,120 was due to vacancies of head constables not having been filled up.

31. *Education*.—The increase is explained to be due to the payment for a full year of the increase of salary to the college staff which were paid only in part of the previous year.

32. *Medical, Political, Superannuation.*—The decrease under these heads needs no remark.

33. *Stationery and Printing.*—The increase is due to the purchase of a machine press and new types and other printing materials.

34. *Miscellaneous.*—The increase, Rs. 6,543, was incurred in census forms and tabulation charges and in sanitary improvements in taluk stations and in villages.

35. *Irrigation.*—The increase, Rs. 11,713, under this head, was due to relief labour afforded to the laboring classes owing to a very bad season.

36. *Town Conservancy.*—The increase of Rs. 14,473 is explained as having been incurred chiefly on Pudukulam water project.

37. *Roads.*—The decrease of Rs. 3,193 is due to withholding expenditure on roads with a view of providing more funds on irrigation works.

38. *Buildings.*—The increase of Rs. 40,966 under this head is not explained. The budget allotment of Rs. 1,20,000 was exceeded by Rs. 9,476.

39. *Establishment.*—The increase of Rs. 1,918 was incurred in granting Mr. Wilks a bonus of Rs. 1,700 equivalent to £ 100 on the termination of his connection with the State.

40. *Military.*—The decrease under this head is not explained. It is not stated why the minimum scale of pay proposed on account of dearness of provisions and accepted by Government in G. O., Nos. 351 and 352, Political, dated 5th June 1893, was not introduced.

41. *Devastanum and Charity and Manovirti Jaghire Funds.*—The collections under the former were Rs. 1,49,919 against Rs. 1,75,495 in the previous year; the collections were Rs. 25,576 less than the last year. This is attributed generally to the bad season. The decrease of Rs. 22,062 in the demand is the result apparently of reduction in rates of assessment and abolition of tree-tax, &c. The closing balance of Rs. 1,97,934 included a sum of Rs. 1,25,000 in Government securities. The Manovirti jaghire account shows a falling off of Rs. 2,249 under demand due to the special measures of relief mentioned above. The total receipts were Rs. 35,576 against Rs. 41,944 in the previous year. The closing balances were Rs. 1,74,347 as shown below:—

(1) "Ain"—	RS.
Ready money	1,16,689
In Government securities	20,000
(2) Deposits—Devastanum and chattram—	
Ready money	17,658
In Government security	20,000
Total	1,74,347

42. *Public Works Department.*—The disbursement on public works during the year was Rs. 2,80,402 against Rs. 2,13,836 in the previous year. The outlay is distributed as under:—

	RS.
Irrigation works	24,471
Town conservancy	46,909
Roads	51,631
Buildings	1,37,420
Establishment... ..	19,971
Total	2,80,402

The expenditure on buildings accounts for nearly half of the total amount spent. The large buildings in Pudukkottai are nearly completed and expenditure under this head will be reduced in the current year. The Diwan-Regent is alive to the wants of the irrigation works, and proposes to take up several as soon as circumstances allow. The roads are in good order and well maintained so far as I have seen them.

43. *Civil Justice*.—There were 1,269 regular suits on the file including arrears against 1,123 in the previous year, and 1,546 small cause suits on file including arrears against 1,412 in the previous year. The disposals show an increase of 363 suits more than last year. Of the 1,269 suits, 1,215 were disposed of during the year, leaving a balance of 54 suits. Of these latter, 43 were filed towards the close of the year. There is a general fall in the duration as will be seen from the undernoted table :—

	Fusli 1302		Fusli 1301		Fall.
	MS.	DAYS.	M.S.	DAYS.	DAYS.
Contested regular suits ...	2	8	2	27	19
Other suits ...	1	3	1	16	13
Contested small cause suits..	0	22	1	5	13
Other small cause suits ...	0	19	0	29	10

As to quality of work all that can be gathered from the report is that of 125 appeals disposed of, the Lower Court's judgment was affirmed in 73 cases, modified in 10 and reversed in 32. Ten were disposed of in other ways without calling in question the correctness of the judgments below. The figures are generally satisfactory as showing more rapid disposal of work than in the previous year.

44. *Registration*.—There was an increase of work during the year. The receipts from registration fees amounted to Rs. 26,949 against Rs. 22,120 in the previous year. The receipts exceeded the expenditure by Rs. 10,287 and all the registration offices except Pudukkottai contributed to the surplus, the most profitable being that at Tirumayam. All sub-registrars' offices are reported to have been inspected during the year.

45. *Criminal Justice*.—There were 3,532 cases involving 5,723 persons for disposal during the year against 3,268 and 5,411 in the previous year. There was an increase of 201 cases under the Penal Code and of 206 cases under "Other laws" and a decrease of 114 cases under the "Police Act." No reasons are given for the increase of crime in Penal Code cases and the statements forwarded do not greatly assist the drawing of satisfactory inferences. Offences against property have increased by 106 cases, but of these only 45 seem to be thefts, and under house-breaking there is an actual decrease. Thus the increase does not seem to be chiefly in crimes which may be expected in a period of agricultural distress. It may be that petty thefts are not included in the table given in paragraph 69 of the Diwan-Regent's report; but this is not clear.

Convictions were received in 34.5 per cent. of Penal Code cases, and in 94.8 per cent. of cases under other laws—a slight increase on the proportion of the previous year; there was a fall of 1.5 per cent. in the number of persons convicted under the Penal Code.

Punishments.—Of the 2,016 persons convicted, 2 were sentenced to rigorous imprisonment for life in lieu of death, 43 to rigorous imprisonment, 18 to simple imprisonment,

106 to imprisonment and fine, 1,831 to fine only, 14 to whipping and 2 were bound over in securities for good behaviour. The total amount of fines imposed was Rupees 6,703. Out of this amount Rs. 5,494 were realised. Most of the fines were under 5 rupees.

Duration of Cases.—The average duration of trials was $3\frac{3}{4}$ days against $4\frac{1}{8}$ days in the previous year and is satisfactory.

Appeals.—The number of criminal appeals filed in the District Magistrate's Court was 114 against 94 in the previous year. The original decision was upheld in 57 cases, modified in 14 cases, reversed in 32 cases (28 per cent. of these are for disposal) and transferred to Chief Court in 2 cases. There were 3 appeals from the Magistracy to the Chief Court. Of these, 1 was reversed, 1 modified and 1 confirmed. There were 76 criminal revision petitions and references including 13 pending at the commencement of the fasli. Of these, 67 were disposed of during the year, leaving 9 pending. The figures on the whole are not unsatisfactory. In the table given in paragraph 68 of the report the figure 1,177 (offences against property pending at the end of fasli 1302) is a mistake for 177.

46. *Police.*—The percentage of detection in all cases was 87 against 88 in the previous year. In Penal Code cases there was some improvement, 59 per cent. being detected as against 56 per cent. in the previous year and there was a slight increase also in the percentage of persons convicted under the Penal Code.

Grave Crimes.—Of 5 murder cases under inquiry, 3 were said to have been detected, and 1 dacoity out of 4 has

so far been detected. Of 5 robberies and of 65 house-breakings, only 17 were detected. There is evidently room for improvement in this respect.

The Police returned as false 221 against the previous year's 225 cases, and of 109 cases referred to them by Magistrates 100 were returned as false against 116 out of 126 of the previous year.

More than twice as much property was lost by fire as in the previous year, possibly owing to the abnormal dryness of the weather.

47. *Jail.*—There were 86 convicts at the beginning of the year, 158 were admitted during the year, making a total of 244. Of these 162 were released on the expiry of terms and 3 died, leaving 79 at the close of the year. I noticed in the jail that prisoners are still all fettered contrary to the practice in British India.

48. *Education.*—The average number of pupils on the rolls of the college was 589 against 595 last year. It is not quite clear from paragraphs 106 and 109 of the Diwan's report whether the expenditure on the college amounted to Rs. 19,515 or Rs. 28,685 (19,515 + 9,170), but taking it at the lower figure, which brings the total expenditure on education nearer to the figure on page 11, the expenditure by the State was Rs. 5,017 more than the receipts of the year (Rs. 14,088): the "surplus of Rs. 4,918" carried on to next year is arrived at by deducting from the fee receipts only certain items of expenditure (what items is not clear) and not the whole cost of maintaining the institution. The numbers sent up for F. A. and Matriculation examinations are small and this is explained to be due to the revision of the curriculum, which may also account for the very moderate amount of success attained by the candidates.

The Muhammadan school is said not to be working satisfactorily: the causes of this are not stated, nor is it very clear in what way the working is unsatisfactory; if the decrease in attendance is alluded to, the probability is that the teaching staff is not up to the mark. The attendance of the Sircar girls' school appears satisfactory. The expenditure for the year amounts to Rs. 8,578, instruction being entirely free of all cost to the pupils. It may, perhaps, be a question whether it is desirable to provide instruction in Music and Sanskrit entirely at the State expense. No information is given as to the classes of the population which attend either the college or the girls' school. Elementary education appears to be in a fairly satisfactory state. No information is given of the number of schools receiving aid from the State or of those managed by the State, but while the total number of schools rose from 206 to 211 and the number of boys under instruction rose also the grants earned fell from Rs. 5,814 to Rs. 5,593. No explanation is given of this, but it is stated that there has been considerable progress in elementary education in this year.

All classes and creeds are represented in the elementary schools; the schools are said to have received constant and profitable inspection, the cost of which rose from Rs. 2,326 to Rs. 2,852. This increase in cost, which is a continuation of the increase of last year, is not explained.

49. *Medical*.—The in-patients at His Highness the Rajah's hospital at Pudukkottai were 194 against 244 in the previous year and the decrease is attributed to want of accommodation. The out-patients treated rose to 23,717 from 17,941 last year and were of all castes and classes.

Medicine and treatment were free of charge as usual. Three rural dispensaries were opened during the year at Karumbagudi, Viralimalai and Keelanilai. The cost of the medical establishment was Rs. 10,999 against Rs. 11,666 last year. The number of cases vaccinated during the year increased to 9,254 from 7,683 last year. The percentage of successful vaccination was 95.56 against 94.56 last year. The medical and vaccine work must be said to be decidedly satisfactory.

50. *Press*.—The State press turned out more work than in the previous year and is said to have been very useful.

51. *Salt Preventive Force*.—There was a decrease of 78 reported cases. The number of persons accused was 972 against 1,056 last year. The cases for the year under report were 951, of which 14 were pending at the close of the fasli. Of the remaining 937 cases 144 persons in 118 cases were released departmentally after warning, 6 cases were undetected, 819 persons in 813 cases were sent up to the Magistrates. These together with 28 cases affecting 28 persons pending before the magistracy at the close of the last year come to 841 cases affecting 847 persons. Of these, 7 persons were acquitted, 34 persons were pending at the close of the year, and 806 persons were convicted and punished with fines amounting to Rs. 918—4—0 and simple imprisonment extending over 19 days. The average of fines per head was Rs. 1—2—3 against Rs. 1—5—10 last year.

52. *Abkari*.—The still-head duty was Rs. 1—12—0 per gallon of 30° under-proof. There is a fall in the issue this year; 9,067 30° under proof gallons were issued against

12,689 gallons last year. The fall in consumption is attributed to increased production of toddy and the unfavorable character of the season.

Toddy.—The tree-tax system which was introduced in fasli 1300 continued during the year. The right of drawing and selling toddy was sold by public auction. The total toddy revenue realised was Rs. 19,613—14—8 against Rs. 19,420 last year.

Opium and Ganjah.—1,170 tolas of opium and 980 seers of ganjah were issued to the shop-keeper at Pudukkottai on commission and the revenue realized amounted to Rs. 797 against Rs. 770 last year. The cases against the *abkari* regulation amounted to 116 affecting 136 persons, against 125 cases affecting 145 persons last year. Of these, 4 were pending before inspectors at the close of the year; 77 were released departmentally, and 35 cases affecting 41 persons were sent up to the magistracy. These together with 3 cases affecting 4 persons pending before them at the close of the last year make a total of 38 cases affecting 45 persons. Of these, 7 persons were acquitted and 38 persons were convicted and punished with fines amounting to Rs. 160 and simple imprisonment extending over 7 days. The average fines per head was Rs. 4—3—4 against Rs. 3—7—4 last year.

53. *Inam Settlement.*—357 acres of wet and dry lands were measured during the year. Of the Brahmadayam lands, 21,726 acres wet and dry lands were measured. The *paimashdars* measured 10,102 acres wet and dry during the year. Valuation was completed and rates fixed on 46,803 acres and the amount of full assessment fixed thereon was Rs. 1,88,122.

51. *Revenue Survey and Settlement.*—Only preliminary arrangements were made during the year.

55. *Sanitation.*—The Diwan-Regent's report (paragraph 216 *et seq.*) does not give any detailed information as to the improvements made. The tanks in Pudukkottai town are in good order and are stated to be carefully watched and reserved each for its own purpose. The Pudukulam reservoir is approaching completion; it is estimated to cost Rs. 75,000 and is expected to provide an unfailing supply of water for the town; it is to be hoped that the expectation may be realised.

Improvements are said to have been made in the method of disposal of night-soil and in lighting, but no details are given.

The sanitation of the larger villages received some attention. The absence of prickly-pear is noticeable throughout the State so far as I have seen it. The total expenditure gathered from the table on page 11 of the report amounted to about Rs. 47,000.

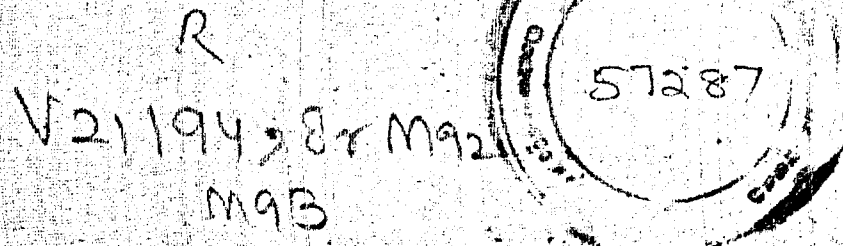
56. *Legislation.*—The two following regulations were passed during the year, viz.—

No. IV. Pudukkottai Extradition Regulation.

No. V. Regulation amending the Indian Penal and Procedure Codes in Pudukkottai.

These are on the lines of British enactments on the same subjects.

57. *Occupation of His Highness the Rajah.*—Madras and Travancore were visited by His Highness during the year. His Highness keeps up his physical education with his usual energy and success, and Mr. Crossley bears testimony to his assiduity in his studies also.



GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

ORDER—dated 5th December 1893, No. 838, Political.

The report on the administration of Pudukkottai for fasli 1302 (1892-93) has been punctually submitted. It would be convenient if the Diwan-Regent's report were printed on paper of the same size as that used for the proceedings of Government. The copies forwarded to Government might then be bound with the review and the volume would thus become a handy one for reference.

2. *Season and Public Health.*—The rainfall, though abundant, was unseasonable and unevenly distributed. The failure of the rains of the north-east monsoon and a protracted drought from November to February caused the prices of food-grains to rise considerably, and eventually to reach famine point. Copious showers in April, May and June, however, mitigated in a great degree the previous losses of crops and the year closed with brighter prospects. The public health is reported to have been remarkably good; but, as pointed out by the Political Agent, in the absence of statistics of some kind as to death-rates and birth-rates, it is impossible to make any comparisons. The necessity for such statistics was, it is observed, alluded to in paragraph 3 of the review on the report for fasli 1300.

3. *Collections.*—Owing to the character of the season, the collections amounted to only 83.9 per cent. of the demand against 93.5 in the previous year. The decrease in the number of coercive measures (129 against 163) and the reduction of the arrear balance under land revenue and

extra sources are satisfactory features of the administration of the year.

4. *Finances.*—The actual receipts and disbursements compare as follows with the budget* and revised† estimates for the year and with the actuals of 1891-92:—

Heads.	Actuals 1891-92.	Budget estimate 1892-93.	Revised estimate 1892-93.	Actuals 1892-93.	Difference between columns 2 and 5.	Difference between columns 3 and 5.	Difference between columns 4 and 5.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<i>Receipts.</i>	LAHRS.	LAHRS.	LAHRS.	LAHRS.	LAHRS.	LAHRS.	LAHRS.
Principal Heads ...	7.35	6.46	5.51	5.98	-1.37	- .48	+ .47
Interest ...	.17	.15	.16	.15	- .02	...	- .01
Post Office ...	.02	.02	.02	.02	...	...	...
Civil Departments...	.64	.62	.63	.67	+ .03	+ .05	+ .04
Civil Works...	.17	.16	.20	.20	+ .03	+ .04	...
Miscellaneous...	.13	.10	.10	.10	- .03	...	...
Total ...	8.43	7.51	6.62	7.12	-1.36	- .39	+ .59
<i>Expenditure.</i>							
Direct Demands ...	3.69	3.64	3.77	3.87	+ .13	+ .23	+ .10
Post Office ...	.04	.04	.04	.04	...	...	...
Civil Departments...	1.40	1.42	1.45	1.42	+ .02	...	- .03
Miscellaneous...	.35	.41	.51	.51	+ .16	+ .10	...
Irrigation ...	.18	.15	.30	.30	+ .12	+ .15	...
Civil Works...	1.94	1.53	2.38	2.48	+ .54	+ .95	+ .10
Military ...	.16	.15	.16	.15	- .01	...	- .01
Total ...	7.76	7.34	8.61	8.77	+1.01	+1.43	+ .16

The year's accounts showed a deficit of 1.65 and the opening balance of 5.19 was reduced by this amount. A loan of .25 was however taken from the accumulated manovirti and other funds in deposit and the closing balance accordingly stood at 3.79 lakhs. The variations between the budget estimate and the actuals have been dealt with by the Diwan-Regent and the Political Agent. The increase of .50 in the actual receipts over the revised estimate was principally due to a rise of .38 under *Land Revenue*, of .04 under *Registration*, and of a similar amount

nder *Law and Justice*. The excess of .16 in the expenditure is accounted for by certain charges under Palace expenditure which are stated not to have been foreseen when the revised estimate was framed. The discrepancies between the budget and revised estimates and the actual disbursements appear, however, to indicate that sufficient care was not exercised in keeping expenditure under the various heads within the allotments originally made. The Government trusts that such measures will be adopted in future.

5. *Civil Justice*.—There was an improvement in the

	Total file of regular and small cause suits including arrears.	Disposed of.	Pending at close of year.
191-92	2,535	2,367	168
192-93	2,815	2,790	25

working of the civil courts. In spite of a larger file, arrears were reduced and there was a

decrease in the average duration of all suits as shown by the table in paragraph 43 of the Political Agent's report. Of the 54 regular suits pending at the end of the year, 43 were filed towards its close and all the 31 small cause suits were under 3 months' standing. The appeal and miscellaneous work of the courts is compared below:—

	Appeals.				Appeals against orders.	Application for revision under section 623 of the Civil Procedure Code.			Petition for review of appeal judgments.		
	Total file including arrears.	Disposed of.	Pending at close of year.	Average duration.		Total file including arrears.	Disposed of.	Pending at close of year.	Total file including arrears.	Disposed of.	Pending at close of year.
191-92	154	139	15	M. P. 23	2	30	28	2	19	18	1
192-93	140	125	24	2 15	1	51	45	6	23	17	6

It is stated that 18 of the 24 appeals shown as in arrears were filed in the latter part of the year, but no information has been afforded as to the period for which the remaining 6 had been pending. The decisions of the lower courts were confirmed in 58.4 per cent. of the cases appealed against and reversed in 25.6 per cent. The large number of suits brought against ryots is again noticeable and the attention of the Diwan-Regent will be directed to the remarks in paragraph 6 of the review on the report for fasli 1300 in regard to the introduction of a system of loans by the State to the agricultural classes.

6. *Criminal Justice*.—The statistics of criminal justice have been reviewed by the Political Agent. The most noticeable features were the increases of 8 per cent. in the number of cases and of 5.8 per cent. in the number of persons dealt with, the large rise in cases under the Penal Code and under the head "Other Laws," and the fall in those under the Police Act. As pointed out by Mr. Miller, no reasons have been assigned for the variations, and it is difficult to draw any inferences from the statistics furnished.

7. *Police*.—The working of the Police department cannot be considered altogether satisfactory. The percentage of detection fell from 88 to 87, though of cases under the Penal Code 59 per cent. were detected against 56 in the previous year, and the convictions for such offences rose from 26 to 29 per cent. of the number of persons accused. There is, as observed by the Political Agent, room for improvement in the detection of grave crime, and the Government trusts that the remarks in paragraph 98 of the Diwan-Regent's report will bear fruit.

