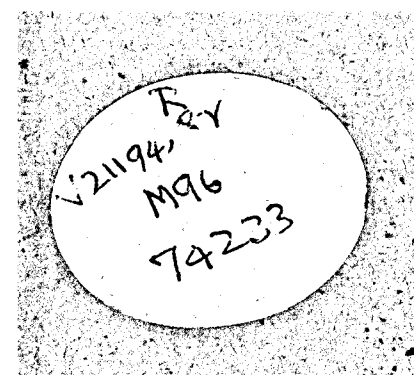


REPORT ON THE ADMINISTRATION
OF PUDUKOTTAI, 1895-96



Report on the Admin of Be...
 CONTENTS. No 7/R33

PART I.—Summary of the Administration, 1—11.

PART II.—Departmental Chapters, 1—90.

	PAGE.		PAGE.
CHAPTER I.—GENERAL AND POLITICAL	1	State gardens	39
CHAPTER II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.	3	Forests and Plantations...	44
Land Revenue	3	Trade and Industry	44
Area under cultivation	3	The Marahmut or Public Works.	49
Current Land Revenue	3	Railway	49
Old arrears	3	Post and Telegraph	51
Coercive process.	3	CHAPTER V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE	51
Land Revenue charges	4	Gross receipts and disbursements	51
Agricultural Loans	5	Salt	64
Revenue Survey...	6	Abkari	65
Revenue Settlement	8	CHAPTER VI.—VITAL STATISTICS, ETC.	68
Inam Settlement.	8	Vital Statistics	68
CHAPTER III.—PROTECTION.	10	Vaccine	69
Legislation.	10	Town and Village Conservancy..	70
Police	10	Medical relief	72
Arms and Ammunition...	15	CHAPTER VII.—INSTRUCTION	75
Criminal Justice...	16	H. H. The Rajah's College	76
Prisons	20	Sanskrit College...	76
Civil Justice	22	Sirkar Girls' School	78
Registration	28	General Elementary Education.	79
Military	33	Technical Education	82
Devastanam and Charity.	36	CHAPTER VIII.—MISCELLANEOUS	86
Manovirti Jaghire	36	Stationery and Printing	87
CHAPTER IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION	38	General Remarks	87
Season and Rain-fall	38	Conclusion and Acknowledgments	89

PART III.—Statistical Returns.

PART IV.—Appendices.

PART I.

SUMMARY OF THE ADMINISTRATION.

SUMMARY.

SECTION I.—GENERAL AND POLITICAL.

His Highness the Rajah met His Excellency the Viceroy at Trichinopoly in December 1895 and later on in January 1896 paid a visit to His Excellency the Governor of Madras at Madras.

In response to the kind invitation from Her Highness the Maharani-Regent, &c. &c., of Mysore, His Highness the Rajah was pleased to depute the Dewan to represent His Highness at the marriage festivities in the Mysore Palace in April—May 1896 in connection with the Upanayanam of His Highness the Maharajah of Mysore and the marriage of the second Princess. The Dewan was accordingly present at Mysore during the festivities.

The personal allowance of His Highness the Rajah was raised from Rs. 72,000 to Rs. 1,00,000 with effect from 1st January 1896, i. e., the second half of the year.

There are no Chiefs in the position of Feudatories with State functions. There are two Jaghires, one of them assigned to the nephew of the late Rajah, called the Chinnaramanai Jaghirdar, who is managing the estate himself, and the other, assigned to the Ranis for the time being, is managed by the State. Under the head political pensions may be classed the allowances to the Princesses, daughters of the late Rajah, and their family amounting to Rs. 31,360 and the pension assigned to the Western Palace Jaghirdar and his family amounting to Rs. 17,000.

SECTION II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

Land Revenue.—The total Land Revenue, current demand, amounted to Rs. 5,30,142 against Rs. 5,27,284 last year.

The area of wet lands under occupation was 62,430 acres and of dry lands including gardens was 1,12,116 acres, total 1,74,546 acres out of total Ayakut of 0,90,037 acres, the rest being Perumboko, Devastanam, Chatram, Saravamaniem and Shrotriem Jaghires and uncultivated Sirkar lands. Out of the total current demand of Rs. 5,30,142, Rs. 4,74,720 were collected, Rs. 25,468 were remitted having been already collected in form of old cesses on, enfranchised Inams leaving a balance of Rs. 29,954 (6 per cent on the net demand of Rs. 5,04,674.) Of old arrears amounting to Rs. 81,727, Rs. 31,577 were collected, Rs. 1,753 were remitted leaving a balance of Rs. 48,397. The collection under arrears of Rs. 1,70,219 under 'quit-rents' on enfranchised Inams amounted to Rs. 13,850. Thus the total land Revenue collection was Rs. 5,20,147 against Rs. 4,31,219 resulting in an increase of Rupees 88,928 on account of the more favorable character of the season.

Agricultural loans for sinking wells and making other land improvements.—The elaborate rules with tedious processes discouraged the ryots much and where money was borrowed it was utilized for other immediate pressing demands frustrating

(2)

the object of the loan. The experiment of Sirkar itself sinking wells, treating the cost as loan to be recouped with annual assessments, was tried and as it proved successful, a set of rules was framed and since published along with the rules for making advances for seed-grains, plough cattle, sugar-cane mills, Indigo Vats and such like purposes connected with agricultural objects. Many wells have been sunk under the new system. The ryots evince greater inclination to sink wells in wet lands being more immediately useful and less costly. The ryots are being persuaded to sink wells in the extensive dry lands and to turn them into more productive and valuable estates. Labor and initial cost are a little discouraging at first. The Sirkar experimental farms opened and to be opened will demonstrate profitable results to the ryots.

956 small wells in Alangudi Taluq, 156 large wells in Trimem Taluq and 275 large wells in Kolattoor Taluq were sunk during the year. Sirkar loans were resorted to in Kolattoor Taluq only. The extent of well irrigation of the State may be judged from the following figures. 8,226 mostly small and some big wells in Alangudi Taluq, 5,396 mostly big and some small wells in Trimem Taluq and 3,689 almost all big wells in Kolattoor Taluq.

In the extensive Kolattoor Taluq, generally dry and liable to frequent drought and distress, the well-digging industry will be pushed on strenuously which added to the spread of elementary education will, it is hoped, gradually wean the ryots from their inherited habits and make them lead a more peaceful and honest life.

Revenue Survey.—The Survey work was confined to Alangudi Taluq and there was but 9 months of field-work, the other 3 months (November to January) being rainy weather recess.

The outturn was nearly 250 square miles in E. F. and G. processes and the outlay Rs. 26,987-8-6; cost per square mile Rs. 108 against an estimated cost of Rs. 100 due to delay in training local candidates and to other difficulties natural in the first year.

A Survey school, since opened at Trimem, trained 71 more Karnams and 40 more local candidates for commencing operations there.

The work done in Alangudi was tested by the Political Agent and the Dewan and was found correct and satisfactory.

In Theodolite work, Alangudi Taluq was divided into 9 main circuits running on sides of roads and cart-tracks at a cost of Rs. 600.

It is expected that the Survey of the remaining 2 Taluqs will be completed before the end of Fasli 1307 (1897-98).

Revenue Settlement.—As the Survey of Alangudi Taluq was not completed in every respect as expected, the Settlement operations will be taken up from the 1st January 1897.

Inam Settlement.—The measurement of Brahmadayam lands was completed in the Fasli. 942 velis (6,228 acres) wet, 1,911 velis (12,635 acres) dry land, total 2,853 velis (18,863 acres) were measured against 2,031 velis (13,428 acres) last Fasli.

(3)

1,000 cases were investigated and disposed of during the year, the quit-rent settled being Rs. 3,296 on an area of 344 velis (2,274 acres) confirmed, and 3,375 title deeds were issued.

The department cost Rs. 11,211 during the year against Rs. 12,961 last year and Rs. 1,26,617 since the beginning in 1888.

The only class of Inams remaining to be settled is Brahmadayam lands which will be completed within the Fasli now progressing.

SECTION III.—PROTECTION.

Legislation.—Six Regulations were added to the Pudukkottai Code Book during the year.

Regulation I of 1895 provided against loss by the default of Public Accountants.

Regulation II of 1895 introduced British Act VII of 1889, the British Succession Certificate Act.

Regulation III of 1895 is the Revised Court Fees Regulation.

Regulation IV of 1895 amended the local Registration Regulation of 1885.

Regulation I of 1896 assimilated the law relating to Post Offices in Pudukkottai with the British Law in the interests of the Imperial Post in the State.

Regulation II of 1896 corrected a clerical error in Article I (a) Schedule II of the Court Fees Regulation.

Police.—The Superintendent of Police, Trichinopoly District, is ex-officio Superintendent of Pudukkottai.

The Force was 247 strong at the close of the year, i. e., 16 below the sanctioned strength, of whom 13 were Brahmins, 4 Rajputs, 26 Mussalmans, 2 Christians, 2 Pariahs and 200 other Hindus.

The proportion of Police to population was 1 in 1,514 and to area 1 for 5½ square miles.

The average cost of a Police-man was 1 anna 4 pies per head of the population.

The recruits had the usual training at Head Quarters in Drill and Catechism.

15,352 summonses were issued and served against 17,045 last year. 1,115 warrants issued against 1,183 last year of which only 20 remained unexecuted against 30 last year.

Of 35 extradition warrants issued only one remained unexecuted.

There was cordial co-operation between the State Police and the British Police in working out cases and in the execution of warrants.

There were 51 accidental deaths and 6 cases of suicides.

There were 66 accidental fires affecting 303 houses and property worth Rupees 14,387. One male died.

Weekly fairs were held at 15 different places drawing together on an average of 10,927 persons, each fair. 30 festivals took place with an attendance of 11,790.

(4)

Known Depradators and Suspects were regularly watched. The Madras Police system of K. D. and Suspects' registration is being gradually introduced.

Of 1,595 cases reported, 1,520 or 95 per cent were detected, same as last year. Of 2,629 persons arrested, 1,637 or 64 per cent were convicted against 66 per cent last year. Of Rs. 4,555 worth of property lost, Rs. 1,322 or 29 per cent worth of property was recovered against 25 per cent last year.

Of 316 offences under the Indian Penal Code, 246 or 77 per cent were detected against 74 per cent last year. Of 1,287 persons arrested for offences under the Indian Penal Code, 353 or 27 per cent were convicted against 29 per cent last year.

The number of cases reported as false by the Police was 230 against 312 last year.

Of 13 cases tried by the Sessions Court, 5 or 38 per cent ended in conviction against 88 per cent last year.

The relations between the Magistracy and the Police continued cordial and harmonious during the year under report.

The Inspector of Kolattoor was trained in the Anthropometric system of measuring criminals.

Arms and Ammunition.—1,200 cartridges, 100 lbs. blank powder, 6,000 Percussion caps, 1,200 friction tubes, and 120 snap caps were imported during the year.

A new Powder Magazine has been constructed for storing powder for firing salutes and for morning and evening guns.

Criminal Justice.—There were 16 Magistrates at the end of the year.

The number of crimes reported during the year was 3,754 against 4,514 last year showing a decrease of 760, and the number of persons involved was 5,742 against 6,623 persons last year.

Of the 3,754 cases, 2,173 were detected, 266 were struck off, 381 terminated without trial, 810 were withdrawn, compromised, etc. and 24 remained undetected.

The number of cases under the Indian Penal Code was 1,779 of which conviction was had in 405 cases, or 38.8 per cent against 35.1 per cent last year. Under other special laws there were 1,975 cases of which conviction was obtained in 1,768 cases or 93 per cent against 94.6 per cent last year.

Of 5,742 persons involved, 2,399 persons were convicted, 527 were acquitted, 1,215 were released without trial, 1,566 were released in consequence of compromise, withdrawals, etc. and 35 were pending.

The number of appeals presented in the Chief Magistrate's Court was 131 including 2 brought forward. Of these, 77 were confirmed, 15 modified and 39 reversed. The number of revisions presented in the Chief Magistrate's Court was 52, of which 39 were dismissed, 9 reversed and 4 referred to the Chief Court for orders.

The working of the subordinate Magistracy as tested in appeal was on the whole fair.

(5)

17 cases involving 23 persons were tried by the Sessions Court; 13 persons were acquitted, 3 were imprisoned, 4 were imprisoned and fined, and 3 were withdrawn by the Government Pleader.

7 appeals were presented in the Chief Court, Original side, of which 2 were confirmed, 2 modified, 2 reversed and 1 struck off.

There were 5 appeals filed in the Chief Court, Appellate side, against the decisions of the single Judge in Sessions cases. Of these, 2 were confirmed, one was reversed and one struck off leaving one in arrear.

There were 122 review petitions including 50 brought forward for disposal by the Chief Court, of which 110 were disposed of leaving 12 in arrears.

Prisons.—There are one Central Jail and 9 Subsidiary Jails in the State.

86 convicts were at the Central Jail at the commencement of the year; 134 were admitted, 155 were released on expiry of terms and 2 died during the year leaving 63 convicts at the end of the year. There were 8 life convicts, 52 under rigorous imprisonment and 3 under simple imprisonment.

Diet was 1a. 8ps. per convict against 1a. 9ps. last year. Ragi diet was introduced towards the close of the Fasli.

The expenditure on account of Jails amounted to Rs. 8,243.

The average daily sick was 3.35 against 6.5 last year. There were 2 deaths one from lung disease and the other from dropsy.

Industries and gardening, introduced into the Jail last year for the first time, were further improved during the year.

The introduction of British Jail Code, *mutatis mutandis*, appointment of a female warder, change of rice into ragi diet, convicts' uniforms, convicts' tickets, cropping of their hair and remission system were among the improvements of the year.

Civil Justice.—The loan of the services of G. Narasimhan Naidu, British First Grade District Munsiff, having been obtained, he was appointed Chief Judge, Chief Court, and assumed charge on the 7th August 1895. He made some useful changes in the Process establishment and in the existing forms and registers of the Court as per British model and also made arrangements to collate important Judgments of the Court in view to their being published for guidance of bench and bar.

CHIEF COURT. Of 1301 (including 217 brought forward) Original Regular suits, 1,065 were disposed of leaving 236 suits.

Of 1,815 (including 132 brought forward) Small Cause suits, 1,634 were disposed of leaving 181.

RURAL SMALL CAUSE COURTS. Of 1,419 suits (including 39 brought forward), 1,399 were disposed of leaving 20 in arrears.

Suits by Nattukkottai Chettis against ryots fell from 410 to 267.

(6)

Miscellaneous applications, etc., filed in the Original side of the Chief Court numbered 1,331 including 176 brought forward, of which 1,120 were disposed of leaving 211 in arrears.

Similarly on the Small Cause side, 1,327 Miscellaneous applications were filed and disposed of.

So also 461 applications were filed and disposed of in the Rural Small Cause Courts.

118 suits (including 66 brought forward) were filed in the Appellate side of the Chief Court and 99 were disposed of leaving 19 as balance. Of 74 Review petitions, &c., (including 32 brought forward) 68 were disposed of leaving 6 as balance.

The financial results of the year were very satisfactory, the collections amounting to Rs. 38,353-4-0, the highest figure on record, and the expenditure to Rs. 23,487-9-9.

Registration.—In all the 10 Registration Offices, 20,854 (against 22,619) documents were registered showing a fall of 1,765 or 7.8 per cent. The aggregate value of the transactions also fell 3.2 per cent, being Rs. 22,47,305 against Rupees 23,22,686. 24 Wills were registered against 15 last year. The receipts of the year amounted to Rs. 23,703 and the expenditure to Rs. 17,417.

A Regulation was passed exempting from Registration, security bonds in favor of Sirkar and under Agricultural Loans Rules. Leases of Sirkar trees exceeding one year were ordered to be registered. Proposals are under consideration to authorize registering officers to receive applications for transfer of pattahs, in connection with lands conveyed, etc.

Military Department.—The strength of the Battalion was 157 including 16 Troopers.

The total cost on account of the department was Rs. 18,203-2-1.

Devasthanam and Charity.—Out of the current demand of Rs. 1,70,746 (against Rs. 1,72,330), Rs. 1,63,765 were collected leaving a balance of Rs. 6,981. Of arrear demand of Rs. 38,743, Rs. 13,370 were collected, Rs. 1,419 were remitted leaving a balance of Rs. 23,959.

Under financial, the balance brought forward was Rs. 1,92,156, the collection during the year was Rs. 1,98,159, total Rs. 3,90,315 and the disbursements during the year amounted to Rs. 2,14,486, leaving a balance of Rs. 1,75,829.

In view to improve the quality of ghee, milk, etc., supplied to Pagodas, etc., a Dairy farm has been started towards the close of the Fasli.

Manovirthi Jaghire.—Out of the demand of Rs. 25,667 (against Rs. 26,010) Rs. 25,545 were collected leaving a balance of only Rs. 122.

Of arrear demand of Rs. 1,248, Rs. 825 were collected, Rs. 47 were written off, leaving a balance of Rs. 376.

The receipts from Extra Sources was Rs. 2,685 against Rs. 5,978.

The receipts under Devasthanams and Chatrams amounted to Rs. 8,836 against Rs. 8,124.

(7)

The total receipts of the year amounted to Rs. 37,893 or including the balance Rs. 2,01,756 brought forward to Rs. 2,39,649 and the disbursements to Rs. 18,105 leaving a surplus of Rs. 2,21,544 including a loan of Rs. 25,000 to the State account.

SECTION IV.—PROTECTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

Season, &c.—The season was on the whole comparatively favorable for agricultural operations. The total rain-fall was 37 inches 59 cents against 26 inches last year but was somewhat badly distributed which affected the outturn a little.

The Prices of food-grains fell a little owing to the more favorable character of the season.

Pasture and fodder were generally sufficient and the health of cattle good.

State Gardens.—The Town State gardens which had for some time been left in a neglected state were all well looked after. The water supply was also improved and a separate officer appointed to look after them. The 2 State gardens at Karambakudi continued in a neglected condition for want of proper agency and water facilities which have both been since secured and steps taken to improve the condition of the Topes.

Forests, etc.—There are about 60 Jungles in the State covering an area of about 140 square miles.

To the various sources of Revenue under this head, grazing fees and capture and sale of wild bulls contributed an increase during the year under report.

The total demand for the year was Rs. 18,948 against Rs. 14,790 last year of which Rs. 17,394 were collected during the year.

Plantations.—In addition to the Topes that already existed 5 new Topes have been formed during the year. Several kinds of trees were planted during the year and seeds sown to improve the plantations and transplant the seedlings during the current Fasli. Several fruit-bearing and useful timber trees of a re-productive character have been and will be transplanted in the plantations. Nurseries have been formed in all the Topes in view to the transplants being sent to the different parts, wherever necessary. 2 experimental gardens have been established in the Town and coconut and shade-giving and fruit-yielding trees have been planted therein. Trees have also been planted on both sides of the 3 trunk roads. All these are thriving well. The Casuarina plantations on the banks of Vellar and at Perungalur are also thriving well. Fresh Casuarina seedlings have been transplanted in other places during the year.

On the whole the number of trees that existed at the beginning of the Fasli was 73,100, the number added during the Fasli was 2,11,948 and the number remaining at the close was 1,38,275. To improve the Forest Revenue, the denudation, from the forests of useless, hollow, stunted trees and re-forestation by planting in their stead useful fruit and timber trees, has been proposed and is under the consideration of His Highness' Government.

(8)

Trade & Industry.—The chief occupation of the people is agriculture. Ground-nut forms the chief article of export and paddy and salt the chief articles of import. The average weekly transactions in the Friday fair in the Town amount to Rupees 50,000 nearly. There are also weekly fairs held in different parts of the State. Steps are being taken to improve other defunct industries of the people, viz., Weaving, Bangle-making, Manufacture of Indigo and Sugar and of Iron, etc.

The Marakmut or Public Works.—The disbursements on account of Public Works during the year was Rs. 1,48,622 of which Rs. 1,42,701 were spent within the close of the season, Rs. 5,921 being refunded. The outlay was distributed thus:—(i) Irrigation, Rs. 30,862, (ii) Town Conservancy, Rs. 20,263, (iii) Village Conservancy, Rs. 6,228, (iv) Roads, Rs. 34,962, (v) Buildings, Rs. 38,105, (vi) Establishments, Rs. 12,231. The system of Permanent Advance was introduced from about the close of the year to avoid money drawn on particular works being refunded. In future the disbursements from the Treasury will represent the amount for which works have been carried out.

During the year, Earth-work to 223 tanks in all the three Taluqs and 15 masonry works were begun and carried on. Owing to the existence of water in the tank-beds, Earth-work was not carried to the extent estimated. A few large masonry works, such as the Kalingulahs of Kavinad tank, Palayur tank and Kachirankolam and Kolattoor big tank, were taken on hand and proceeded with.

The amount spent on Roads was Rs. 34,962 and was chiefly on maintenance. Arrangements have been made to plant avenue trees on the sides of roads and also on Sirkar lands bordering on roads in view to create eventually funds for maintaining extended communications and to make new communications self-supporting *festina lente*. With a view to provide water facilities both for rearing trees and for repairs to roads, the trunk roads were many of them provided with large wells at convenient distances.

The amount spent on Buildings was Rs. 38,105 on new Buildings and also on maintenance. The New Technical School and Workshop were begun and had Rs. 7,213 spent on them. The Police buildings cost Rs. 11,480 during the year. The New Powder Magazine was completed during the year.

Rupees 20,263 were spent on account of repairs to tanks, wells, etc., street lighting, scavengering, night-soil removal, etc., in the Town and Rs. 8,648 on account of rural village sanitation.

Railway.—Arrangements have been made to survey from Pudukkottai to Kanadikathan (a rich Chetti Village) via Trimiem.

Post and Telegraph.—The amalgamation of the State Post with the Imperial post has been attended with the greatest benefit to His Highness' subjects. One more Post Office was opened during the year raising the total number of Post Offices in the State to 15.

There was only one 3rd class Telegraph Office at the Capital. It was converted into a second class Office during the year. Steps have been taken to open 2 more Offices in the course of the current Fasli.

(9)

SECTION V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE.

General.—The actual receipts of the year amounted to Rs. 8,06,000. With the opening balance in cash the actual amount of cash available for expenditure was Rs. 9,19,000, which just covered the expenditure including repayment of loan of one lakh to the Manovirti Jaghire, leaving the surplus of Rs. 2,75,000 in Government Paper intact. There was an increase of nearly a lakh and nine thousands over the receipts of the last year being the result of improvement in almost every important branch of the Revenues. The expenditure was unstinted especially in Public Works and Education and Medical services.

Salt.—The quantity of Salt declared for sale in Pudukkottai at the British factories amounted to 57,146 maunds. The average selling price of Salt ranged between 10 and 12½ measures a Rupee. Of 662 cases affecting 686 persons, 584 cases relating to 596 persons were committed for trial before Magistrates. In 67 cases, 81 persons were released departmentally warned. In 602 cases including arrears of last year concerning 614 persons brought up before the Magistrates, 10 persons were acquitted, 591 persons were convicted with fines amounting to Rupees 843-12-0 or Rs. 1-6-11 per head. A few cases involving 13 persons were pending at the close of the year.

Abkari.—8,191 gallons 30° U. P. of liquor were issued for sale. The still head duty was Rs. 2-4-0 per gallon. The total number of shops was 74 and the total Revenue under Arrack Rs. 22,336. The Toddy Revenue was Rs. 30,986. Toddy shops open for sale were 143. License for foreign liquor fetched Rs. 225. Opium and Gunjah fetched Rs. 760-8-6. The total demand was Rs. 54,558-15-11 of which Rs. 54,196-12-2 were collected. 51 cases affecting 63 persons were dealt with by Inspectors and 13 cases affecting 16 persons were dealt with by Magistrates. The average of fines per head of convicted was Rs. 2-12-0.

SECTION VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

Vital statistics.—The number of births during the Fasli was 4,821, and that of deaths 4,339. The chief cause of mortality was fever. The Dewan Peishkar and the Chief Medical Officer inspected birth and death registers in the several villages and instructed the village officers wherever necessary.

Vaccine.—Total Vaccine operations rose to 13,038 from 9,354 last year. 11,812 were successful, 565 unsuccessful and 661 not seen. The percentage of successful cases was 90.5. Animal vaccination was started as an experimental measure. Vaccine establishment cost Rs. 2,381 against Rs. 1,946 last year. The average cost of vaccinating each subject was 3 annas against 3 annas 3½ pies last year.

Town Conservancy and Sanitation.—The department did good work. All the 15 bathing and drinking water tanks were kept in good condition and well conserved each for its own purpose. 359 street lanterns and 130 dust-bins were maintained. Street drains were cleansed periodically and kept in good order. "The dry-earth system" was introduced. 46 Thottis were employed in scavengering 2,488 houses in addition to the public latrines newly put up in the year.

Village Conservancy and Sanitation.—Greater attention was paid to the sanitation and improvement of some other big villages, Annavasal, Ponnamaravati, Puliur, &c. All Taluq and Firka stations and some populous villages were provided with more lights and dust-bins.

Medical.—Besides the Central Hospital at the Town there were 7 Rural Dispensaries including the three new Dispensaries opened during the year, one at each Taluq Kusba station. In the Town Hospital 35,359 patients (against 29,087 last year) were treated including 233 In-door patients. Surgical operations performed were 28 major and 585 minor ones—all successful. There were 7 cases of confinement in the Town Hospital lying-in-ward. The Mid-wives attended 193 cases. In the 7 Rural Dispensaries 44,116 cases were treated. The total cost of the establishment of the Town Hospital and the Rural Dispensaries was Rs. 25,095.

SECTION VII.—INSTRUCTION.

His Highness the Rajah's College.—The College had 649 pupils against 605 last year. Percentage of daily absentees 8 against 7. Expenditure was Rupees 19,915 against Rs. 20,284, more than half of which was met by fees. Average cost per pupil was Rs. 29-2-4 against Rs. 33-12-10. 8 out of 13 boys passed in F. A., with 1 in the first class, and 24 out of 41 in Matriculation with 3 in the first class, and 59 out of 64 in the Lower Secondary Examination. The results of the other examinations were also satisfactory.*

Sanskrit College.—The Library is being improved. There were 30 students in the Patasala and 40 students from other schools also attended in the mornings for instruction. The Pandits' Examination (Dussra) was held in the College. The total expenditure on account of the Institution amounted to Rs. 1,850.

Sirkar Girls' School.—There were 173 girls against 164 last year. The expenditure was Rs. 2,333 against Rs. 2,496.

Elementary Education.—The schools dealt with have increased in number from 270 to 305. Boys and girls have increased from 6,547 and 375 to 7,424 and 570. There were 893 Kallar boys and 23 Kallar girls. There were 367 Pariah and Palla boys and 10 girls. Mahomedan boys and girls were 529 and 167. The cost of educating a pupil in State and aided schools is Rs. 2-11-7 and annas 14-7. The character and tone of the schools have improved. The curriculum has been revised and kindergarten exercises, object lessons and sewing introduced.

Technical Education.—The Industrial school was arranged for separately with 11 sections under two Superintendents, skilled workmen being engaged in each of the sections. The boys will also be given some general education.

Demonstrative Farm and Agricultural Training Class.—Preliminary operations have been undertaken and carried on. Since the close of the Fasli a training class has been arranged for. The class and the farm are under two Saidapet students holding good certificates and one of them a D. A.

The Club.—Suitable accommodation was provided for the Club (Reading room) wherein the members who form the elite of the Town may meet in the evening after the toils of the day and spend a few pleasant hours.

The Museum.—Specimens are being collected for a small Museum.

SECTION VIII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Stationery and Printing.—The Stationery and Printing departments were doing useful work, as usual. The State Gazette was much improved and arrangements made to make it more interesting.

PART II.

DEPARTMENTAL CHAPTERS.

CHAPTER I.

GENERAL AND POLITICAL.

The principal events to record under this head in the year under report are the following :—

1. *Visit to His Excellency the Viceroy.*—His Highness the Rajah met His Excellency the Viceroy at Trichinopoly in December 1895, during His Excellency's arrival there in the Southern Indian Tour. A formal visit arranged to take place at Madras, after His Excellency the Viceroy's arrival there, did not take place owing to inability of His Highness to proceed to Madras on account of ill-health.

2. *Visit to His Excellency the Governor of Madras.*—His Highness the Rajah paid a visit to His Excellency the Governor of Madras, Lord Wenlock, at Madras in January 1896. During this trip His Highness made a stay of about a week at the Metropolis.

3. *Dewan's Visit to Mysore.*—Her Highness the Maharani Regent of Mysore, *c. i.*, kindly invited His Highness the Rajah for the Upanayanam of His Highness the Maharajah of Mysore and the marriage of the Second Princess. As His Highness the Rajah was not able to attend in person, His Highness deputed the Dewan to be present on the occasion and represent His Highness at the marriage festivities in the Mysore Palace. The Dewan accordingly paid a visit to Mysore (April—May 1896) and was present at the grand festivities in that Oriental Palace.

4. *His Highness the Rajah's personal allowance increased.*—During the year under report the question of increasing the personal allowance of His Highness the Rajah came under consideration with the result that after some discussion and correspondence His Highness' personal allowance was raised from Rs. 72,000 to one lakh per annum with effect from the 1st January 1896—*i. e.*, from the second half of the year under report.

FEUDATORY CHIEFS.

5. There are no Chiefs in the position of Feudatories with State functions under His Highness the Rajah. There are two Jaghires; one of them called the *Chinnaramanai Jaghire* is assigned to the nephew of the late Rajah, styled the Chinnaramanai Jaghirdar, who is managing the estate himself from the time of its rendition in August 1886, after his attaining his majority. The other Jaghire called the *Manovirti Jaghire* assigned for the Ranis for the time being, as a sort of pin-money, is under the direct management of the State.

POLITICAL PENSIONS.

6. Under this head may be classed the following :—

(1) Allowances to the several members of His Highness the Rajah's family, viz., the Senior Princess and the Junior Princess—the two daughters of the late Rajah, and other members, amounting to Rs. 31,360 per annum, included under the head assignments to Palace in the Financial Statement

(2) Rs. 17,000 per annum is paid to the *Western Palace Jaghirdar* and his family, a long-ago divided branch of His Highness the Rajah's family. The Pension was settled in 1881 in lieu of the Jaghire resumed in that year as an Act of State for reasons given in para 307 of Administration Report for Fasli 1291. (1881—82).

(3) There are a few other minor pensions granted to some remote members of the Rajah's family and other members of *Servaigars* of the old Militia whose Inams were resumed for want of proper heirs.

CHAPTER II.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

LAND REVENUE.

7. *Area under cultivation and current Land Revenue.* The area of Wet Lands under occupation including the ascertained portion of the enfranchised Inam lands was 62,430 acres and of Dry Lands including gardens was 1,12,116 acres; Total 1,74,546 acres out of a total Ayakut of 6,90,037 acres; the rest being Perumboke, Devastanam assignments, Chatrams, Mosques, Mutts, etc., assignments, Bramhadayam, Sarvamaniem and Shrotriem and Jaghires and uncultivated Sirkar lands. A further extent of nearly 20,000 acres will be gradually included under occupied lands from enfranchised Inams, the rents due thereon having been already included under "Land Revenue". The total Land Revenue current demand amounted to Rs. 5,30,142 against Rs. 5,27,284 last year. Out of the total current demand, Rs. 25,468 were remitted having been already collected in the form of old cesses, etc., on the enfranchised Inam lands included under Quit-rents settled thereon. The actual demand was thus Rs. 5,04,674 against Rs. 5,01,062 last year, eliminating the similar remission pertaining to that year.

8. *Demand, collection and Balance: Current Revenue.* Out of the demand of Rs. 5,04,674 including current year's demand under Quit-rents on enfranchised Inams, Rs. 4,74,720 were collected leaving a balance of Rs. 29,954 for the year, resulting in a collection of 94 per cent against 76 per cent last year due to the more favorable character of the season.

9. *Old Arrears.* Of old arrears of Land Revenue other than Quit-rents on enfranchised Inams amounting to Rs. 31,727, Rs. 31,577 were collected, Rs. 1,753 were remitted leaving a balance of Rs. 48,397. Of arrears under Quit-rents accrued since Fasli 1288 (1888-89) the date of the commencement of the Inami Settlement to the end of the last Fasli 1304 (1894-95) amounting to Rs. 1,70,219, Rs. 13,850, out of the demand due for the year under the special circular for the realization of these arrears in instalments, were collected, Rs. 52,758 were remitted having been found during the course of investigation as having been collected in the form of old cesses, leaving a balance of Rs. 1,03,621 under this head to be dealt with in future years.

10. *Coercive process.* The actual resort to sales of immovable property was after all only in 82 cases for realizing Rs. 838 against 102 cases for realizing Rs. 1,042 last year. Of movable property there were but 56 sales for realizing Rs. 2,392 against 119 sales for realizing Rs. 881 last year. Coercive measures

Fasli.	Land Revenue. Rs.
1239	1
1290	3
1291	3
1292	1
1293	4
1294	22
1295	22
1296	24
1297	23
1298	21
1299	23
1300	92
1301	265
1302	2,083
1303	7,246
1304	33,562
	48,397

are the last resort and that only in extreme cases. Generally the ryots pay up without reticence.

11. In hard cases applications for time to pay up were granted freely after careful investigation of the existence of any hardship. In the Kolattoor Taluq where the Tahsildar-Magistrate was relieved of his Magisterial work by the appointment of a Stationary Magistrate, the result in the matter of collection proved beyond all doubt that a full-timed Revenue officer is an improvement over the combined office. The other two Tahsildars have also since the close of the Fasli been relieved similarly by the appointment of Stationary Magistrates in those two Taluqs, and the duties of the Tahsildars have also been since more clearly pointed out in a notification issued for their guidance. The statement given below will show the Demand Collection and Balance in the several Taluqs as compared with the results of the last year.

Current Demand, Collection and Balance distributed over the Taluqs and Firkas as compared with those of the previous year.

	Fasli 1303.				Fasli 1304.			
	Demand.	Collection.	Balance.	Percentage.	Demand.	Collection.	Balance.	Percentage.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Alangudi Taluq	97,397	93,549	3,849	96.04	94,581	83,653	10,928	88.32
Karambakudi Firka	39,094	37,783	1,311	96.64	38,659	37,593	1,066	97.25
Trimiam Taluq	1,04,718	1,02,327	2,391	97.65	1,03,923	99,517	4,406	95.75
Keelamalai Firka	1,36,976	85,699	51,277	62.55	85,935	84,859	1,076	98.73
Kolattoor Taluq	1,16,143	1,08,836	7,307	93.70	1,11,747	61,064	50,683	54.64
Virahimalai Firka	39,684	39,036	648	98.34	39,268	36,976	2,292	94.17
Quit-rents from Chinnaramanai Jaghire.	176	176	...	...	176	176	...	...
	4,33,188	4,17,455	15,733	96.37	4,26,386	3,58,368	67,518	84.17
Add								
Quit-rents	55,893	41,582	14,221	74.51	54,907	30,523	24,384	55.55
Revenue fines, etc.	15,683	15,683	...	...	15,991	15,991	...	...
	5,04,674	4,74,720	29,954	94.06	5,27,284	4,95,382	31,902	76.88

12. The Tahsildars and their Deputies have exercised great caution and vigilance in the matter of collection of Land Revenue under the zealous supervision and guidance of the experienced Dewan Peishkar, A. Vencut Row, whose untiring energy in his careful examination of the Tahsildars diaries and his own punctuality of inspection are very creditable to him.

13. *Land Revenue charges.* The Land Revenue charges for the year amounted to Rs. 72,617 against Rs. 71,963 last year or 13.9 per cent against 16.7 per cent of the total Land Revenue. This being the first year of the exhibition of such comparison of charges to collection, I have given below the total Land Revenue collections, the charges and the percentages for the last 10 years.

Faslis.	Land Rev. Collection.	Charges.	Percentage.
	Rs.	Rs.	
1296	4,52,081	62,313	13.8
1297	4,51,098	65,021	14.6
1298	4,57,495	70,222	15.3
1299	4,80,959	72,683	15.1
*1300	5,51,797	71,036	12.9
*1301	6,02,421	71,446	11.8
1302	4,58,293	71,352	15.6
1303	5,32,174	71,654	13.5
1304	4,31,219	71,968	16.7
1305	5,20,147	72,617	13.9

* NOTE.—The Land Revenue collections of these two years included non-recurring incomes by sale of Sirkar rights in lapsed Inams Rs. 31,306 and Rs. 46,715 respectively. Eliminating them the percentage of charges will be raised to 13.6 per cent and 12.9 per cent respectively.

14. *Agricultural Loans.* Last year Rules were framed for the grant of State Loans for the first time for sinking wells and making other land improvements. The Rules were published in the middle of that year and have been in force for the last one and half years. At first the ryots did not show much inclination to borrow as the elaborate rules with enquiries, security bonds and other prolonged and tedious processes did not find much favor with the ryots. In cases where some ryots availed themselves of the loans proffered under those rules there was tendency to utilize the money for purposes more immediately pressing in their nature which only frustrated the object with which the loan was made. To obviate the above difficulties it was resolved to introduce as an experimental measure the system of constructing wells by the State itself on the lands of the ryots at their request provided such wells will in the opinion of the local Revenue officer tend to the improvement of the land and to treat the cost as a loan to the ryots concerned to be paid off in a stated number of years by way of an addition to the assessment due on the area thus improved. The result of the experiment proving successful, a set of Rules for this system has been since framed and published. In addition to the loans under the above-said two Rules for the construction of wells and other improvements in land provision was also made during the latter part of the year for advances for purchase of seed grains, plough cattle, rebuilding houses destroyed by fire or flood, provision of sugar-cane mills, Indigo-Vats, etc., and other appliances for dealing with raw produce and other purposes connected with agricultural objects. The Tahsildars and the Dewan Peishkar were asked to purchase the seed and plough-bulls themselves and hand over to the ryots. These measures of relief were hailed as a boon especially in the Kolattoor Taluq which had suffered much from distress for 2 or 3 successive seasons. Many wells have come into existence during the last year under this new system. The wells so sunk are capacious ones measuring 14 by 12 yards, the depths varying from 3 to 5 or 6 yards according to the spring depth. Most of them were very successful. The ryots have begun to resort to loans more frequently and cheerfully after some success; but their present operations are restricted to wells in Nanjai lands being easier and less costly and more immediately useful. There are extensive dry lands which could be turned into valuable estates like those in Coimbatore if the ryots could dig out wells in them. But the chief difficulty seems in procuring proper labor which it is trusted will gradually be overcome by procuring foreign labor or by inducing local labor on more favorable terms. At first the ryots will be discouraged when they think of the cost but gradually they would see that dry lands are very profitable concerns in the long run. To obviate this another difficulty it has been resolved to open out experimental farms at convenient centres with large wells sunk for dry cultivations. One has been already started at the Capital and more school farms are in the course of formation in the rural centres.

15. The result of the last year in the direction of digging wells by the State and by the ryots was as below:—In Kolattoor Taluq 112 new wells were sunk and 75 old wells repaired in Ain Villages and 22 new and 15 old wells in the Devastanam Villages, the loan amounting to Rs. 6,882* in Ain and Rs. 1,475* Devastanam. The Tahsildar of Kolattoor has shown laudable zeal and enthusiasm in persuading the ryots of that Taluq to avail themselves of the Rules. In the other two Taluqs the ryots themselves, without much aid from the Sirkar, have dug out new wells

* including advances from Deposit funds.

and repaired the old ones after seeing the advantages their brethren in the Kolattoor Taluq enjoy. In the Trimmiem Taluq the land-holders are in most cases opulent Chettis who may not be in need of State loans. In Alangudi Taluq the natural facilities of surface springs render such costly wells superfluous except in high dry lands where the ryots have just begun to resort to loans after a deal of persuasion by the Dewan Peishkar during his circuits. The extent to which well irrigation is carried on in this State is as follow:—Alangudi Taluq owns 8226 wells of which 956 were sunk during the year under report by ryots themselves without much resort to loans. In Trimmiem Taluq there are 5396 wells of which 156 were sunk similarly during the year. The Kolattoor Taluq has only 3689 wells of which 275 were sunk during the year mostly with State aid. This is the most extensive Taluq generally dry and every effort will be made to sink as many wells as possible in the course of the next few years. This is very necessary to make that Taluq less liable to distress and more occupied. The inhabitants in the northern side bordering on the Trichinopoly District are habitual idlers of inferior type and the new industry of well digging and cultivation under it will, it is hoped, added to the spread of elementary and agricultural education now rapidly introduced in those parts, gradually wean them from their inherited habits and make them lead a more peaceful and honest life.

REVENUE SURVEY.

16. As noticed in para. 236 of last year's report, regular active field work commenced only from the beginning of the Fasli under report, the necessary Surveyors and Karnams having been trained beforehand.

17. The operations were confined to the Alangudi Taluq for the Fasli under report.

18. The strength of the Survey establishment continued the same as last year (para. 237 of last year's report) till January 1896 with slight changes now and then when 2 more Head Surveyors, 3 Theodolite Surveyors and a few additional Surveyors were appointed. However, the Superintendent reports that on the whole, only 74 Surveyors and probationers can be taken to have steadily worked in the establishment. 65 Karnams of the Alangudi Taluq and 75 probationers, all local candidates, were trained in the Survey school in the new system of Survey.

19. During the months of November, December and January there was a cessation of field work (recess on account of the rainy weather) when a portion of the establishment was sent away on leave and a portion drawn into office. There was thus only 9 months of regular field work for the Fasli.

20. The total outturn realized under E. F. and G. processes amounted to 260, 243 and 243 square miles respectively or an average of 250 square miles under all the three processes against an anticipated outturn of 300 square miles, the fall in the outturn being due to various causes detailed further on in para. 26 *infra*.

21. *Theodolite work*.—The whole of Alangudi Taluq, covering nearly 350 square miles, was divided into 9 main circuits running on side of roads and cart tracks of the Taluq. Besides the above, minor circuits consisting of 4 Vattams and

a small block of forest were also traversed and plotted. The theodolite traverse stations also serve as permanent points for mapping villages.

22. Two Theodolite Surveyors with a probationer attached to each to assist in rechaining from station to station were employed at a cost of Rs. 600.

23. *Financial*.—The outlay on establishment, etc., was Rs. 24,522-9-1 and on instruments, Stationery, etc., Rs. 2,464-8-6, total Rs. 26,987-8-6 against Rs. 24,902 last year. Besides the above, Rs. 15,233-2-3 have been spent out of deposit funds to meet cost of stones and cooly hire, to be recouped from Survey cess to be collected from the ryots.

24. The average cost per square mile was Rs. 103 which was somewhat higher than the estimated average of Rs. 100 per square mile. This is for the most part due to the inevitable delay caused by the necessity of training local candidates and utilizing their services instead of the necessarily more costly agency from outside.

25. These candidates were first trained in the work in the Survey school before employing them regularly. Mr. McMahon took very great pains in training them to the required standard of efficiency and much credit is due to him for the success attained.

26. The Karnams of the Alangudi Taluq owing to the multifarious duties, such as Pagoda services, Palace feasts, etc., in addition to their regular work as in all native States, were not able to show the requisite outturn expected of them. The local Revenue subordinates unaccustomed to the work did not fully realize the importance of their co-operation and had to be taught by special circulars and instructions to render all possible assistance in the matter of progress of Survey operations. Now that further experience has been gained and all difficulties removed to the extent possible and everything has been brought into a regular groove, the steady co-operation of Revenue officers and the new arrangement, recently made, for securing the full time services of the Karnams in Trimmiem Taluq, obviating the difficulties encountered in this direction in the Alangudi Taluq added to the more undisturbed progress of Survey work, will, it is expected, increase the outturn in the current Fasli and more than make up for the small fall in the Fasli under report. In the Survey school opened at Trimmiem since the close of the Fasli, 71 Karnams and 40 more probationers, all local candidates, have been trained for commencing work in that Taluq.

27. At the time of his visit to Alangudi in February 1896, the Political Agent, Mr. Andrew, inspected the Survey work on that side and expressed himself highly pleased with the accuracy of measurement. The Dewan also inspected the work in many places during his circuits and found the measurements correct to a link.

28. This being the first year of the regular operations, it goes without saying that the result achieved in spite of the difficulties enumerated above, reflects much credit on the Superintendent, Mr. McMahon, and his Assistants.

29. It is estimated that the Survey operations can be completed before the end of Fasli 1307 (1897-98), the outturn in the year now progressing and the next one being expected to cover the remaining area.

REVENUE SETTLEMENT.

30. The Survey of the Alangudi Taluq not being completed the Settlement Scheme could not be taken up immediately after the close of the Fasli as was originally intended. As it is expected that the Survey of that Taluq will be quite complete by the end of December, the proposed settlement scheme, a rough-hewn sketch of which was given in paras. 238-241 of the last year's report, has just been taken up and the report called for in para. 15 of G. O., No. 65, Political, dated 28th January 1896, will be ready in the course of the next month for submission to Government with reference to the views enunciated in G. O., No. 357, Political, dated 7th June 1893, and on receipt of approval it is proposed to commence the operations from the 1st January 1897.

INAM SETTLEMENT.

31. This work continued, as usual, in charge of the Deputy Peishkar, Dewan Bahadur, P. S. Krishnaswami Iyer.

32. The measurement of all the Brahmadayam lands was completed during the Fasli, the area measured being 942 velis (6,228 acres) wet and 1911 velis (12,635 acres) dry; total 2853 velis (18,863 acres) against 2031 velis (13,428 acres) in the previous Fasli.

33. The result of the measurement of all the Brahmadayam lands is that an excess is found in the measurement over the recorded Ayakut to the extent of 1031 velis (6,817 acres) of wet and 2044 velis (13,514 acres) of dry land; total 3075 velis (20,331 acres) which shows how extensively the Inamdars had been enjoying lands over the recorded extent. The area of Ain and Devastanam villages measured by the Paimashdars during the Fasli was 27 velis (178 acres) wet and 109 velis (721 acres) dry; total 136 velis (899 acres) against 55 velis (364 acres) last year. The measurement of the remaining unmeasured lands has also been since completed during the current Fasli.

34. 1000 cases were inquired into and disposed of during the year against 557 last year. In 41 cases further information has been called for. The total area confirmed in the year was 344 velis (2,274 acres) wet and dry. The quit-rents, etc., settled on them amounted to Rs. 3,296. In all the 8 years, 6374 cases were settled involving 6434 velis (42,533 acres) of land confirmed. The total additional revenue resulting from the settlement was Rs. 89,966 inclusive of Inams brought under full assessment.

35. The total number of title-deeds prepared up to the close of the Fasli was 4058, against 3707, of which 3375 have been issued during the Fasli, against 3265 last year.

36. The cost of the department in the year amounted to Rs. 11,211 against 12,962 last year, chiefly owing to the abolition of the First Assistant's place.

Settled in Fasli 1298...	Rs. 13,662
" " 1299...	" 15,328
" " 1300...	" 22,772
" " 1301...	" 17,969
" " 1302...	" 11,275
" " 1303...	" 3,763
" " 1304...	" 2,501
" " 1305...	" 3,296
	<u>89,966</u>

37. The cost of the department from the beginning of the operations is rupees 1,26,617 while the addition to revenue from quit-rents has amounted to rupees 89,966 as per margin.

38. The total amount of quit-rent, etc., due for the last 8 Faslis was Rupees 7,19,728 of which Rs. 3,57,332 has been collected up to date, Rs. 2,82,904 written off being collected already in the form of old cesses, leaving a balance of Rs. 79,492.

39. The Service Inam operations have been almost completed, the only classes remaining to be settled being Bramhadayam lands, Sarvamaniams and Shrotriems. These latter have been taken up since the close of the Fasli and will be completed within the year.

CHAPTER III.

PROTECTION.

LEGISLATION.

40. As a necessary corollary of a progressive and systematic administration demanding the gradual substitution of written Laws to unwritten ones, the following six Regulations were added to the Code Book during the year under report.

(1) Regulation I of 1895 was for avoiding loss by default of public accountants. It was simply a transcript of the British Act, XII of 1850, and was passed at the instance of the British postal department to protect their interests.

(2) Regulation II of 1895 was passed to introduce the British Succession Certificate Act, VII of 1889, (in lieu of the old British Act, XXVII of 1860 in force till then) as law of the State as a necessary preliminary to the New Court Fees Regulation.

(3) Regulation III of 1895—The new Court Fees Regulation. The Court Fees Regulation 1879 was remodelled at the instance of the Judges of the Chief Court into a more comprehensive Regulation on the lines of the Court Fees Act in force in British India in view to meet the growing requirements of the Judicial Department.

(4) Regulation IV of 1895 was passed as an amendment to the Registration Regulation of 1885 providing for the exemption of documents connected with the system of agricultural loans recently introduced in the interests of the agricultural population, and for the exemption of personal security bonds, etc., executed in favor of the State and those executed by the British postal officials in favor of that department.

(5) Regulation I of 1896 was passed at the instance of the British postal department to assimilate the law relating to Post offices with what may, from time to time, be in force in British India.

(6) Regulation II of 1896 was passed at the instance of the Chief Court to amend a clerical error in Article I (a) Schedule II of the New Court Fees Regulation.

POLICE.

41. *Strength of the Police.*—The District Superintendent of Police of the adjoining British District of Trichinopoly is Ex-officio Superintendent of Pudukkottai State Police and has his Head Quarters at Trichinopoly. The Chief Inspector, however, is permanently located at Pudukkottai and acts under instructions from the Superintendent in all important matters. The actual strength of the State Police at the close of the year under report, viz. 30th June 1896, was 247 or 16 below the sanctioned strength distributed as graded below.

1 Chief Inspector, 5 Inspectors, 1 Chief Head Constable, 7 Second Grade Head Constables, 19 Third Grade Head Constables, 36 First Class Constables, 46 Second Class Constables and 132 Third Class Constables. Total 247.

42. *Nationality.*—The Force distributed as per caste stood thus:—

13 Brahmins, 4 Rajputs, 26 Mussalmans, 2 Christians, 2 Pariahs, 200 other Hindus.

43. *Difficulty in recruitment.*—Low pay is an impediment to prompt filling up of vacancies and the difficulty of recruitment still continues. Suggestions have been received to improve the pay of the force in view to attract a better class of men. A reduction in the Military establishment has been since effected in view to the savings being utilized for bettering the condition of the Police Force. The present low pay is attractive only to illiterate and under-sized men whose applications have to be rejected on those grounds.

44. *Hutting and Building operations.* The Station House and the huts at Eachanari and the Station House at Cheplan Tope and the repairs to the Station House at Tiruvarangulam and the new huts at Tiruvarangulam and Viralmalai were all completed and handed over for occupation.

45. *Proportion of Police to Population and area.*—Taken as a whole the proportion of Police to population was 1 in 1,514 and to area 1 for $5\frac{1}{2}$ square miles.

46. *Average cost per Police man.*—The average cost of a Police man was Rs. 125 or 1 anna 4 pies per head of the population.

47. *Departmental punishments and rewards.*—(a) *Punishments.* One Head Constable and 4 Constables were dismissed against 4 Constables last year. One Head Constable and 2 Constables were reduced against 6 Head Constables and 4 Constables last year. 4 Constables were suspended against 2 last year. One Inspector, one Head Constable and 21 Constables were fined against one Inspector, 3 Head Constables and 6 Constables last year. 1 Head Constable and 7 Constables resigned against 2 Head Constables and 12 Constables last year. Six Constables against one Head Constable and 12 Constables last year were struck off as deserters. One Head Constable and five Constables were discharged for failing to qualify themselves within the stated time against 8 Constables last year. 7 Head Constables and 92 Constables were punished with black marks against 3 Head Constables and 96 Constables last year. Thus one Inspector, 12 Head Constables and 141 Constables were in default against 1 Inspector, 15 Head Constables and 144 Constables last year. It is hoped that, when the contemplated improvement is effected in the status and pay, a better class of men could be had for enlistment and when they have sufficient incentive for good behaviour the departmental punishments may show a decrease. (b) *Rewards.* Departmental promotions were resorted to for rewarding good service in preference to money rewards—the latter amounting to only Rs. 17 in the year.

48. *Police Officers convicted by Magistrates and Courts.*—Only one Constable was prosecuted and that for assault and wrongful confinement in his private capacity but the case was discharged upon a compromise.

49. *Education.*—The recruits had the usual training at Head Quarters in Drill and Catechism. Four men admitted in the Station House Officer's Class passed the Test with three in the First Class and are now undergoing practical training. In this connection it may not be out of place to observe here that on an enquiry being made as to the reasons for paucity in recruitments as already noticed it was reported after careful investigation that the following are the general causes for the same:— (1) Low pay, as already observed; (2) the duties, the Constables have to perform, being comparatively harder than of the Battalion Sepoys, peons, dalayets and other servants of other Departments of similar pay, (3) the quality of intelligence and education and physical fitness insisted upon, (4) the greater severity of punishments when Police Officers err, (5) the strict discipline and its irksome and restrictive nature, (6) the necessity of greater walking in the case of Police, viz., nearly 15 miles per diem during the greater part of the month. The above are the reasons for difficulty of recruitment in lower grades. In higher grades, Station House Officer upwards, clerical work added to itinerary in villages day or night, for checking beats, for investigation of cases, prosecution before Magistrates, all requiring an amount of intelligence and education are the chief impediments in recruiting for such low-pay-ranks in the present. The proposed scheme for the revision of the Police will be so modelled as to remedy as far as possible the above difficulties.

50. *Processes and warrants.*—15352 summonses were issued and served against 17045 last year. 1115 warrants of all kinds were issued against 1183 last year of which only 20 remained unexecuted against 30 last year.

51. *Extradition.*—Of 35 warrants (against 6 last year) issued under the extradition rules only one (against 2 last year) remained unexecuted at the close of the Fasli. In several cases persons and property concerned in crimes committed within the neighbouring British Districts were traced out by the State Police within State limits and handed over to the British authorities in the usual course. Thus there has been cordial co-operation on the part of the State Police with that of the neighbouring British Districts in working out cases and in the execution of warrants.

52. *Accidental deaths, etc.*—There were 51 accidental deaths, 35 by drowning, 13 by falling, 2 by lightning and one by explosive substance besides 6 cases of suicides, 2 by poison, 2 by hanging and 2 by drowning and 18 deaths of paupers.

53. *Accidental Fires.*—There were 66 cases of accidental fires in which 303 houses and other property valued in all at Rs. 14,387 were destroyed with loss of life of a male.

54. *K. D. List.*—1 known depradators died during the year and were struck off the list; 2 others who were found to have reformed were also struck off the list; 5 known depradators who had already been registered and watched were convicted during the year. The Madras Police system of Registration of known depradators and suspects is being introduced into the State Police.

55. *Fairs and Festivals.* Fairs were held at 15 different places drawing together an average of 10,927 persons at each. 30 Festivals took place with an average attendance of 11,790.

56. *Statement of crimes and Police operations.*—1595* cases of all kinds were reported of which 1520 or 95 per cent were detected against the same percentage last year. 2629 persons were arrested of whom 1637 or 64 per cent were convicted against 66 per cent last year. Rs. 7,080 worth of property was lost including Rs. 2,525 alleged to have been lost in 2 cases reported towards the close of the Fasli and which have been since referred as false. Excluding this amount the actual value of property lost is Rs. 4,555 of which Rs. 1,322 or 29 per cent worth of property was recovered against 25 per cent last year. Excluding 585 cases under the Salt Law, there were 1010 cases including 694 cases under the Police Act, Stage Carriage Rules, etc. The number of offences under the Indian Penal Code was thus only 316 of which 246 or 77 per cent were detected against 74 per cent last year. The number of persons arrested during the year for offences under the Indian Penal Code was 1287 of whom 353 or 27 per cent were convicted against 29 per cent last year.

57. There was a reduction in the number of cases reported under the Police Act due to the opening of Latrines in the different parts of the Town during the year.

58. With reference to the remarks of Government, para. 9 of G. O., reviewing last year's report, the Police detection Registers have been carefully attended to. The large percentage of detection is but nominal since in special Law cases a detection of cent per cent is generally obtained without much effort and in the absence of provision for summary proceedings in such cases they had to be gone through as regular cases in all details.

59. The number of cases referred as false by the Police during the year was 280 against 312 last year.

60. *Murder.*—No case of murder or culpable homicide was reported during the year against one case of murder reported and detected last year.

61. *Dacoity.*—Two cases of Dacoity were reported of which one was committed to the Court of Sessions where it ended in the acquittal of the prisoners. In the other case the complainant exaggerated it so much and gave contradictory statements from stage to stage to injure the enemies of his instigators that in the absence of any real loss of property, its detection was found not practicable. In the previous year 3 cases of Dacoity were reported of which 2 or 66 per cent were detected.

62. *Robbery.*—Four cases of Robbery were reported of which one or 25 per cent was detected, the 2nd was committed to the Court of Sessions and acquitted, the 3rd remains undetected and the 4th reported towards the close of the Fasli is under investigation.

63. *House-Breaking and Theft.*—Forty-nine cases of House-breaking and Theft were reported of which 25 have been detected. 2 of the remaining cases reported towards the end of the Fasli having been since referred the actual percentage of cases detected during the year is 53 against 26 last year.

64. *Grave Thefts.*—Eighty-eight cases of Grave Thefts were reported with a detection of 64 or 73 per cent against 63 per cent last year.

* This is exclusive of cases struck off as false upon the order of Magistrates and withdrawn by the parties.

65. The Chief Magistrate reports that as regards House-breaking and cattle theft the detection is fairly satisfactory but not so as regards Robbery and Dacoity. Perhaps this points out to the necessity of further improvement in the method of detection. The Superintendent will, I am sure, attend to this and see that his superior subordinates show better results next year whose attention should also be drawn to the quality of education given to the constabulary.

66. *Detective results for each Division.*—In point of detection, Town Division has been remarkably good and heads the list while Kolattoor and Trimiem come next and Alangudi stands 4th and last.

67. *Cases referred by the Magistracy.*—143 cases both cognizable and non-cognizable were referred by the Magistrates to the Police for enquiry of which 115 were returned false against 113 cases referred and 99 returned false last year.

68. The Superintendent reports that the large number of cases thus referred by the Magistracy for Police enquiry added to the various frivolous complaints of petty thefts which are now registered under Section 379, Indian Penal Code, and enquired into by the Police in the same way as grave thefts are enquired into, takes away much of the Police time which if utilized in working out grave cases will tend to improve the detective results of grave crimes still further. The Superintendent has therefore suggested the desirability of petty thefts being disposed of by the Sub-Registrar-Magistrates of 3rd class in the absence of the village Magistrate system existing in the British Territory. The majority of such cases are simply village quarrels exaggerated in the heat of the moment to bring it within the cognizance of the nearest Police. This will be duly attended to and a remedy effected in the course of the year now progressing.

69. *Sessions Cases.* 13 cases were tried by the Sessions Court of which 5 or 38 per cent ended in conviction, against 88 per cent last year. The percentage of persons convicted during the year was 29, against 50 per cent last year.

70. *Relations between the Magistracy and the Police.* In the opinion of the Superintendent the relations between the Police and the Magistracy continued harmonious throughout the year.

71. The Chief Magistrate has recorded it as his opinion that the relations between the Police and the Magistracy were more satisfactory than in the last year.

72. *Executive control.* The Police Superintendent, Mr. A. C. S. West, inspected during the year all the Stations in the State besides office, stores and reserve. The Chief Inspector, with the exception of Yembal which was twice visited but once inspected, visited and inspected all the sub-stations not less than twice and the Taluq Kasbahs 3 times while the Town stations, the Reserve, office, and stores were inspected more frequently as usual.

73. *General Remarks.*—The falling off in the total number of cases reported under the Indian Penal Code during the year is accounted for, in the opinion of the Superintendent, by the pretty favorable harvest in the year. There has been a marked improvement in the detection of House-breaking and of grave thefts, the percentages having risen from 26 to 53 and 63 to 73 respectively due to more prompt and energetic enquiry having been insisted upon.

74. Mr. West, who was Superintendent throughout the year, inspected for the first time all the Stations within the year, and his general remarks, printed as Appendix, show that the arrangement of patrol tannahs is most complete and the very important duty of watching the high roads and preventing crimes on them is well carried out, that High Road Dacoity and Robbery are now almost nil in the State, and that patrol tannah arrangement by the British Police on the High Road between Gandrakottai and Tanjore will be a better check upon the bad characters within the limits of border stations. A special reference will be made on the subject later on.

75. The two Sub-Inspectors in independent charge of the Town and Reserve Divisions were designated as Inspectors of 4th and 5th class respectively as it was found necessary to give them better status in view of their position and relation with the subordinate Magistracy.

76. The Police Superintendent has recorded it as his opinion that all the Inspectors have worked well during the year and that the Chief Inspector, N. Vee-rasami Naidu, has done his work satisfactorily.

77. The Inspector of Kolattoor has been trained in the new method called Anthropometrical system of measuring criminals and it is in contemplation to introduce it in the State during the current Fasli in measuring convicts.

78. *Police Hospital.*—During the year under report there were 204 admissions in the Town Hospital. The average daily sick was 4.2 against 6.02 last year. The admissions and daily average in the rural Dispensaries were as per margin during the year. The prevalent diseases

were Dysentery, Malarial fever, Rheumatic affections, Dyspepsia, diseases of the digestive system and skin diseases. There was one case of death from Lung Disease. Of the constables that resorted for treatment 15 were invalided and 21 required no further treatment but rest and change of air and they were accordingly recommended for sick leave for periods varying from one week to three months.

ARMS AND AMMUNITION.

79. 1200 Cartridges, 100 lbs. blank Gun Powder, 6000 Percussion Caps, 1200 Tubes Friction Copper, and 120 Snap Caps were imported during the year.

80. The Powder Magazine, the construction of which was taken in hand a year ago as per plan approved of by the Political Agent on the lines of the British Standard plan, has just been completed and will as soon as it is provided with lightning conductors be utilized for the purpose of storing powder for firing salutes and morning and evening guns.

81. A Regulation No. III of 1892 on the lines of the British Arms Act was passed in that year to control the use of arms as a precaution against indiscriminate poaching on the Rajah's preserves but it has not yet been actually brought into force for want of a Forest Regulation.

82. For the present special permits are given on special applications for blasting purposes and for driving away wild animals from the fields.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE.

83. *Courts administering Criminal Justice.*—The following Courts exercised Criminal jurisdiction during the year,—Sessions Court presided over by a single Judge of the Chief Court sitting monthly in turns at the commencement of each month. Of Magistrates there were, at the commencement of the year, 15 including the Chief Magistrate, *viz.*, 8 third class, 5 second class and 2 first class. During the year under report the Sub-Registrar of Perungalur was invested with the powers of a 3rd class Magistrate for the trial of offences against Salt and Abkari Laws and also of those relating to tank conservancy. The 3rd class Magistrates of Karambakudi, Keelanilai and Viralmalai were invested with the powers of a 2nd class Magistrate, the 1st and 2nd from the beginning of the year and the 3rd from towards the close. The Stationary Magistrate of Kolattoor Taluq was continued during the year and was subsequently, since the close of the year, confirmed along with the creation of Stationary Magistrates in the remaining two Taluqs setting free all the three Tahsildars as full-timed Revenue officers. There were thus at the close of the year 16 Magistrates, *viz.*, 6 third class, 8 second class and 2 first class.

84. *Total file of the Magistrates.*—The number of cases reported during the year was 3716, there were 38 cases reported during previous years but brought to trial in this year. Together there were 3754 cases involving 5742 persons, against 4514 cases involving 6623 persons last year, showing a decrease of 760 cases being result of variations as

	VARIATIONS.		Decrease.
	Fasli 1305	Fasli 1304	
Indian Penal Code ...	1,779	2,022	243
Salt Law ...	587	636	99
Abkari Regulation ...	12	27	15
Police Act ...	572	943	376
Other Laws ...	804	831	27
Total ...	3,754	4,514	760

per margin. The decrease under Penal Code was chiefly under Theft, Criminal Trespass, Hurt and House-Breaking and perhaps indicates a tendency to improvement in the character of the people as regards obedience to the Laws. The decrease under Hurt and other non-cognizable offences is also due to the introduction of the Court Fees Regulation. The decrease under Salt, Abkari and other Laws is probably the result of the more vigilant vigorous working of the departments concerned.

85. *Cases disposed of.*—Out of the 3754 cases, 2173 were detected (against 4514 & 2718 last year); 266 were struck off as false (against 271 last year); 381 terminated

without trial (against 508 last year); 810 cases were withdrawn or compromised by the parties (against 864 last year); and 124 (against 153) remained undetected. Of these 124 cases, 19 were under the trial of the several Criminal Courts.

86. *Persons dealt with by the several Criminal Courts.*—The number of persons dealt with was 5742 against 6623 last year. Of these, 2399 were convicted, *viz.*, 2392 by the Magistrates and 7 by the Sessions Court, against 3004 and 15 last year; 527 were acquitted including 13 by the Sessions Court, against 517 last year; 1215 were released without trial, against 1409 last year; 1566 were otherwise disposed of, *viz.*, released in consequence of compromises, withdrawals, etc., against 1572 last year; leaving 35 to be dealt with in the next year against 106.

87. From para. 84 *supra.* it will be observed that under the Indian Penal Code there were 1779 cases, *i. e.*, a little less than one-half of the total number of cases. Of these, 736 were withdrawn by parties, etc., and of the remaining 1043 cases, conviction was obtained in 405 cases or 38.8 per cent, against 35.1 per cent last year. Under other special Laws there were 1975 cases of which 74 were withdrawn by parties, etc., and of the remaining 1901 cases, conviction was obtained in 1768 cases or 93 per cent, against 94.6 last year.

88. Taking the number of persons involved, it is found that out of 3664 persons involved under the Indian Penal Code, 1473 related to cases which were withdrawn, compromised, etc., and of the remaining 2191 persons, 580 or 26.5 per cent (against 27.2 per cent last year) were convicted. Of persons concerned under other laws, *viz.*, 2078 persons, 93 related to cases which were withdrawn, etc., and of the remaining 1985 persons, 1819 or 91.6 per cent were convicted, against 92.7 last year.

89. Thus it will be seen that under the Indian Penal Code, there has been an increase in the number of cases convicted and a decrease in the number of persons and there has been a slight decrease in the cases and the number of persons convicted under other special Laws.

90. *Offences affecting person and property.*—The following table shows in one view, the number of cases filed, persons brought up and the disposals in the several classes of offences affecting person and property under the Indian Penal Code as compared with the last year.

Description of offences.	Fasli 1305.										Fasli 1304.									
	Brought up.		Convicted.		Acquitted.		Discharged, etc.		Pending.		Brought up.		Convicted.		Acquitted.		Discharged, etc.		Pending.	
	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.
Against person...	844	1930	127	195	36	103	673	1613	8	13	863	1785	106	176	35	64	711	1505	11	40
Against property ...	640	1184	161	246	103	226	317	698	59	14	972	1821	274	421	121	284	457	1066	120	56
Against person & property ...	11	22	1	3	...	4	5	15	5	...	9	19	3	4	...	1	4	14	2	...

91. To give greater details of cases and persons brought up and disposed of under heinous offences as compared with the last year, the following table is subjoined.

Description of offences.	Fasli 1895.										Fasli 1894.									
	Brought up.		Convicted.		Acquitted.		Discharged, etc.		Pending.		Brought up.		Convicted.		Acquitted.		Discharged, etc.		Pending.	
	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.
Murder	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	1	1	...	2	...	...	...	...
Culpable homicide.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kidnapping	6	14	1	1	1	1	3	12	1	...	3	8	1	1	...	1	6	1	1	...
Dacoity	7	18	...	...	...	3	5	15	2	...	6	15	2	3	...	1	2	11	2	...
Robbery	4	4	1	2	...	1	...	...	3	...	3	4	1	1	...	2	3	...	...	...
House-breaking	57	49	25	2	1	2	5	19	26	...	67	58	14	17	1	4	12	37	40	...
Cattle theft.	57	66	28	3	2	3	10	23	17	...	72	74	23	33	3	4	16	33	30	4
Theft, ordinary.	271	559	96	15	13	35	134	354	28	5	413	840	147	216	17	25	213	579	36	20

NOTE:—In the above statements cases shown as pending include a large number in which the persons concerned have not been brought up.

92. *Punishments inflicted.*—Of the 2,399 persons convicted, 70 were sentenced to imprisonment only, particulars being—60 sentenced to rigorous imprisonment and 10 to simple imprisonment, 99 were sentenced to imprisonment and fine, 4 to fine and whipping, 2,192 to fine only, 11 to whipping, and 23 were bound over for good behaviour. The details of punishments were, 16 were sentenced to rigorous imprisonment exceeding 6 months and not exceeding 2 years, and 115 to rigorous imprisonment for periods not exceeding 6 months. 42 persons were punished with simple imprisonment for various periods. The total amount of fines imposed was Rs. 6,157, out of which Rs. 5,004 were realized leaving a balance of Rs. 1,153. Rs. 20 were realized on account of the fines imposed during the last Fasli. As soon as fines are imposed in criminal cases, warrants are issued for their realization; such fines as are realized are credited in the accounts and those that are not collected owing to a variety of causes are noted down as unrealizable. The causes for non-realization of the fines are (1) the poverty of a few of the persons fined, (2) some of the persons fined being residents of British Territory, the fines in their cases could not be realized. Moreover, the fines imposed towards the close of the Fasli had to be realized only in the next Fasli in cases in which the fines are not paid at once. Of the 2,295 persons fined, 2,048 persons were fined Rs. 5 and under, 246 above Rs. 5 and not exceeding Rs. 50 and one above Rs. 50 and not exceeding Rs. 200. The average duration of trials was $3\frac{1}{2}$ days, against $3\frac{1}{2}$ days last year.

93. *Sessions cases.*—In the Sessions Court (presided over by the 2nd and 3rd Judges of the Chief Court in turn) 17 cases involving 23 persons were disposed of, the 2nd Judge's share being 13 and the 3rd Judge's 4. Of the 23 persons, 13 were acquitted, 3 were imprisoned, 4 were imprisoned and fined and 3 were withdrawn by the Government Pleader.

94. *Criminal Appeals.*—Of the 131 appeals filed in the Chief Magistrate's Court, including 2 brought forward, 77 were confirmed, 15 modified, and 39 reversed.

95. The Chief Magistrate has recorded it as his opinion that the working of the subordinate Magistracy, as tested in appeal, was on the whole fair.

96. Entering into details it is reported that the results of the 2nd Class Magistrate of Alangudi and the 3rd Class Magistrate of Vallanad were the most satisfactory of all, presenting not a single case of reversal or even modification. The Sub-Registrar-Magistrate of Kolattoor has shown good results presenting no case of reversal and only one case of modification out of 5 appeals decided. The Taluq Magistrate of Trimim and the Firka Magistrate of Viralimalai have shown results which may also be pronounced good since there was only one reversal for each, out of 7 appeals and 3 appeals respectively. The Stationary Magistrate of Kolattoor and the Sub-Registrar Magistrates of Alangudi, Trimim and Ponnamaravati exhibit results which may be regarded as tolerably fair. The Town Sub-Magistrate and the Firka Magistrates of Karambakudi and Keelanilai have shown results which are poor and need considerable improvement. The results of the Taluq Magistrate of Kolattoor and Sub-Registrar Magistrate of Perungalur do not call for any remark. So far as appeals have been preferred against his decision, the Taluq Magistrate of Kolattoor has shown satisfactory results showing only one appeal which has ended in the confirmation of the original decision. There was no appeal against the decisions of the Sub-Registrar Magistrate of Perungalur.

97. Of the 7 Criminal appeals filed in the Original (Sessions) side of the Chief Court, including 2 brought forward, 2 were against the sentences of the Chief Magistrate, 4 against the sentences of the Joint Magistrate and one against the sentence of the 2nd class Magistrate, Trimim, transferred from the file of the Chief Magistrate. Of these, 2 were confirmed (1 against Chief Magistrate, 1 against 2nd class Magistrate, Trimim), 2 modified (against Joint Magistrate) and 2 reversed (against Joint Magistrate) and 1 struck off (against Chief Magistrate). The quality of the Joint Magistrate's decisions evidently requires improvement.

98. There were 5 appeals (including one brought forward) filed in the Appellate side of the Chief Court against the decisions of the single Judge on the Original side in Sessions cases. Of these, 2 were confirmed, one was reversed and one struck off leaving one in arrear.

99. *Criminal Revision Petitions and References.*—There were 52 petitions filed in the Chief Magistrate's Court, of which 39 were dismissed, original orders were reversed in 9 and references were made to the Chief Court in 4 cases.

100. There were 122 review petitions including 50 pending at the commencement of the Fasli for disposal by the Chief Court. Of these, 110 were disposed of leaving a balance of 12.

P R I S O N S.

101. *Number of Jails.*—There is one Central Jail and a Subsidiary Jail at the capital, Pudukkottai, and eight Subsidiary Jails at the stations of the several Sub-Magistrates.

102. *Number and disposal of Prisoners.*—The total Jail population at the beginning of the year was 99 of whom 93 were at the Central Jail; 348 were admitted 374 discharged leaving 73 at the close of the year, of whom 69 were at the Central Jail.

103. *Convicts.*—There were 86 convicts at the Central Jail, Pudukkottai, at the beginning of the year, 134 admitted during the course of the year, 155 were released at various periods on expiry of terms and 2 died leaving 63 convicts at the end of the year. In the Subsidiary Jails there were no convicts left at the beginning of the year, 128 were admitted, 127 were released leaving one convict at the close of the year.

104. *Under-trial Prisoners.*—Six under-trial prisoners remained at the Central Jail at the beginning of the year, 20 were admitted, 23 discharged leaving 3 at the close of the year. There were similarly 6 under-trial prisoners, 20 admissions, 23 discharges, leaving 3 at the close of the year in all the Subsidiary Jails.

105. *Civil Prisoners.*—There was none at the beginning of the year, 46 were admitted, 44 discharged, leaving 2 at the close in the Central Jail. There was one State Prisoner besides.

106. *Religion and Sex.*—Of the 69 prisoners of all description left at the Central Jail at the close of the year, 65 were Hindus, 1 Christian and 3 Mahomedans. Of these 4 were female prisoners.

107. *Sentences passed.*—Of life convicts there were 8, under rigorous imprisonment 52, and under simple imprisonment 3.

108. *Anthropometrical system.*—One of the Police Inspectors has been specially trained in the new method of measuring criminals and the system will be introduced and measurements recorded under it during the course of the year now progressing.

109. *Escapes.*—There was no escape during the year.

110. *Jail offences and punishments.*—3 prisoners were punished by whipping, 4 by separate imprisonment, and there were 22 minor punishments.

111. *Diet scales.*—The scale of diet was 1 anna 8 pies against 1 anna 9 pies last year per head.

112. *Financial.*—The gross expenditure on establishments, rations, Hospital clothing and contingencies amounted to Rs. 8,243 as below:—

	Central Jail.	Sub Jails.	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Rations	3,273	275	
Establishment	2,664	528	
Clothing, bedding	268	81	
Lighting	76	4	
Uniform to Warders.	351		
Miscellaneous including contingencies	174		
Dieting of the State Prisoner	549		
	<u>7,355</u>	<u>888</u>	<u>8,243</u>

113. *Employment of Convicts.*—The convicts available for out-door labor were as usual employed in scavenging the Town streets. Industries and gardening introduced into the Jail for the first time, last year, were further improved during the year. About 18 acres of waste land lying around the Central Jail was enclosed and garden crops, Ragi, vegetables, etc., raised in it by the convicts who have themselves sunk a new well and finished half the masonry work. Another big well, which already existed well built and in good repair on the site, was also utilized for the garden. The produce of the extramural labor is used for Jail consumption and surplus sold to the public. Under intramural labor an oil-mill and 2 rope-making machines have been worked by the convicts within the Jail. Bell-metal vessels are being made by some convicts and sold to the public who appreciate the work. A work-shed is in the course of construction and, when it is complete, weaving and other industries similar to those in British Jails will be introduced gradually and, when sufficient industry is developed and arranged near and within the Jail, the street scavenging work will be gradually transferred to regular paid gangs in proportion to the number of convicts drafted into Jail work.

114. *Health of Prisoners.*—228 prisoners were treated in the Jail Hospital against 268 last year, the average daily sick being 3.35 against 6.5 last year, showing vast improvement in the health of the Jail inmates. The prevailing diseases were dysentery, malarious fever, rheumatic affections and diseases of the digestive system. There were 2 deaths, one convict from lung disease and the other, a lunatic, from dropsy. The dieting, bedding and clothing of the prisoners were carefully attended to. Along with the introduction of the British Jail Code the change of rice into ragi diet was also introduced. At the commencement, the too rapid introduction of the ragi diet caused some diseases of the digestive system. To obviate this, the prisoners were fed with rice for morning and midday and with ragi for the evening for some months at the commencement of the change, till they became quite used to it. The practice of fettering prisoners in the Hospital has, of course, ceased. But to avoid unfettering and refettering during very short duration of illness, such as, slight colds, head-ache, slight fever, etc., not exceeding 2 or 3 days, it was considered expedient to treat them in the cells for such small periods without removing them to the Hospital. Prisoners who will have to be under treatment for longer periods are taken into the Jail Hospital and fetters removed. The Cholera camp suggested in previous reviews has also been attended to and after a deal of correspondence and inquiries on the point of site, health, environs and atmospheric facilities, *pro et con*, the utilization of a neglected choultry on the other side of the Vellar, about 4 miles south of the Town, has been very nearly settled upon and necessary steps will be taken to improve the locality to suit the purpose.

115. *Principal changes and other improvements in the management of the Prisons.*—The Joint Magistrate, ex-officio Superintendent of Jails, has been entrusted with the supervision of the Subsidiary Jails also as soon as the British Code was introduced in the middle of the year. Rules regulating the classes of prisoners to be confined in the Subsidiary Jails, the duration for which the convicted may be confined therein, the duties of the Sub-Jail officers and warders, the labor of the convicted prisoners, the duties of the Medical officer, separation of

male and female prisoners, of under-trial and convicted prisoners and of juveniles and adults, were framed and issued for the guidance of the officers in immediate charge of the Subsidiary Jails; necessary steps are also taken to improve the Sub-Jails so as to allow to each prisoner the prescribed amount of space, etc. The Political Agent, Mr. Andrew, visited the Central Jail twice and some of the Subsidiary Jails during his visits to the State. He found that everything was generally satisfactory on both the visits and that many improvements were effected and much progress made since his previous visits. The enthusiastic activity evinced by the Joint Magistrate in introducing the various reforms was steadily kept up. He has been very careful in gradually developing industrial work and improving its quality by selecting convicts according to the natural aptitude of each convict. The following are the chief features in the year's administration of the Jails. The introduction of the Madras Jail Code Rules so far as they are applicable to the State and with it the remission system for convicts sentenced to six months and more; the reduction of the strength of the warder establishments, their instruction in squad and company drill by the Battalion drill Instructor including training in manual exercises and handling of fire-arms; the appointment of female warders for guarding female convicts; the substitution of dry-earth system for flushing system in latrines; the substitution of ragi for rice diet; the issue of uniforms for the convicts as in British Jails; the hair cropping and clipping of the convicts according to Jail Code; and the hanging of tickets round the neck of each convict to denote his number, date of sentence and date of expiry of confinement. In addition to the above improvements in the matter of Jail discipline, some minor improvements, such as, platforms for messing in open air within the compound, the marking over each cell of the cubic capacity, area etc., and the maximum number of prisoners, etc., were also made.

116. The principal works executed in the Jail by convict labor during the year under report were two masonry cisterns, one near the latrine and the other near the kitchen. Ragi drying platform and Ragi grinding platform were made by them as also sleeping pials in every ward.

CIVIL JUSTICE.

117. The working of the Chief Court will first be noticed.

118. *Personnel.*—P. Annaswami Iyer, B. A., B. L., 2nd Judge, continued to be in charge of the Court till the 7th August 1895 on which date G. Narasimhalu Naidu, First Grade District Munsiff, Tinnevely, (whose services have been lent to this State by the Government of Madras) assumed charge of the Court as Chief Judge. P. Annaswami Iyer, died on the 13th November 1895 and S. Swaminatha Iyer, B. A., B. L., 3rd Judge, was appointed 2nd Judge and C. Rajagopala Pillai, B. A., B. L., High Court Vakil Madras, practising at Tanjore, was appointed 3rd Judge, who joined the Court on the 11th December 1895.

119. Since G. Narasimhalu Naidu assumed charge of the Court many important changes were introduced in the several departments of the Court, such as introduction of new forms and Registers similar to those in use in British Courts, revised rules for the reception of applications for and granting of copies, the reduction of the pecuniary limit of the Small Causes Jurisdiction of the Chief Court from

Rs. 250 to Rs. 100 thus affording to the parties a right of appeal in all suits above the value of Rs. 100, arrangements for more speedy disposal of plaints, petitions, processes, applications for refund of money, etc.

120. The process establishment of the Chief Court and of the rural Small Cause Courts was revised so as to improve the status of Amins, peons, etc.; without entailing additional cost or impairing the efficiency of the establishment, by reducing the strength and distributing the savings amongst the requisite number of them.

121. Prior to the reduction, there were 71 process peons each on Rs. 5 and 15 Amins, three on Rs. 10 and the rest on Rs. 9 each. From the 16th November 1895, the number of process peons was reduced to 60 and of Amins to 12. The pay of the first twenty process peons was raised to Rs. 7 and of the next twenty to Rs. 6½ and of the last 20 to Rs. 6. The pay of the first 3 Amins was raised to Rs. 12 and that of the other Amins to Rs. 11 and 10. Also out of the savings effected by reduction the pay of all the dalayets was raised from Rs. 6 to Rs. 7 and the salaries of 6 clerks of the Chief Court were also increased. Among the other reforms introduced by the Chief Judge are the following:—(1) The practice of one Vakil being allowed to appear for another was put a stop to. (2) The objectionable practice of Volunteers assisting the Court establishment was also put a stop to. (3) Sums of money, documents, etc., deposited in Court and to be refunded were arranged to be refunded the next day after the memo was put in. (4) Arrangements were made for issue of processes from Nazir's office within 4 days from the day on which the batta therefor was paid. (5) The practice under which copying fees were levied for the preparation of sale certificates was discontinued, as the preparation of the certificates was a ministerial duty for which the *suitor* should not be made to pay anything. (6) The cost of attaching movables was ordered to be prepaid with the application. (7) The institution and revision of the examination for Mukteayars—vide appendix. Arrangements were also made during the Fasli under report to collate important Judgements of the Chief Court, both Civil and Criminal, in view to their being published periodically in the State Gazette for the guidance of the lower Courts, the bar and the people. Rules for the enrolment of Legal practitioners in the several Courts and offices of this State drawn up in 1886 having been found by experience to be defective in some respects, an attempt was made to revise them in the light of experience. The Rules have since been revised and published in the State Gazette. To relieve to some extent the Small Cause work of the Judges of the Chief Court which had concurrent jurisdiction throughout the State with the several rural Small Cause Courts with respect to money suits up to the value of Rs. 20, a proposal was made to empower the Registrar of the Court to decide such suits, which proposal has been since sanctioned and brought into force to the great convenience of litigious population.

122. *Suits filed.*—A comparison of the file of the 2 years shows an increase of 367 suits (63 Regular suits & 304 Small Cause suits) during the year under report.

123. The disposals compared were as per margin showing an increase of 299 suits (44 Regular suits & 255 Small Cause suits) over the results of the last year.

Fasli.	Regular suits including arrears.	Small Cause suits including arrears.	Total
1304	1,234	1,511	2,745
1305	1,391	1,815	3,206

Fasli.	Regular suits.	Small Cause suits.	Total
1304	1,021	1,379	2,400
1305	1,064	1,634	2,698

124. The increase in file and disposal testifies to complete order restored from the effects of the disorderly condition in which the Court had fallen during the year previous to the last.

125. *Results of the year in detail.—Original Jurisdiction.* Regular suits:— In the year under report 1,068 regular suits were filed 14 were re-admitted, and 2 were received by transfer from the Small Cause side. The number of suits pending at the commencement of the Fasli was 217; Total for disposal during the year was 1301 suits. Of this number, 1,065 (81.84 per cent against 83 per cent of the previous year) suits were disposed of leaving a balance of 236 suits. Of these 236 suits, 96 filed towards the close of the Fasli had necessarily to be posted for hearing in the following Fasli leaving a real balance of only 140 suits undisposed of.

126. Of the 1,065 regular suits decided, 324 were contested, 231 were decreed ex-parte, 156 on compromise, 174 on admission, 42 were struck off for default, 116 were withdrawn under sections 373 and 375 of the Code of Civil Procedure, 16 on oath, 4 transferred to the Small Cause Side, and 2 by reference to arbitration.

127. Of the arrears of 236 suits, 91 were under 3 months' standing, 138 were above 3 months and under 6 months; and 36 were above 6 months and under 1 year and only one suit above 1 year, against 42 and 15 respectively last year.

This pretty large number of pending suits is due to (1) the delay of nearly 2 months since the re-opening of the Court last year that took place in the appointment of a permanent incumbent for the Chief Judge's place (2) the unavoidable delay in filling up the vacancy caused by the lamented death of the late 2nd Judge, P. Annaswami Iyer, and (3) the adjournment of the Court towards the close of the Fasli. It is satisfactory to observe, however, that there is only one suit in arrear of more than 1 year's standing against 15 in the previous Fasli.

128. The average duration of each contested regular suit was 5 months and 24 days in the year under report against 3 months and 9 days of last Fasli and that of other suits was 53 days against 42 days of last year. The increase of 2 months and 15 days in the average duration of a contested original suit over that of the last year is mainly accounted for by the reasons stated in para. *supra*, and is also reported to be due to the fact that a good many of the old contested suits on the file of the late Chief Judge, T. Sundrappier, had to be tried over again in part by P. N. Shadagopa Naidu, who acted as Judge for about 3 months and re-heard by the 2nd Judge to whose file they had been transferred. The Chief Judge also attributes the rise in the average duration of contested original suits disposed of to the fact that as many as 48 suits of more than one year's standing were disposed of in the Fasli under report, whereas in the previous Fasli only 10 suits of similar duration were disposed of. It is also observed that out of the suits disposed of during the year under report 19 were of more than 1½ years' standing and 9 of more than 2 years whereas the corresponding figures stood at 1 and 1 respectively in the previous Fasli.

129. Of the 1,065 regular suits disposed of on the original side, the Chief Judge's share was 308 suits (49 contested), 2nd Judge's share was 338 suits (153 contested), the 3rd Judge's share was 133 suits (69 contested) and the late 2nd Judge, P. Annaswami Iyer's share was 286 (53 contested). The fall in the number of contested suits in the Chief Judge's file is attributed by him to the exclusive

disposal by him of the entire Small Cause work of the Court since 19th October 1895 leaving a greater portion of original regular suits for disposal by the 2nd and 3rd Judges.

Duration of suits disposed of in detail:

		Not exceeding 15 days..		No. of suits.
Exceeding 15 days and	1 month.	1 month.	2 months	31
" 1 month	" 2 months	" 2 months	" 3 months	289
" 2 months	" 3 months	" 3 months	" 4 months	350
" 3 months	" 4 months	" 4 months	" 5 months	110
" 4 months	" 5 months	" 5 months	" 6 months	91
" 5 months	" 6 months	" 6 months	" 7 months	40
" 6 months	" 7 months	" 7 months	" 8 months	50
" 7 months	" 8 months	" 8 months	" 9 months	30
" 8 months	" 9 months	" 9 months	" 1 year	26
" 9 months	" 1 year	" 1 year	" 1½ years	20
" 1 year	" 1½ years	" 1½ years	" 2 years	19
" 1½ years	" 2 years	" 2 years	" 3 years	9
Total...				1,065

130. The value of claims involved in the Regular suits, original side, disposed of during the year was Rs. 2,60,813 against Rs. 1,97,803 of the corresponding class of suits last year. The average value of each suit was Rs. 245 against Rs. 194 last year.

131. The regular suits arranged with reference to their value stood thus:—

		Not exceeding ... Rs.		File.	Disposal.
Exceeding ... Rs.	5 and	5	10	9	
" 20	" 30	20	96	101	
" 30	" 100	30	102	100	
" 100	" 250	100	380	374	
" 250	" 300	250	255	254	
" 300	" 400	300	53	48	
" 400	" 500	400	65	36	
" 500	" 700	500	40	35	
" 700	" 1,000	700	30	25	
" 1,000	" 2,000	1,000	25	22	
" 2,000	" 3,000	2,000	19	19	
" 3,000	" 5,000	3,000	4	3	
" 5,000	" 10,000	5,000	2	7	
" 10,000		10,000	2	4	
TOTAL ...				1,084	1,065

132. The number of miscellaneous applications, etc., filed and disposed of on the original side of the Chief Court was as below:—

	Filed.	Disposed of.	Balance.
Execution Petitions ...	1,261	1,061	200
Review Petitions ...	3	3	...
Applications for certificates of heirship.	63	52	11
Sirkar references under Land Acquisition Regulation.	4	4	...

133. *Classes of litigants.*—Of the 1,084 suits including those that were re-admitted, 88 were suits by Nattukkottai Chettis and money lenders against Chettis or merchants, 267 were suits by Nattukkottai Chettis against ryots or agriculturists, 143 were suits by Nattukkottai Chettis against others, 10 were suits by traders against buyers, 2 were suits against Sirkar and 574 other suits. It is to be noted that, synchronous with the introduction of the system of State loans to ryots for agricultural improvements, the number of suits by Nattukkottai Chettis against ryots or agriculturists has fallen to 267, the lowest figure on record, against 416 suits in the previous Fasli.

134. *Nature of the regular suits disposed of.*—Of the 1,065 suits disposed of, 855 were suits relating to money, 169 were suits relating to immovable property and 41 suits relating to other personal actions. Of the 855 suits relating to money, only 9 were on unwritten obligation. Of the 41 suits relating to other personal actions, 3 were suits relating to marriage and 3 related to maintenance.

135. *Small Cause suits in the Chief Court.*—The number of suits filed during the Fasli was 1,659; 3 were re-admitted, 21 were received by transfer from other side, and 132 were pending at the beginning of the Fasli. Total to be disposed of during the Fasli was 1,815. Of these, 1,634 suits (90 per cent against 91 per cent last year) were disposed of during the year, leaving a balance of 181 suits. Of these, 101 suits filed towards the close of the Fasli had necessarily to be posted for hearing in the following Fasli, (leaving a real balance of only 80 suits).

136. Of the 1,634 suits disposed of, 225 were contested, 495 were decreed exparte, 21 decreed on oath, 411 on admission, 219 on compromise, 68 struck off for default, 191 withdrawn under sections 373 and 375 of Civil Procedure Code and 4 transferred to other side.

137. Of the 181 Small Cause suits that were pending at the close of the Fasli, 129 were under 3 months' standing, 46 above 3 months and under 6 months and 6 above 6 months and under 1 year's standing.

138. The value of claims involved in the Small Cause suits disposed of during the year amounted to Rs. 62,584 against Rs. 52,060 of last year; the average value of each suit being Rs. 38-4-0 against Rs. 37 of last year.

139. The average duration of a contested Small Cause suit was 48 days against 34 days last year. The duration of other Small Cause suits was 26 days against 19 days last year. It has already been observed that the entire Small Cause work of the Court was exclusively done by the Chief Judge since 19th October 1895.

140. The number of miscellaneous applications, etc., disposed of on the Small Cause side of the Chief Court was, Execution petitions 1,325 and Review petitions 2 against 1,026 and 1 of last year.

141. *Rural Small Cause Courts.*—In the 9 rural Small Cause Courts, the number of Small Cause suits filed during the year was 1,367, 13 were re-admitted and 39 were pending at the beginning of the Fasli; total to be disposed of was 1,419 suits. Of these, 1,399 were disposed of leaving a balance of 20 suits against 39 last year.

142. Of the 1,399 suits disposed of, 1 was transferred to the other side, 191 were contested, 232 were decreed exparte, 453 on admission, 175 on compromise, 71 struck off for default, 257 withdrawn under sections 373 and 375 Civil Procedure Code, 17 were decreed on oath and 2 otherwise disposed of. The fall of 150 suits in the aggregate file of the rural Small Cause Courts is reported to be due to the decrease of 164 suits in the file of the Small Cause Court, Keelanilai Firka, which the Small Cause Judge seems to explain as owing to the lack of permanent Vakils there. All the rural Small Cause Courts have, as usual, been maintaining their usefulness and integrity and public confidence. The number of suits below Rs. 20 on the Small Cause side of the Chief Court has not been affected to any extent this year also, being 643 against 641 last year and the remarks therefore made in para. 57 of last year's Administration Report still hold good.

143. The number of miscellaneous applications, etc., disposed of by all the 9 rural Small Cause Courts is, Execution petitions 460 and Review petition 1 against 462 and 5 respectively last year.

144. *Appellate Jurisdiction—Chief Court.*—The number of appeals filed during the year was 50 against 92 last year; 2 were re-admitted and 66 were pending at the commencement of the Fasli. Total for disposal 118 appeals against 123 last year.

145. Of these 118 appeals, 99 were disposed of during the year leaving 19 in arrears. Of these, 4 appeals filed at the close of the Fasli had necessarily to be posted for hearing in the next Fasli, leaving a real balance of 15 appeals undisposed of, whereof 10 have been since disposed of.

146. Out of the 99 appeals disposed of, 58 were confirmed, 11 modified, 20 reversed, 6 struck off the file, 3 withdrawn and 1 compromised.

147. Of the 99 appeals, 21 were disposed of by the Chief and late 2nd Judges, 39 by the Chief and present 2nd Judges, 20 by the Chief and present 3rd Judges, 6 by the late and present 2nd Judges, and 13 by the present 2nd and 3rd Judges.

148. The average duration of an appeal was 8 months and one day in the year under report against 4 months and 7 days of last year.

149. The great increase of 3 months and 24 days in the average duration of an appeal over that of the last year was due to the reasons already cited in para. *supra* and is also reported by the Chief Judge to be mainly due to the fact that a very large number of old appeals of the previous Fasli had to be disposed of during the Fasli under report.

DURATION OF APPEALS.

		Not exceeding 15 days		No. of suits.
Exceeding 15 days and				
	20	"	20	1
"	20	"	1 month	0
"	1 month	"	2 months	3
"	2 months	"	3 "	22
"	3 "	"	4 "	9
"	4 "	"	5 "	2
"	5 "	"	6 "	9
"	6 "	"	9 "	6
"	9 "	"	1 year	12
"	1 year			5
				30
				99

150. There were 8 appeals against the orders on the Original Side of the Chief Court against none last year, whereof 7 were disposed of leaving a balance of 1. Of the 7 disposals, 2 were reversals and 5 struck off the file.

151. Of the 41 applications for revision under section 622 of the Code of Civil Procedure including 17 brought forward from previous year, 40 were disposed of, leaving 1 in arrear against 17 last year.

152. Of the 25 petitions for review of appeal judgments including 15 pending at the beginning of the year under report, 21 were disposed of leaving 4 in arrears against 15 last year. Of the 21 disposed of, only in one case was the appeal judgement reversed.

153. *Financial.* The Financial results of the year were very satisfactory.

154. The amount of Court fees collected during the year under report amounted to Rs. 38,385—4—0 as below being the highest figure after the establishment of the Chief Court and nearly Rs. 2,755 in excess of last year's collection.

	Rs.	Rs.
Court fees	23,416- 3-0	against 22,163 last year.
Process fees	13,507- 6-0	against 11,939 „
Copy comparing fees	176-11-0	against 193 „
Vakil's Sannad fees	1,285- 0-0	against 1,335 „

155. The expenditure was Rs. 28,487—9—9 as shown hereunder against Rs. 28,685—0—1 of last year thus leaving a balance of Rs. 9,897—10—3 against Rs. 6,945—4—1 last year.

	Rs.	A. P.
Establishment etc.	28,215— 5—9	
Journals etc.	169—12—0	
Refund of Court Fees	102— 8—0	
	28,487— 9—9	

REGISTRATION.

156. *Number of Registration Offices.* The number of Registration offices was the same as last year, viz., 10. The opening of additional offices in one or two important villages is under contemplation.

157. *Number of instruments presented for Registration.* The following statement gives the number of instruments presented for registration during the year under report as compared with last year.

	1894-95.	1895-96.	Percentage of increase or decrease.
Book I	16,655	15,422	7.4 decrease.
Book IV	5,949	5,408	9 decrease.
Book III	15	24	60 increase.

158. The total registrations of the year were thus 20,854 against 22,619 last year, showing a decrease of 1,765 documents or 7.8 per cent. The decrease has occurred in transactions relating to both immovable (Book I) and movable (Book IV) property being 7 per cent in Book I and 9 per cent in Book IV. The number of Wills registered has risen, in the year under report from 15 to 24.

159. All the Sub-Districts excepting Viralmalai have more or less contributed to the decrease in registration, the highest being in Kolattoor Taluq and the lowest in Alangudi Taluq.

160. The decrease in registration is attributed by the Registrar to be due generally to the effects of the severe distress of the previous succession of bad seasons continuing in the year also, in spite of the year having been a comparatively prosperous one, and to a large number of ryots in the Kolattoor Taluq having received from the Sirkar large amount of advances for the purchase of ploughs, cattle and seed grains and for excavating wells.

161. Specifying Sub-Districts the Registrar explains that in *Alangudi* Sub-District the decrease was owing to good season; in *Karambakudi* it was due to the effects of the past unfavorable seasons continuing through a greater portion of the year; in *Perungalur* it was due partly to unfavorable season and partly to a decline in trade in the important Mahomedan village of Andakkolam in that Sub-District; in *Pudakkottai* it was due to prosperity of the season during the latter half of the year; in *Trimiem* it was due to breaches of tanks caused by the heavy showers in July and August and to the consequent dragging on of ploughing and transplanting operations in those affected parts where the tanks had to be replenished by subsequent rains, the parties being thereby prevented from attending office for registration for a considerable time; in *Ponnamaravati* it was due to the gradual recovery of the Sub-District from the effects of the previous adverse seasons; in *Keelanilai* the average values of all kinds of documents indicate a considerable advance. The falling off in registration is more nominal than real; in *Kolattoor* it was due partly to the continuance of the effects of the prolonged drought till October 1895 and partly to the larger amount of loans granted by the State for agricultural purposes; and in *Kudumiyamalai* it was probably due to the effects of the previous bad seasons which have tended to diminish the credit of the ryots as also the value of the land.

162. The subjoined statement gives the nature of the different kinds of instruments registered during the year as compared with last year.

Nature of documents.	No. of deeds.		Increase or decrease.
	1894-95.	1895-96.	
Book I.			
Deeds of Gift	27	23	- 4
Do. Sale	6,306	6,344	+ 38
Do. Mortgage	9,628	8,267	-1,361
Perpetual leases	86	63	- 23
Other leases exceeding one year. ...	264	298	+ 34
Leases for one year or less	20	49	+ 29
Miscellaneous	324	378	+ 54
Book IV.			
Bonds	5,774	5,200	- 574
Sale of movables	7	9	+ 2
Miscellaneous	168	199	+ 31
Book III.			
Wills	15	24	+ 9
Total ...	22,619	20,854	-1,765

163. Sales, leases (not perpetual) and miscellaneous documents have increased and mortgages, perpetual leases and bonds have decreased. The increase is reported by the Registrar to be due to the efforts of the registering officers to enlighten the public as to the advantages of registering receipts endorsed on registered mortgages, etc., and as to the necessity for registering leases, partition deeds relating to immovable property, etc. The leases of Sirkar trees have been ordered to be registered where the leases exceed one year.

164. The aggregate value of the documents registered was as under:—

	Book I. Rs.	Book IV. Rs.	Total. Rs.
1894-95	19,50,163	3,72,553	23,22,686
1895-96	18,80,678	3,66,627	22,47,305

165. It will be observed that the aggregate value has decreased by only 3·2 per cent while registration has declined by 7·8 per cent. The value of transactions in Books I and IV has fallen off by 3·5 and 1·5 per cent respectively.

166. The aggregate value of the several classes of documents registered in Book I is given below:—

Nature of operations.	1894-95. Rs.	1895-96. Rs.
Value of lands transferred by sale	6,16,819	6,24,716
Perpetual leases..	934	2,041
Other leases which are compulsorily registrable	14,188	13,580
Mortgage	10,98,126	9,56,934
Gift	17,953	10,515
Leases for one year or less	922	1,055
Other deeds	2,00,924	2,71,592

167. With the increase in the number of sales and miscellaneous documents in Book I, the aggregate value of such documents have also increased and the value of mortgages and gifts have fallen with the decline in registration under those heads. The value of perpetual leases shows an increase in spite of the decrease in registration under that head, whereas notwithstanding the increase in the number of leases exceeding one year, their value has slightly fallen off. The last may however have been due to the change introduced in the table of fees reducing the rate to Rs. 4 per 100 gulies, etc., when the rent is not stated.

168. The average value of the several classes of documents registered was as hereunder:—

Nature of documents.	Average value.	
	1894-95.	1895-96.
Book I.	Rs.	Rs.
Gifts	665	457
Sales	98	98
Mortgages	114	116
Perpetual leases.	11	32
Other leases compulsorily registrable.	54	46
Leases for one year or less	46	22
Book IV.		
Bonds	57	62

169. The average value of gifts and leases other than perpetual has fallen off while that of mortgages, perpetual leases and bonds has increased. The value of sales was the same as last year.

170. Out of 20,830 documents registered in Books I and IV, 16·3 per cent against 17·8 per cent were of the value of Rs. 10 and under; 22·5 against 24·4 per cent were documents of values exceeding Rs. 10 but not exceeding Rs. 25; 23·9 against 22·8 per cent were valued above Rs. 25 but not above Rs. 50; 17·7 against 16·6 per cent above Rs. 50 but not exceeding Rs. 100; 16·6 against 15·6 per cent above Rs. 100 up to Rs. 500; 3 against 2 per cent of Rs. 500 and above. The maximum value of a document registered in the year was Rs. 23,000 against Rs. 26,000 in the previous year. It will be seen from the above that documents of values not exceeding Rs. 25 have fallen off while documents of values above Rs. 25 have advanced to a slight extent.

171. The compulsory registrations were 20,556 against 22,403 while documents optionally registered were 274 against 216. The law of the State leaves very little margin for optional registration and every facility is afforded to the trading public by opening Registration offices at convenient centres whenever necessary.

172. The number of Wills registered was 24 against 15 last year. There were no translations filed and no sealed covers containing wills deposited since the beginning.

173. The other minor operations of the department were as follows:—

Number of registrations on payment of additional fee for late presentation, etc., was 165 against 167 last year and cases in which registration was refused was 231 against 221, searches made 280 * against 239, copies of documents given 463 against 426, documents destroyed 118 against 99, applications under section 62; 93 against 79, and appeals 2 against 5. The number of general powers of attorney attested increased by 7 but special powers of attorney decreased by 9. The number of private attendances increased by 1; the number of persons summoned decreased by 69. Memoranda forwarded and received increased by 6. The number of documents lying unclaimed at the close of the Fasli was 396 against 296. The Registrar reports that there would not have been a single document in the office if the parties had taken the trouble to claim them on the dates mentioned on the back of the receipts given to them for the documents. As will be observed from the above the transactions have, as usual, been carried on with great activity and the examination of the Indexes conducted most systematically.

174. *Prosecution.*—There were no prosecutions during the Fasli for false personation or false statements. A sample of the appliances for introducing the system of finger prints in the Registration Department have been got down and the system will be introduced experimentally during the present Fasli.

175. During the Fasli 5 candidates appeared for the examination prescribed for registration clerks, of whom 3 passed.

* Note:—Exclusive of 63 general searches made under the rules in force relating to the grant of loans for agricultural purposes which were all made gratis and which would have brought in Rs. 630 as receipts if the cost had been levied for them as in the Madras Presidency.

176. *Inspection.*—The Registrar inspected all the Sub-Registry offices during the year, and the Dewan Peishkar and Deputy Peishkar also inspected them ex-officio, and all have recorded the results of their inspection as very satisfactory as usual.

177. *Financial.*—The receipts of the department amounted to Rs. 23,703 against Rs. 24,778 last year resulting in a decrease of 4.3 per cent while the decrease in registration was 7.8 per cent. Notwithstanding this decrease, the receipts of the year were with the exception of those of the 3 previous Faslis, the highest on record. The expenditure was Rs. 17,417 against Rs. 17,685 last year. The department, as usual, paid its own way and contributed a surplus of Rs. 6,286 for the year.

178. In the year under report Regulation IV of 1895 was passed exempting from registration (1) personal security bonds executed in favor of the State and of the British Government and (2) security bonds taken under the State Agricultural Loans Rules. The Regulation also provides for the registration of copies of decrees of Courts. Leases of Sirkar trees exceeding one year were ordered to be registered as mentioned in para. 163 *supra*. Proposals have also been made and are being considered for authorizing the registering officers as in Madras Presidency to receive the application for transfer of revenue registry when registering conveyances of land and to transmit them to the Tahsildars and other revenue officers concerned.

179. The department, as usual, showed sustained good progress. The year's results, however, show a decrease of 7.8 per cent in registration and 3.2 per cent in the aggregate value for reasons already dwelt upon. There has been a falling off in registration during the last three years. These years are generally on an average bad years compared with the previous ones. Such results are not in themselves sufficient data in determining that registration has a tendency to fall gradually. No inference can be made from the results of such an exceptional period. It is now nearly 21 years since the Registration department has been organized. The average registrations per annum during the last ten years compared with those of the preceding ten years were 18,885 against 12,070, the increase during the immediately preceding decade being 56 per cent. This is sufficiently indicative of the progress in all directions of public security and public convenience, growth of value of property, activity of trade, consequent expansion of credit transaction, the spread of education and the extension of the safer practice of securing written evidence of transactions of borrowing and lending facilitated by the state opening as many offices as are necessary at convenient centres. When registration has made such rapid strides during the second decade it was rather puzzling that the last three years should be characterized by a steady fall, year after year. Entering into details and trying to find out the true cause in addition to the causes mentioned in each year's report it was found that a tendency recently of frequent occurrence of admitting certain classes of debt in evidence in Court even though such instruments are not registered has something to do with it. It is now under consideration to enact a special Regulation to obviate the difficulty and see how far this defect goes towards restoring the normal registration.

180. The District Registrar, G. Muthuswami Iyer, whose strict supervision over the working of the Department has become almost proverbial, continued in charge of the Department maintaining its integrity and usefulness.

MILITARY.

181. Before the enfranchisement of Service Inams in 1888 the ancient militia of the country forming what are called the "Irregulars" and the handful of Sepoys known as Battalion forming the "Regulars" constituted what is termed Military. The idle tenements of those militia, who in times of yore used to be employed in fighting with neighbouring poligars and on several occasions as contingents to the British Troops at Trichinopoly in their marches to Sreerungapatam at a period when a detachment of Kuller matchlockmen and spearsmen was by no means to be despised, have all been enfranchised on suitable quit-rents and the militia disbanded. What remains at present in the small Battalion who had remained for a long time ill-clothed, ill-paid and ill-armed and quite strangers to drill or discipline but now much improved in these directions and are employed as guards at the Palaces, the Treasury and the Dewan's quarters occasionally forming pageantry during any State festive occasions. The strength of the so-called Military was as below:—

Privates for guarding.	136
Privates for firing morning and evening guns and salutes.	5
	141

182. In addition to the above Infantry, there are 16 Troopers maintained as Bodyguard to escort His Highness the Rajah and the Dewan and the Political Agent during his visits to the Capital of the State.

183. The practical instructions in drill are given to them twice a week and a review held by His Highness the Rajah or the Dewan once a year.

184. The Department is under the immediate control of an officer styled the Commandant acting under the orders of the Dewan.

185. The total cost of the establishment amounted to Rs. 18,203—2—1, besides the cost of troop horses extra clothing and other expense, amounting to Rs. 7,000 nearly in the year under report.

186. There were 93 admissions in the Battalion Hospital, the average daily sick being 2.12.

DEVASTANAM AND CHARITY.

187. The Devastanam and Charity accounts will now be noticed.

188. The settlement of the villages forming the endowments of the several Devastanams and Chatrams stood thus as compared with the last year.

	Rs.	Rs.
Devastanam Proper	1,35,097	against 1,34,529 in Fasli 1304.
Vallanad Devastanam	16,053	" 16,122 "
Mala Edu... ..	888	" 931 "
Nerur Adhistanam.	900	" 905 "
Chuttrams... ..	17,808	" 19,843 "
	1,70,746	1,72,330

resulting in a decrease of Rs. 1,584.

189. The D. C. B. sheet stood thus:—

	Demand.	Collection.	Balance.	Percentage.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Devastanam Proper ...	1,35,097	1,29,099	5,998	95.5
Vallaned Devastanam ...	16,053	15,665	388	97.6
Mala Edu ...	888	810	78	91.2
Nerur Adhistanam..	900	895	5	99.4
Chatrams...	17,808	17,296	512	97.1
	<u>1,70,746</u>	<u>1,63,765</u>	<u>6,981</u>	

*Devastanam Proper	Rs. 7,967
Vallaned Devastanam	389
Mala Edu	33
Nerur Adhistanam...	1
Chatrams	4,980
	<u>13,370</u>

190. Of old arrears amounting to Rs. 38,748, Rs. 13,370* were collected, Rs. 1,419 were written off, reducing the balance to Rs. 23,959 as shown below.

Faslis.	Devastanam proper.	Vallaned Devastanam.	Chatrams.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1285	...	...	512
1286	9	...	1
1287	79	...	...
1288	121	...	...
1289	218	...	3
1290	217	...	10
1291	221	...	...
1292	147	...	...
1293	72	...	...
1294	72	...	...
1295	73	...	2
1296	71	...	8
1297	107	...	292
1298	115	16	427
1299	157	...	4
1300	161	1	14
1301	231	5	12
1302	486	69	37
1303	1,440	134	4,484
1304	8,778	251	4,712
	<u>12,775</u>	<u>476</u>	<u>10,518</u>
	Mala Edu ...	Rs. 185	
	Nerur Adhistanam ...	5	
	Grand Total	Rs. 23,959	

191. As usual the old arrears are being scrutinized and those really irrecoverable will be written off after investigation.

192. The financial sheet of each account stood thus:—

ITEMS.	Balance at the end of Fasli 1304.	RECEIPTS DURING FASLI 1305.			Total including the balance at the end of Fasli 1304	Disbursements during Fasli 1305.	Balance.
		Land Revenue.	Extra sources (Interest, etc.).	Total.			
Devastanam Proper ...	Rs. 1,31,445	Rs. 1,37,066	Rs. 15,570	Rs. 1,52,636	Rs. 2,84,081	Rs. 1,78,890	Rs. 1,05,191
Vallaned Devastanam ...	39,718	16,054	2,316	18,370	58,088	15,647	42,441
Mala Edu ...	498	843	42	885	1,383	998	385
Nerur Adhistanam ...	13,570	896	180	1,076	14,646	1,167	13,479
Chatrams	6,925	22,276	2,916	25,192	32,117	17,784	14,333
	<u>1,92,156</u>	<u>1,77,135</u>	<u>21,024</u>	<u>1,98,159</u>	<u>3,90,315</u>	<u>2,14,486</u>	<u>1,75,829</u>

193. The closing balance of Rs. 1,75,829 included a sum of Rs. 1,25,000 invested in Government Securities, viz., Rs. 1,00,000 for Devastanam Proper, Rs. 20,000 for Vallaned Devastanam and Rs. 5,000 for Nerur Adhistanam.

194. In view to improve the quality of ghee, milk, etc., supplied to the several Pagodas, Chatrams and other public charities and also to improve indirectly the quality of cows and agricultural livestock an experimental Dairy Farm was started towards the close of the Fasli, vide appendix, and its operations will properly form the subject of the next report.

195. An account of the Dussra festivities, part cost of which is met out of the general Devastanam and Chatram Revenues, is given in the appendix.

196. (a) Under recurring charges the following were incurred during the year:—

	Rs.
Expenses pertaining to Pagodas, Chatrams etc., and services therein ...	1,05,236
Do. collection of Devastanam etc. Revenue ...	29,057
Do. for repairs of Irrigation Tanks ...	10,643
Devoted to Dussra ...	10,826
Contributions to 'Ain' for Education and Medical services ...	25,000
Devoted to Vanivalas Vedasastra Patasala...	637
Other charges not included in the above ...	15,413
	<u>1,96,812</u>

(b) Under the head of non-recurring charges the following expenses were incurred during the year:—

	Rs.
Pagoda Mantapams, Chatrams etc. renovated	6,987
Vehicles repaired, remade and newly made..	5,218
Finials supplied to Vimanams	...
Floating festival and Car festival materials..	1,382
Renovation of Cars	947
Purchase and renewal of jewels, ornaments..	1,803
Repairs of Paraphernalia	135
Iron-safes, strong rooms for safety of Valuables	117
Culinary vessels, lamps and other requisites for daily services	603
Reconsecration after repair and renovation of Pagodas, 'Samprotchanai' on account of pollutions, rain exposure etc.	482
	17,674
Grand Total (a & b)	2,14,486

MISCELLANEOUS:—JAGHIRE UNDER SIRKAR MANAGEMENT.

197. *Manovirti Jaghire*.—Out of the demand of Rs. 25,667 (against Rupees 26,010 last year) Rs. 25,545 were collected within the Fasli, against Rs. 24,781 last year, leaving a balance of only Rs. 122 against Rs. 1,229.

198. The slight decrease in the year's demand is due to the default of certain contractors of Acacia bark and Nux Vomica and the amounts due from them having had to be written off and fresh contracts not having been given during the Fasli under report.

199. The percentage of collection was 99.5 against 95.3 last year which reflects great credit on the Karbar. The increase is due apparently to his personal exertions and also in a measure to the more favorable character of the season.

200. Of old arrears amounting to Rs. 1,248, Rs. 825 were collected, Rs. 47 were written off, leaving only Rs. 373 still outstanding on account of Fasli 1304.

201. The receipts from "Extra Sources" such as interest on Government Securities and on loan to the State account amounted to Rs. 2,685 against Rs. 5,978 last year, the decrease being due to the repayment of one lakh during the year.

202. The receipts under Devasthanams and Chatrams amounted to Rs. 8,836 against Rs. 8,124 last year.

203. Thus the total receipts of the year amounted to Rs. 37,893 or including the balance Rs. 2,01,756 brought forward to Rs. 2,39,649, and the disbursements to Rs. 18,105 as per margin leaving a surplus of Rs. 2,21,544 as detailed below including the balance of loan of Rs. 25,000 to the State.

Cost of domestic events in the Palaces and of the management and repairs of tanks, etc.	Rs. 10,557
Pagodas and Chatrams	7,548
Total	18,105

JAGHIRE UNDER SIRKAR MANAGEMENT.

	Rs.
(1) AIN:—	
Ready money	1,45,105
Loan to the State account	25,000
In Government Securities	20,000
In Jewels, etc.	2,079
Total	1,92,184
(2) DEPOSITS:—	
(a) <i>Devasthanams</i> .	
Ready money	5,906
In Government Securities	10,000
Advance on account of stores to be purchased.	779
Total	16,676
(b) <i>Chatrams</i> .	
Ready money	2,591
In Government Securities	10,000
Loan to a ryot for irrigation work	90
Total	12,684
Grand Total	2,21,544

CHAPTER IV.

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

SEASON AND RAINFALL.

204. The season was on the whole comparatively favorable for agricultural operations. The total rainfall averaged 37 inches 59 cents against 26 inches last year.

205. As stated in the last report the year opened with much anxiety. In July and in the earlier part of August there was some rain but it was quite insufficient for irrigation purposes and crops began to suffer in consequence. But in August and September good and copious rain fell and was very favorable and improved the prospects well and thus went a great way to alleviate the anxiety and hardship of the ryots experienced during the previous two years. Agricultural operations were in full swing. Though the crops were in good condition they were affected by blights and by badly distributed rains and consequently the outturn was indifferent. In October and November the rains of the previous months were supplemented by more. December was perfectly rainless. In January one smart shower helped the crops then on the ground to maturity. The remaining months of the year were more or less dry. Owing to the extensive repairs and earth-work carried on to the irrigation tanks, almost all the tanks retained a sufficient quantity of water beyond the usual time and the entirely dry character of the season during the latter half of the year did not therefore tell much on the agricultural prospects of the year. There was also sufficient water for man and beast. The year, however, closed with anxiety for the next year in the absence of the usual summer showers.

206. *Prices.*—The average prices of food-grains, etc., compared with those of the previous year were as follows:—

Description.	Fasli 1305.		Fasli 1304.	
	Rs.	A.	Rs.	A.
Paddy ...	1	6	1	10
Ragi.. ...	1	6	1	12
Cumbu ...	1	2	1	8
Varagu ...	0	12	1	0
Black-gram..	4	0	4	0
Red-gram ...	2	8	2	8
Horse-gram..	2	2	2	4
Gingelly ...	5	0	5	8

207. The general fall was due to more favorable character of the season. Though less than previous year the prices were still considerably higher than the average of the previous decade.

208. *Condition of Cattle.*—Pasture and fodder were generally sufficient and the condition of the cattle was on the whole good.

STATE GARDENS.

209. Some particulars about the Anandabag at the Capital may not be uninteresting here. The garden is nearly over 60 acres in extent and close to the city and yet outside it, healthy and open to abundance of fresh air having the fine views of all the ornamental buildings and abounding with grown up trees affording grateful shelter over roads and walks underneath. The garden was left for some time in a neglected state for various reasons; a thorough weeding was during the year given to the grounds and all useless, decayed and dying trees were thinned out. Many graft mango and cocoanut trees were planted and regular flower beds laid in appropriate places. The wells were all repaired and the water supply improved. A separate officer has since been appointed to look after the operations in this garden and all other gardens attached to the College, Public offices, etc., and the progress will properly form the subject of the next report.

210. The extensive State gardens, called Amba tope and Bangala tope, at Karambakudi had been entirely neglected for want of proper agency and water facilities; both have been since secured and necessary steps taken to improve their condition. This will also form more appropriate subject for next report.

FORESTS AND PLANTATIONS.

211. *General.*—The Forests so called are but jungles of small elevation scattered over the State. They in all number 60 and cover nearly 140 square miles. Six or seven of the larger ones, more easily accessible from the Capital, are strictly preserved for His Highness the Rajah's hunt. Wild pigs and deer are the chief game. Stray cows and bulls, which are tired of domesticity, find freedom and shelter in some of the jungles and, from their sacred caste as cows, enjoy immunity from the hunter though the young bulls are now and then entrapped and re-domesticated for purposes of draught and are prized for their extra mettle, strength and endurance.

212. The revenue derived from Forests during the Fasli as compared with the last Fasli was as below:—

	Fasli 1305.	Fasli 1304.
	Rs.	Rs.
Fuel contract and sale of green leaves...	2,435	2,297
Lease of the bark of Avarai (cassia auriculata) ...	...	1,130
Fuel for Sirkar kilns ...	913	1,081
Lease of the seeds of strychnos (Ettikottai) ...	162	227
Lease of fruit trees. ...	6	10
Sale of useless hollow trees ...	1,311	423
Sale of wild bulls... ..	1,447	155
Tax of Brick moulds ...	459	325
Kavi (Red-ochre) Ijara ...	34	34
Sale proceeds of casuarina trees on the banks of the Vellar ...	1,812	1,827
Income received from crops raised in Machuvadi Tope.	35	35
Stone quarrying license fees ...	7,406	7,230
Grazing Fees ...	2,898	...
Miscellaneous ...	30	10
	<u>18,948</u>	<u>14,790</u>

213. The increase is due on account of the grazing fees newly introduced during the Fasli, in connection with which a census of cattle has also been ordered to be taken (vide appendices) and on account of the capture and sale of wild bulls and cows.

214. Out of a demand of Rs. 18,948, Rs. 17,394 were collected leaving Rs. 1,554 as balance. Of old arrears amounting to Rs. 5,022, Rs. 505 have been collected leaving a balance of Rs. 4,517 as below:—

	Rs.
Up to Fasli 1298 ...	1,187
1299 ...	210
1300 ...	247
1301 ...	288
1302 ...	1,068
1303 ...	600
1304 ...	919
	<u>4,517</u>

The total collection of the Fasli current and arrears amounted to Rs. 17,899.

215. *Plantations.—Machuvadi Tope.* The number of trees at the beginning of the Fasli was 4,964, 2,200 were newly planted, making a total of 7,164 trees of which 750 perished owing to want of rain. The remaining trees were thriving well.

216. *Peraiyur Tope.* The number of trees that remained at the beginning of the Fasli was 3,396 to which were added 664 cocoanut trees, 916 basil trees and 79 mango trees, making a total of 5,035 of which 281 perished, leaving 4,754 at the end of the year.

217. *Visalur (Kudumiyamalai) Tope.* The number of trees that remained at the beginning of the Fasli was 6,854 to which were added 535 basil trees, total 7,389 of which 704 perished, leaving 6,685 at the end of the year.

218. *Vythikovil Tope.* The number of young trees that remained at the beginning of the year was 4,597. 4,900 basil seedlings, 379 cocoanut seedlings and 902 seedlings of other descriptions have been planted during the year. The number of trees remaining at the end of the year was 10,778. Owing to the inferiority of the soil the cocoanut trees are not thriving well.

219. *Casuarina Plantations on the banks of the Vellar.* The Casuarina trees having attained sufficient growth it was thought fit to cut and sell them with a view of replantation. A census of all the trees was ordered to be taken. The result was that there were only 33,140 trees instead of 55,157 as mentioned in last year's report. An inquiry was made into the matter and the result was that the Maisfiri had been including a large number of seedlings and transplants in his account. 6,896 trees were cut and sold leaving 26,244. 2,074 other kinds of trees existed to which 121 bamboo clumps were added during the year. A large number of Casuarina seedlings and transplants are available for further plantations.

220. *Perungalur Tope.* There existed at the beginning of the Fasli 16,075 Casuarina trees, 35,000 transplants (10,000 got down from Cuddalore and 25,000 from the Vellar) were planted; of which 17,300 perished for want of rain. The rest are doing well. There thus remained 33,775 trees and plants at the close of the year. A large number of basil trees was also planted during the year of which 5,694 survived the drought and are improving.

221. *Varappur Casuarina plantations.* This was newly formed in the Fasli under report. 1,00,000 seedlings were purchased from Cuddalore of which 10,000 were planted at Perungalur and the remaining 90,000 were planted here. Many were injured during transit and perished immediately they were planted. 10,000 were carried away by the freshes before they struck root. There thus remained 30,000 trees at the close of the Fasli, some of which have attained a growth of 4 or 5 feet.

222. *Palaiyur Casuarina plantations.* This also was formed during the year under report and towards its close. 3,000 transplants were planted and have struck root.

223. *The cashew (anacardium occidentale) in the Tope formed near the borders of Sakkiliankottai Forest.* There are large tracts of land in the State possessing a sort of thick and clayey soil overlying the substrata of laterite in which even a blade of grass does not grow. It was the intention of His Highness' Government to devise means to render these soils productive. An experiment was therefore made to grow a few cashew trees on such soil in the Machuvadi Tope. The result was favorable, all the seeds germinated and thrived well. They even seemed to luxuriate in such soils. In the fourth year they began to bear fruit. They do not require any watering. Precarious rain-fall seems to be ample for its growth. They withstand any amount of heat. The value of the produce of the tree is not in any way inferior to that of any other fruit trees grown in similar areas. Therefore 14 kalams of cashew-nut seed were sown in a soil of the above description lying near the borders of Sakkiliankottai Forest. They were planted in December, they all germinated and were doing well for some time; but wild pigs dug up the earth and ate the tender roots. Several thousands were thus destroyed notwithstanding preventive measures adopted to keep out the wild pigs. When the plants become lignified the pigs do not approach them. Thus 20,000 plants survived and are now doing well, some having attained a

growth of 3 feet. Necessary measures will be taken to vouchsafe to these new cashew plantation perfect immunity from the ravages of the wild pigs.

224. *Pambar Tope*.—This was also formed during the year under report. 2,000 cocoanut seedlings and 500 basil seedlings were planted, of which 120 and 300 perished leaving 1,880 cocoanuts and 200 basil plants which are doing well.

225. *Kummangudi Tope*.—This was also formed during the year under report on the banks of the Vellar to the west of Parayur. The soil is rich with river deposits. 2,300 cocoanut and 1,300 basil seedlings were planted; 75 cocoanut and 50 basil seedlings did not strike root and hence perished; the rest are thriving well. This tope has good water convenience as it stands on a low level.

226. From the above it will be observed that 5 new big topes have been formed during the year affording occupation to nearly 100 hands. The above are under the supervision of the Deputy Peishkar.

227. Two experimental gardens were organized at the capital under the supervision of the Conservancy department, one at the weekly fair site and the other at the old Paracheri site and along the Town roads. The fair was planted with various sorts of shade-giving and fruit-producing trees and a small nursery also maintained from which young plants were sent to different Sirkar topes and plantations.

228. Trees have also been planted, along the road sides in all the three important trunk roads of the State maintained during drought under wells surk at intervals of a furlong along the road to Trichinopoly both for the convenience of the travellers and the roadside trees and for water for road metal work.

229. The following table shows in one view the several descriptions of trees that remained at the close of the last Fasli, the number added to them during the Fasli, the number cut off or perished and those remaining at the close of the Fasli under report.

Names of trees.	Number that remained at the close of the last Fasli.	Number added during the Fasli.	Total.	Number cut off or perished.	Number at the end of the Fasli under report.
Casuarina trees.	49,708	1,28,000	1,77,708	84,256	93,452
Cocoanut trees.	7,013	7,790	14,803	632	14,171
Mango trees.	1,831	729	2,560	351	2,209
Jack trees.	1,158	7	1,165	275	890
Iluppa (Basil) trees.	3,799	24,147	27,946	11,238	16,708
Tamarind trees.	238	253	491	5	486
Margosa trees.	2,475	5	2,480	...	2,480
Teak.	23	...	23	...	23
Phylanthusembilica (Nelli) செவ்வியல்	75	...	75	...	75
Enginca Jambolana (செவ்வியல்)	16	...	16	...	16
Cashew (anacardium occidentale)	8	50,000	50,008	30,000	20,008
Silk cotton trees.	55	...	55	10	45
Bamboo clumps.	68	105	168	6	162
Palmyra.	6,263	410	6,673	...	6,673
Trees of other descriptions.	375	502	877	...	877
TOTAL.	73,100	2,11,948	2,85,048	1,26,773	1,58,275

230. The cost of the Forest establishment was Rs. 3,397 and that of the plantations was Rs. 6,498 of which Rs. 4,022 was disbursed out of Ain funds for the topes belonging to the 'ain' lands and Rs. 2,466 out of Devastanam funds for the topes belonging to the Devastanam villages.

231. A nursery has been formed during the year at Machuvadi Tope in which sandal wood seeds and all other kinds of seeds have been sown. There are 53 seed beds and the seedlings will be planted in the course of the current Fasli. Small nurseries have been formed in all the other topes above mentioned.

232. 11,400 plants of valuable fruit-trees have been raised in baskets placed over plat-forms constructed of jungle wood which will be planted out in the next rainy season.

233. 40 seakkoy (acacia coneinna) seedlings have been planted experimentally in Sivagyanapuram and are doing well. It is intended to raise these trees in large numbers in the forests of this State, as they have a large commercial value.

234. Seeds of useful timber which are grown in the forests of Coimbatore and Travancore have been got down and sown in the nurseries at Machuvadi tope and will be transplanted during the current Fasli. Pinnai seeds have been got down from Vedaranniem (Point Calmere) and will be sown in the rainy season as they will yield oil for lights and torches in Pagodas.

235. Different kinds of seeds of trees growing in the forests have been collected and kept ready for sowing in the blank spaces of forests and are awaiting the rains. A large number of Cocoanut, Tamarind, Hill cotton tree, Jack, Mango and Casuarina seedlings and transplants are ready for more extensive operations during the current Fasli.

236. His Highness' Government is now attending to reforestation which is very important. One or two forests where many trees have been cut away 5 or 6 years ago for supplying fuel for State Kilns started for the construction of the various public buildings have to be replanted with valuable trees and will be taken up first at Varapur and Shakliankottai on the northern border.

237. The denudation of useless hollow stunted trees and reforesting them by planting in their stead useful fruit and timber trees in larger number have been proposed. By so doing the sale of useless trees will enhance the income for a few years in the beginning and the produce of trees to be planted will form a source of permanent income afterwards rendering the jungles eventually reproductive.

238. It will be seen from the above that considerable improvements have been effected during the year under report and all preliminaries have been arranged for more expansive operations during the current Fasli. Scarcity of water in the soil, the chief difficulty in the formation of Topes had to be first overcome before actual improvements can be vouchsafed in this direction. With this view extensive well sinking as a necessary preliminary has been started consistent with the resources of the State.

TRADE AND INDUSTRY.

239. The chief occupation of the people is of course agriculture, wet and dry cultivation, more the latter owing to the Kadarambam character of the country. Ground-nut cultivation is carried on to a large extent in Karambakudi Firka whence ground-nut is sent to the ports in the Tanjore District for exportation to foreign parts. The chief articles of import (so to say) are paddy and sea-salt which are brought into the Capital in large quantities from the adjoining parts of Trichinopoly and Tanjore Districts every Friday for being sold in the weekly market on that day. The total transactions on every market-day amount to Rs. 50,000 on an average. There are also weekly fairs held in several other parts of the State but no reliable statistics have been gathered during the Fasli. The omission will be supplied during the current Fasli.

240. Next to Agriculture, Weaving is the main industry of a portion of the people. As might be naturally expected, they have been gradually declining owing to the competition of cheap machine-made foreign and Indian goods. Steps are being taken to resuscitate this once thriving industry in the State and also Bangle-making for which there are natural facilities in some parts of the State. The manufacture of Indigo was also once much in vogue in the State and was most profitable to the people but owing to oppression by the then officials the cultivation of the plant was unfortunately given up and has almost completely disappeared. Efforts are being made to disabuse the minds of the people of a recurrence of such a state of things in these more enlightened times and benevolent administration and demonstrative indigo farms established in the Town and in Karambakudi Firka after resecuring the water supply.

241. It is also in contemplation to revive, if possible, the manufacture of iron which once promised a thriving industry in the State and only if the local stuff prove to be cheaper than imported iron. Steps have been taken to secure the service of a mineralogist and other specialists to ascertain the capacity of His Highness' dominions in the matter of the development and scope of various industries and no pains will be spared to tap the country in various ways in view of the material prosperity of its inhabitants.

242. Experimental sugar-cane plantations have also been set on foot and cuttings distributed to the ryots applying for them. It is also in contemplation to get down a good mill to express sugar-juice and teach the people the process of manufacturing sugar, etc. Information relating to this part of the report will be more reliable and fuller next year after securing necessary statistics.

THE MARAHMUT OR PUBLIC WORKS.

243. The expenditure on Public Works will now be noticed.

244. The disbursements on account of Public Works during the year under report amounted to Rs. 1,48,622 under all heads, of which Rs. 1,42,701 were spent within the close of the season, Rs. 5,921 being refunded. The outlay was distribu-

ted thus under the usual main heads (i) Irrigation works, Rs. 30,862 (ii) Town Conservancy, Rs. 20,263, (iii) Village Conservancy, Rs. 6,228, (iv) Roads, Rs. 34,962 (v) Buildings, Rs. 33,105 + (vi) Establishments, Rs. 12,281, Total Rs. 1,42,701.

† Includes	Rs.
Palace Repairs...	1,803
Western Palace Repairs	268
	<u>2,071</u>

245. *Irrigation.* The total disbursement on account of Irrigation Works amounted to Rs. 30,862.

246. With reference to the remarks of Government in its review of the last Administration Report para 6, it has been arranged to introduce the system of Permanent advances from about the close of the year. Under this system, the Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars are allowed a permanent advance to enable them to carry out the various works that might be entrusted to their charge without drawing advances directly from the Treasury on account of a particular work and refunding the unspent balance at the close of the year. The system has worked pretty satisfactorily during the short period it existed during the year. From the next year therefore, there will be no occasion for refund of any amount. The actual disbursements from the Treasury will exhibit the amount spent on the different works. All the Tahsildars having been since the close of the Fasli relieved of their Magisterial duties and made full-time Revenue officers, their energy, influence, intelligence, local experience and command of labor will be utilized in improving the minor Irrigation works, most of them being in very bad order and sometimes affecting the revenue of the State in years of scanty and moderate rainfall. They could also be made use of in sinking new irrigation wells and in improving old ones by the Sirkar for the ryots under the new system alluded to elsewhere.

247. During the year, Earth-work to 59 tanks including the extensive repair to the big Kavinad Tank bund and some important masonry works in Alangudi Taluq, Earth-work to 36 tanks and about 10 important masonry works in Trimien Taluq, and Earth-work to 123 tanks and 3 important masonry works in Kolattoor Taluq cost Rs. 14,650, Rs. 6,305 and Rs. 9,907 respectively, total Earth-work to 223 tanks and 15 masonry works costing Rs. 30,862.

248. Owing to good rain-fall in December and the early part of this calendar year water continued in the tanks preventing excavation of earth for the repair of the bund and this circumstance proved an obstacle to work out the full Budget grant of Rs. 40,000 though estimates were prepared and funds allotted for the purpose. The ryots were consequently slow in receiving advances for the repair of their tanks especially earth-work.

249. To compensate for this, considerable number of wells were dug & old wells repaired for which advances were made to the extent of Rs. 15,000 out of which the completed portion amounting to over Rs. 5,000 has been brought to book, the rest carried over in the deposit account to be charged after completion and measurement.

250. A few masonry works were taken up, such as the Kalingulah of the following big tanks:—Kavinad, Palayur, Katchiran kolam and Kolattoor.

251. Kavinad Tank which lies within 4 miles from the Town, Pudukkottai, is fed from the Vellar and irrigates about 1,800 acres yielding an annual Revenue of about Rs. 20,000. This is the first and biggest Irrigation work in the State. The two old surplus weirs known as Vellalan Kalingulah and Puttavanichi Kalingulah are also being improved under professional supervision. On examination, the foundation of the Vellalan Kalingulah was found to consist of pure mud and boulders. The old work had therefore to be entirely pulled out and a new one designed, securing good and permanent foundation. The design consists of a Surplus Escape 105 feet long with a bridge of 7 spans of 15 feet each over it having a road-way of 9 feet. The calculated discharge over this weir is 1349.25 cubic feet per second against an old discharge of 901.50 cubic feet per second. The estimated cost of this work is Rs. 5,000. The other, Puttavanichi Kalingulah, is also being improved with a set of surplus sluices, 3 in number, having a water-way of $7\frac{1}{2}$ feet each. This will, to some extent, remove the silt and sand brought by the supply-channel into the tank. These openings will be regulated by means of screw shutters from a platform above and a bridge similar to that provided for the Vellalan Kalingulah will carry the road-way. These sluices are designed to discharge 1859.20 cubic feet per second when fully opened against an old discharge of 1712.88 cubic feet per second. The estimated cost of this work is Rs. 3,000. The only remaining surplus weir of the tank known as Northern (செல்) Kalingulah and the distribution sluices will be improved during the ensuing year.

252. When the improvements to the tank are completed it will be maintained and kept in efficient condition. Coconut palms have been planted on the sides of the big feeding channel and on the margin of the foot-path on the ground running parallel to the bund. After a period of 5 or 6 years when these trees now planted and other trees to be planted on the waste lands adjoining the bunds now overgrown with prickly pear have attained sufficient growth the revenue from these plantations will go a great way towards meeting the cost of the maintenance of the bund and connected establishment.

253. The next work taken on hand during the year was the Palayur tank, 10 miles from the Town, similarly fed from the Vellar through Vallanad Tank surplus. The Earth-work is almost completed and a surplus weir of 200 feet in length is being built in the place of the largest of the 3 Kalingulahs. The other two Kalingulahs being useless have been abandoned altogether, since the water-way of the new Kalingulah is 90 feet more than the total length of the three old surplus weirs together. The discharge over this new weir will be 3146.00 cubic feet per second against a discharge of 2340.00 cubic feet in the 3 old ones together. The estimated cost of this work is Rs. 4,000. The 4 distribution sluices in it will be improved to admit of proper regulation. A maintenance establishment will be entertained after thorough repair.

254. The surplus weir of the Katchirankolam tank crossing the Karambakudi road had to be urgently provided with a bridge for the convenience of traffic and travellers. The surplus weir was designed with a bridge over it having a road-way of 24 feet. The foundations have been laid and the superstructure is progressing. The estimated cost of this work is Rs. 6,000 and the bridge will discharge 839.40

cubic feet per second without any danger. The 2 sluices of the Kolattoor big tank were improved to admit of proper regulation and control. The surplus weirs and other sluices will be taken up gradually and improved in the next 3 or 4 years. The investigation of the Vellar system did not make much progress owing to the Surveyor having had to be employed in some important boundary disputes and in surveying some of the thickly populated villages in the interior in view to relaying certain villages and in making certain alterations and improvements in other villages on sanitary grounds, and the works have been put on hand since the close of the Fasil under the immediate supervision of a Sub-Overseer who will also carry out the earth-work to all the irrigation works in the Keelanilai Firka.

255. The tanks in the Korayur basin which affected the South Indian Railway have been very nearly surveyed and levels for some of the important tanks taken. Plans and Estimates for the improvement of some of the tanks, such as Mathur, Neerpalani, etc., are under preparation in accordance with the instructions given by the Superintending Engineer, Trichinopoly. The number of miles surveyed in the Korayar basin (over an area of 100 square miles) is 125 miles and levels taken 20 miles. The number of tanks investigated is 39. A special Sub-Overseer of professional experience has since been appointed for the purpose of carrying out the above works systematically and to restore the tanks one by one. The several irrigation projects and works for the conservation of water now under investigation will be taken up in hand one by one according to the resources at command and as soon as the results of such investigation of the several tanks and river systems have been tested by a special agency.

256. *Roads.* The outlay on Roads amounted to Rs. 34,962 and was distributed as follows:—Rs. 5,556 were spent on the upkeep of the Trichinopoly Road No. I (30 miles). A culvert of 3 arches of 9 feet span on the 25th mile near Mathur, which was washed away during the floods of November 1893 was restored at a cost of Rs. 2,312. Total Rs. 7,868.

257. The upkeep of the Tanjore Road No. II (18 miles) cost Rs. 3,597. The expenditure on the Madura Road No. III (16 miles) was Rs. 3,002. That on the Alangudi Road (12 miles), including earth-work 4 miles in extension of the above 12 miles, was Rs. 2,477. Annavasal-Ilpur-Viralimalai Road (23 miles) and extension 4 miles of earthwork to join Viralimalai with Kolattoor South Indian Railway Station, cost Rs. 4,619. The Arantanghi Road (13 miles) cost Rs. 1,437. The Town roads and streets (nearly 23 miles) had Rs. 5,343 spent on them. Maintaining the metalled portion of Karambakudi Road (5 miles) and extension of 5 miles earth-work cost Rs. 1,407. The cost of the upkeep of the Shengirai and Arimbalam Road (10 miles) was Rs. 916 and the contribution paid for Kanadikathan Road was Rs. 2,000. The upkeep of the finished portion of the Kudumiyamalai Road and extension of 3 miles earth-work amounted to Rs. 1,124. Several cart tracks, etc., forming feeders to the main lines had Rs. 1,172 spent upon them for their upkeep. All the roads both metalled and fair-weather ones were maintained in excellent order under the mile-cooly system.

258. During the second half of the year the usually dry nature of the season rendered it very difficult to keep the roads in the usual condition for want of water. To overcome this difficulty to some extent a system of furlong-well-digging was instituted.

259. No new roads were taken on hand during the year for want of funds though some were urgently required for promoting the prosperity of the agricultural population, the trade and the convenience of travellers.

260. All the important roads had no feeder lines to the villages rendering transport of grain to and retransport of salt back, from the main roads impracticable. This, His Highness' Government commenced to provide by the villagers themselves by making suitable grants towards initial outlay and enjoining them for continued maintenance by themselves afterwards. For obvious reasons the State cannot go on burdening itself with permanent annual maintenance, cost of new communication coming into existence every year without stint of initial outlay unless some provision is made for adequate corresponding increase in Revenue to meet such increased maintenance. This is a great stumbling block towards speedy expansion of rural communications and His Highness' Government is trying to overcome the barrier by planting revenue paying avenue trees on the sides of roads and also on Sirkar lands bordering on roads in view to create eventually funds for maintaining extended communications. By this means His Highness' Government can avoid or manage to put off the odium of creating any new cess on that account and make the new communications self-supporting *festina lente*.

261. With this view all the roads especially the trunk roads have been provided on the sides with large wells at convenient distances and more will be added in the course of the year now progressing. The planting of avenue trees was retarded to some extent owing to the same cause. The new furlong wells went a great way towards the watering and maintenance of the young avenue trees. Those planted during the last Winter successfully weathered the drought pretty well but the more recently planted ones were not so thriving but continued in a drooping condition kept alive by the water from the new furlong wells. Almost all the roads have been planted with avenue trees, both revenue and shade trees. The Trichinopoly road alone remains to be planted and it will be done during the next Winter.

262. *Buildings.*—The total outlay on buildings during the year under report

	Rs.	was Rs. 38,105 including Palace and
* Palace Repairs	1,803	Western Palace buildings.* The Police
Western Palace Repairs	263	buildings were pushed on during the year,
	2,071	the amount spent on them at Tiruvaran-

kolam, Alangudi, Karaiyur, Viralimalai, Avaiyapatti and Sheplantope during the year being Rs. 11,480 including the sinking of wells and repairs to the buildings at Kulayanviduthi and Eachanary. The Inspector's quarters at Alangudi, the lines at Viralimalai and the temporary lines at the sixth mile on the Madura road were handed over to the department for use. The buildings at Avayapatti and Tiruvarankolam were well-nigh completed, while those at Karaiyur are in fair progress. The new Powder Magazine at the Capital which was put on hand last year was completed during the year under report, the amount spent during the year being Rs. 1,379. Only the tressels and boxes for the storage of powder and the lightning conductor have to be fitted up. The Toll gate on the Trichinopoly road was removed to a more convenient locality and a building was constructed at a cost of Rs. 908. The New Technical school and the D. P. W. Workshop had Rs. 7,213 spent upon them. An iron work shed for smithy, 210 feet in length, covered with corrugated sheets has been completed. The other iron sheds for carpentry and stores, the front building and compound wall are in progress.

263. The maintenance of and improvements to the several public buildings at the Capital and at the Taluqs, the New Public Offices and the New Taluq Cutcherry, the New College, alteration of the old Taluq Cutcherry at the Taluq stations to suit the new Dispensaries, the Hospital, the Traveller's bungalow at the Capital, the Residency, the Dewan's quarters, the Chief Medical Officer's and the Survey Superintendent's quarters and other Sirkar buildings and the upkeep of the several gardens and compounds attached thereto including the erection of compound walls and other sundry expenses amounted to Rs. 12,944.

264. *Town Conservancy.*—Rs. 20,263 against an allotment of Rs. 20,000 have been spent under this head including the permanent cost of Rs. 13,457 for tank watching, street lighting, scavenging, night-soil removal etc. Public wells, and some of the drinking water tanks and the supply and surplus weirs were repaired wherever necessary. Pending the advice of a specialist, the distribution of water from the big Puthukolam reservoir to the several streets of the Town and the laying of pipes therefor have been postponed. Rajakolam tank lying to the east of the Town and which is being resorted to by the people for bathing purposes was further deepened and a new bathing ghaut commenced and about 10 steps constructed. The work will be completed during the course of the next 2 years.

* 265. *Village Conservancy.* The total disbursement on account of the sanitation of rural stations was Rs. 8,648. The dirty but populous Mahomedan village of Annavasal which was owing to the insanitary condition subject to severe attacks of Cholera was relaid with more open streets. Mr. Andrew, the Political Agent, inspected this village on his way to Viralimalai and much appreciated the benevolent nature of the improvements effected. The sanitation of many other villages was also attended to during the year.

RAILWAY.

266. Beyond the Survey of a loop-line connecting Pudukkottai with Trichinopoly nothing was done in this direction owing to several causes. Negotiations are again set on foot. It has since occurred to His Highness' Government that the projected line would be more paying and promote the convenience of the greater number of His Highness' subjects if the line be continued to the South to some possible distance tapping the tracts occupied by the opulent Nattukottai Chettis. Accordingly arrangements have been made to survey up to Kanadikathan one of the richest Nattukottai Chetti villages lying beyond the southern frontier, *via.*, Trimiem. The whole length from Trichinopoly to Kanadikathan will be a little over 50 miles.

POST AND TELEGRAPH.

267. *Post.*—The object with which the State Postal department was amalgamated with the British Postal department and British Post offices established in the State in 1894, *viz.*, to afford to His Highness' subjects all the postal facilities, such as Insurance, Registration, etc., as are enjoyed by their brethren in British India, is being eminently fulfilled every year.

268. The number of Post Offices, etc., were as below ;—

	30th June 1896.	30th June 1895.
Number of Post offices...	15	14
Do. Mail Lines ...	9	9
Do. Runners ...	23	23
Do. Letter posts ...	30	30

269. There is thus a tolerably well extended branch of the British postal service in His Highness' dominions not only for the Capital and principal Taluq and Firka stations but also extending to villages. Some additions were made during the year and it is believed that as years advance and trade and commerce expand there will be gradual and proportionate diffusion of this public benefit. The British Postal department will doubtless extend its operations in the State, provided, of course, its lines shall pay their own way. His Highness' Government is always ready to give every facility for such extension and it is satisfactory to note that there is no friction or difficulty with the Postal officers. The superior officers of the British Postal Department always act with utmost courtesy and consideration. It is praiseworthy that the subordinate officials are in most cases Pudukkottai subjects.

270. The amalgamation of the State Post with Imperial Post has been attended with the greatest benefit to His Highness' subjects. The amalgamation was not effected on any financial grounds, considerations of far higher value having swayed His Highness' Government in making the transfer. With such a rapid advance in roads and railways on all sides greatly facilitating the commercial intercourse with outer world, this small State with its local Post inadequately maintained could not continue without causing much inconvenience to the trading public, to the great impediment of progress. It was further plain that such a developed system so elaborate and useful as the Imperial Post in all its details could never be attempted by the local Post in its limited sphere, capacity and power of action. Under the amalgamation influenced by such philanthropic considerations, the Imperial Post carries all official correspondence within the State and covers addressed by the Dewan to the Political Agent, free of charge, and all other official correspondence to places outside the State to and fro stamped with Service postage stamps under British official rates, all franked "Pudukkottai State Service".

271. *Telegraph.*—This Department is also under the British Telegraph Department. There is at present but one office in the State, viz., at the Capital which was started in 1884 and continued to be a third class office till the 15th November 1895 when it was made into a second class one. The Telegraph office is very useful and is freely resorted to by the people especially the Nattukkottai Chettis of proverbial commercial activity in their relations with the Strait Settlements, etc.

272. Their influence has since evinced in the opening of 2 more offices in the State for which necessary steps have been taken by the Imperial Telegraph. There is scope for an extension of this benefit of acceleration of exchange of communications thus afforded to the Pudukkottai public, especially the trading Nattukkottai Chettis, but this must perhaps await the pleasure and convenience of the Imperial Finance.

CHAPTER V.

REVENUE AND FINANCE.

I.—GROSS RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS.

273.. The usual Financial Statement is subjoined with the remarks explaining the principal variations entered on the pages facing the figures themselves, obviating the necessity of repeating the figures in separate notes as suggested, in para. 5 of G. O., Political, dated 28th January 1896, No. 56. The actuals of the Fasli under report have been compared in greater detail with the Revised Estimates. Those between the Budget and Revised Estimates and the actuals of the previous Fasli have been already dealt with and noticed in G. O. No. 361, Political, dated 6th June 1896.

Receipts of the Pudukkottai State for Fasli 1305 as compared with the Actuals of Fasli 1304 and the Revised Estimate for Fasli 1305.

Major Heads.	Minor Heads.	EXPLANATION OF VARIATIONS.									
		Between columns 3 and 4.					Between columns 3 and 5.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9			
	Opening balance ...	Rs. *337881	+424668	...	Rs. ...	Rs. ...	* This includes Rs. 2,75,000 in Government Paper.	+ This includes Rs. 3,75,000 in Government Paper.			
	a. Land Revenue ...	520147	431219	550000	+88928	-29853	Increase Rs. 88,928. Last year much agricultural depression which prevailed in the most distressed parts of Kolattoor Taluq necessitated the postponement of Kists in those parts. In this year the more favorable character of the season enabled the ryots to pay off more than 50 per cent of the suspended Kists which added to the more prompt collection in the current demand there and in the other Taluqs accounts for the large increase.	Decrease Rs. 29,563. The suspended Kists in Kolattoor Taluq were not realised to the fullest extent anticipated owing to the ryots not having quite recovered from the effects of the agricultural depression caused by the previous 3 consecutive bad seasons. Hence the decrease.			
	b. Salt ...	38000	38000	32000	...	...		A fixed item being compensation paid by the British Government for the suppression of Earth-Salt manufacture within this State in the interests of the British Salt Revenue. Not yet introduced.			
	c. Stamps.	...	...	...	...	...	Decrease Rs. 1,049. Competition being less keen license fees fell a little. Detailed explanation will be found under 'Abkari'.	Decrease Rs. 282. The slight variation calls for no remark. The actuals were very near the Revised figure.			
	d. Excise	54718	55767	55000	-1049	-282	Increase Rs. 1,145. The increase	Increase Rs. 701. The increase was			
	e. Assessed Taxes	6701	5556	6000	+1145	+701					

CHAPTER V.

REVENUE AND FINANCE.

Receipts from Civil Depts.	Post Office.	Interest.	Principal Heads of Revenue.					Principal Heads of Revenue.					Principal Heads of Revenue.					Principal Heads of Revenue.					Principal Heads of Revenue.					Principal Heads of Revenue.				
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
f. Forest.	...	...	18048	15828	19000	2220	952	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
g. Registration.	...	...	23703	24778	25000	1075	1897	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL	...	...	661317	571148	693600	90169	32283	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Interest	...	...	11329	20816	10000	9497	1329	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Post Office	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
a. Law & Justice, under Court Fees Regulation and fines.	...	...	47119	41496	45000	5623	2119	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

the result of closer supervision and prompter collection of old arrears, chiefly due to better season.

Decrease Rs. 952. The old arrears were not collected to the full extent expected at the time of drawing up the Revised Estimate due chiefly to some disputes regarding the 'avarai' bark contract not having been settled till after the close of the Fasli.

Decrease Rs. 1,897. At the time of drawing up the Revised Estimate such a fall could not be anticipated from the actual results of the first 8 months, the fall being perceptible during the closing months. Fuller details for the fall will be found under 'Registration' (Protection).

Increase Rs. 1,329. The increase is due to the interest paid by the State Bankers for amounts lying for some months of the year unspent with them. The balance of State money with them has since been terminated.

The State Post has been taken over by the Imperial Post since July-1894. Hence no receipts under this head.

Increase Rs. 2,119. The New Court Fees Regulation had operated only 2 months when the Revised Estimate was drawn and the results could not be adequately anticipated and were under-estimated being safer forecast estimate.

was due mostly to the increase in the number of tiled and terraced houses & partly to more vigilant supervision and collection.

Increase Rs. 2,220. The grazing fees and the sale of captured jungle bulls and cows contributed to the increase.

Decrease Rs. 1,075. The decrease was due to the fall in the number of instruments registered.

Decrease Rs. 9,487. Last year there was abnormal increase under this head due to the refund of income-tax and commission paid on notes tendered for reduction of interest, etc. The absence of such items in the current year accounts for the decrease.

Increase Rs. 5,623. The increase was due chiefly to the operation of the New Court Fees Regulation from the middle of the year and to some extent on account of increase in the collection of Court Fees.

Major Heads.		EXPLANATION OF VARIATIONS.									
Minor Heads.		Between columns 3 and 4.					Between columns 3 and 5.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9			
		Actuals of Fasli 1305 1895-96.	Actuals of Fasli 1304 1894-95.	Revised Esti- mate for Fas- li 1305 1895-96.	Difference between co- lums 3 & 4.	Difference between co- lums 3 & 5.					
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.					
b. Law and Justice—Jails ...		845	...	1000	+ 845	- 155	Increase Rs. 845. Jail Manufac- turing operations began only in Fasli 1305. Hence a new item under Receipts.				
c. Education ...		22289	21310	22000	+ 979	+ 289	Increase Rs. 979. An increase in the number of pupils under instruction increased the school fees.				
d. Medical ...		8000	8000	8000	...	...	 Is the fixed contribution from Devastanam funds.				
TOTAL ...		78253	70806	76000	+ 7447	+ 2253	Decrease Rs. 835. Owing to more favorable character of the season less number of grain carts passed through the Toll gates. Hence the decrease.				
a. Tolls ...		18359	19194	18000	- 835	+ 359	 This is a new item included in the accounts from this year. The State maintains portions of two roads pass- ing through Trichinopoly District, the District Board and the Taluq Board contributing a share towards the maintenance cost of the bits passing through British Territory.				
b. Contribution for maintenance of British Roads.		2275	...	2275	+ 2275	...					

c. Market fees, Cart stands' fees and rent on Sirkar buildings.

14938 ... 10000 + 14928 + 4925

.....

This is a new item included in the Budget from this year. The balances of the previous years remaining at the close of the previous Fasli were also brought to book which was not fully anticipated in the Revised Estimate since it was thought that the balances would have been fully absorbed in the completion of the compound wall of the Town Market ground. But the work had to be dragged on to the next year. Hence balance credited at the close of the year.

d. Contribution from surplus Devastanam funds towards the construction of the Technical School.

5000 ... 5000 + 5000 ...

.....

This is the contribution from surplus Devastanam Funds towards the construction of the Technical school.

MISCELLANEOUS.

14877 ... 6500 + 3175 + 8377

.....

Increase Rs. 8,377. Sundry items of various nature held in deposit were fully investigated & those unclaimed or could not be otherwise adjusted were brought to credit at the close of the year. Hence not fully anticipated at the time of the Budget.

Profit from sale of 1 lakh Govt. Paper.

... 3125 ... - 3125 ...

GRAND TOTAL ...

806338 696791 821375 + 109547 - 15037

Major Heads.	Minor Heads.	Actuals of Fasli 1305 1895-96.					Actuals of Fasli 1304 1894-95.					Revised Estimate for Fasli 1305 1895-96.					Difference between columns 3 & 4.		Difference between columns 3 & 5.		EXPLANATION OF VARIATIONS.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																				
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Between columns 3 and 4.	Between columns 3 and 5.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
Direct Demands on the Revenue and charges for Collection.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																									

Direct Demands on the Revenue and charges for collection.													
b ₆ .	H. H. the Rajah's visit to Madras, etc.	5000	15013	5000	-10013	...	...	...	Last year Rs. 15,013 was spent for His Highness the Rajah's trip to Calcutta and Madras.		ages and purchase of new horses during the year.		...
b ₇ .	Furniture for H. H. the Rajah's Bungalow.	7000	...	7000	+7000	...	...	...	...		This is the amount incurred on account of His Highness' visit to Madras in January 1896.		...
b ₈ .	Visit of the Dewan to Mysore	2500	...	2500	+2500	...	...	...	...		Rs. 7,000 is the amount sanctioned for the purchase of furniture for His Highness the Rajah.		...
c.	Compensation to the Western Palace Jaghire.	18250	21628	18250	-3378	...	...	...	Decrease Rs. 3,378. The absence of extra expenses incurred last year accounts for the decrease.		The actuals did not exceed the Revised Estimate.		...
d.	Land Revenue	72617	71968	73000	+640	-383	...	...	Increase Rs. 649. The increase was due to the opening of the Audit Department.		Decrease Rs. 383. The slight decrease calls for no remark.		...
e.	Inam Settlement, Revenue Survey and Settlement.	38963	25768	38000	+13195	+963	...	...	Increase Rs. 13,195. The Survey operations were carried on a larger scale than during the year previous.		Increase Rs. 963. The slight increase was under 'Revenue Survey' & calls for no special remark.		...
f.	Salt	9823	10013	10000	-190	-177	...	...	...		Decrease Rs. 177. The usual slight variation calls for no special explanation.		...
g.	Stamps	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		Decrease Rs. 169. The slight variation needs no explanation.		...
h.	Excise.	7831	8190	8000	-359	-169	...	...	Increase Rs. 1,513. The increase was on account of the expansion of plantations.		Decrease Rs. 583. The same as previous column.		...
i.	Forest	7946	6433	8000	+1513	-54	...	...	Decrease Rs. 268. Owing to the fall in Registration, there was a decrease under commission to Registering officers.		Decrease Rs. 272. The slight decrease was just due to short payment by delay of claimants at the close of the year.		...
j.	Registration	17417	17685	18000	-268	-583	...	...	Decrease Rs. 2092. Rs. 2,000 of the compensation transferred from Palace "other items" was eliminated; hence the decrease.		...		...
k.	Compensations to Pagodas, etc.	2728	4820	3000	-2092	-272	...	...	...		...		...

* Includes Rs. 9835, Installation charges.

Disbursements—(continued).

Major Heads.	Minor Heads.	EXPLANATION OF VARIATIONS.						
		Between columns 3 and 4.			Between columns 3 and 5.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Interest Post Office, Telegraph, &c. Direct Demands on the Rev. & charges for collection.	1. Agricultural loans ...	Rs. 5697	Rs. 1330	Rs. 5000	Rs. +4367	Rs. +697	Increase Rs. 4,367. The ryots availed themselves on a larger scale of the proffered aid; hence the increase.	Increase Rs. 697. Loans and advances were taken a little more than to the extent contemplated.
	a. Interest ...	425739	369467	435950	+56272	-10211	Decrease Rs. 3,500. The Loan to the Manovirti Jaghire has been repaid to the extent of one lakh; hence the decrease.	
	b. Post Office ...	...	392	...	-692	...		
	c. Telegraph ...	...	...	...	...	...		
	a. General Administration ...	875	4767	875	-3892	...	Decrease Rs. 2,062. The charges of the previous year included the charges for nearly 5 months prior to the change of Administration. Hence the decrease.	Decrease Rs. 143. The slight decrease calls for no remark.
	b. Law and Justice—Courts ...	24857	26919	25000	-2062	-143	Increase Rs. 1,256. Last year the Chief Judge's place was vacant for a longer period; hence the increase this year.	Increase Rs. 68. The increase is too trivial to be explained.
	c. Do. Jails ...	30568	29312	30500	+1256	+68	Increase Rs. 1,000. Owing to the introduction of Jail Industry, the initial cost increased the	Increase Rs. 1,326. The same as previous column.
		10326	9326	9000	+1000	+1326		

Major Heads.	Minor Heads.	Actuals of Fasli 1305 1895-96.	Actuals of Fasli 1304 1894-95.	Revised Esti- mate for Fasli 1305 1895-96.	Difference between co- lums 3 & 4.		Difference between co- lums 3 & 5.		EXPLANATION OF VARIATIONS.
					3	4	5	6	
Civil Departments.	d. Police. ...	30911	32835	32000	-1924	-1089			Decrease Rs. 1,089. The same as previous column. Necessary provision has been made in the next year's Budget to improve the status & salary of the Police officers in order to attract a better class of men and keep them in the Force.
	e. Education ...	41216	33084	41000	+8132	+216			Increase Rs. 216. The large increased outlay was due to expansion of Education in the State in all directions, higher, secondary, primary, female education, technical instruction and agricultural expansion as more fully dealt with in the chapter 'Instruction'.
	f. Medical (i) Medical relief... (ii) Vaccine operations.	25095 2381	18559	26400 2500	+8917	-1305 -119			Increase Rs. 8,917. Owing to the opening of Rural Dispensaries, there was an increase under this head.
Miscellaneous.	a. Political ...	165354	150035	166400	+15319	-1046			Increase Rs. 264. The increase was due to whole year operation of the Revision effected during the course of the previous year.
	b. Superannuation ...	18284	13965	18000	+4319	+284			Increase Rs. 4,319. Due to the pension of the late Dewan-Kegent having been paid for the whole year and to further accessions to the superannuation list. The expenditure under this head will continue to increase with the

Disbursements—(continued).

Major Heads.	Minor Heads.	Actuals of Fasli 1895-96.	Actuals of Fasli 1894-95.	Revised Esti- mate for Fas- li 1895-96.	Difference between co- lums 3 & 4.		Difference between co- lums 3 & 5.		EXPLANATION OF VARIATIONS.	
					3	4	5	6	7	8
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
Miscellaneous.										
Railways										
Irrigation										

Irrigation.		31862	45338	40000	-13476	-8138	little during the remaining months owing to the difficulty in speedy collection of materials. The big projects set on foot could not be taken up till the preliminary investigation and survey is reliably tested for which special provision has been made under establishment as dealt with in para. 4 (21) of Mr. Andrew's review of the Revised Estimate of the year and the Budget of the next year embodied in G. O., No. 361, dated 6th June 1896, Political.	Increase Rs. 263. The expenditure was carefully kept up within the Revised figure by postponing the further improvement in the Rajakolan to be done next year.
	a. Town Conservancy	20263	18871	20000	+1392	+263	Increase Rs. 1392. The increase is due to cleansing of the Rajakolan and to the construction of bathing ghauts therein.	Being the first year of the consolidation of this item in the General Financial statement, the actuals are presented on both sides of the account.
Civil Works.	a ₁ . Market and cart stand improvements.	14928	...	10000	+14928	+4928	Increase Rs. 2530. The increase was due on account of the emergent improvements carried on in the Mahomedan village of Annasul.	Increase Rs. 648. The small increase over the Revised Estimate was incurred in the Annasul improvement.
	a ₂ . Village Conservancy	8648	6118	8000	+2530	+648		Increase Rs. 62. The expenditure was carefully controlled so as not to exceed the allotment very much.
	b. Roads	35062	35119	35000	-57	+62		Decrease Rs. 2297. The decrease was due to economy in the outlay on buildings to divert expenditure on more reproductive works.
	c. Buildings	37703	36749	40000	+963	-2297		

Disbursements—(continued).

Major Heads.	Minor Heads.	3	4	5	6	7	EXPLANATION OF VARIATIONS.		9
							Between columns 3 and 4.	Between columns 3 and 5.	
1	2	Actuals of Fasli 1305 1895-96.	Actuals of Fasli 1304 1894-95.	Revised Esti- mate for Fas- li 1305 1895-96.	Difference between co- lums 3 & 4.	Difference between co- lums 3 & 5.			
Civil Works.	d. Establishment D. P. W. ... Do. for the collec- tion of Tolls.	Rs. 8700 3580	Rs. 12367	Rs. 8500 3500	Rs. -87	Rs. +200 +80	The decrease is too trivial to be explained.	The increase of Rs. 200 was on account of the employment of the D. P. W. Auditor in the course of the year. There was a small increase of Rs. 80 due to the entertainment of some temporary hands.	
	Palace Troops. ...	128884	109215	125000	+19669	+3884			
Military.		25378	16440	25000	+8938	+378	Increase Rs. 8,938. Purchase of Troop horses and other non- recurring charges increased the expenditure for the year by Rs. 5,000. The remaining is recurring charge on account of feed of the full complement of horses effect- ed by the purchase.	Increase Rs. 378. The small in- crease over the Revised figure was due to the supply of livery on account of the new horses.	
	Repayment of loan to the Ma- novirti Jaghire.	100000	...	100000	+100000	...			
	Grand Total ...	918768	733578	933625	+185190	-14557			
	Closing Balance ...	275451	387881	...	...	...			
		1194219	1121459	...	...	...			