

EAST INDIA (FAMINE).

PAPERS REGARDING THE FAMINE

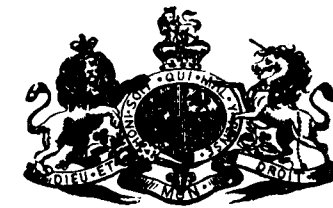
AND THE

RELIEF OPERATIONS IN INDIA DURING 1900-1902.

VOL. II.—NATIVE STATES.

[In continuation of Cd. 206 of 1900.]

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.



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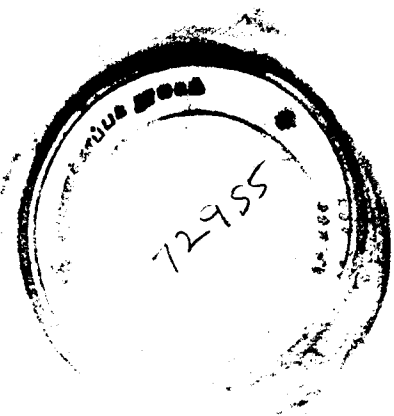
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I.

REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

RELATING TO

STATES of the CENTRAL INDIA AGENCY.

No. 1.

Letter from C. S. Bayley, Esq., Offg. Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 5378 G., dated Indore, the 16th May, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 4658 G., dated the 27th April, 1900, I have the honour to submit the Famine Statements* for the month of April, 1900, of the States in the Bhopal Agency noted on the margin, together with the Political Agent's letter No. 4 C., dated the 7th May, 1900.

Bhopal, Narsingarh, Kurwai,
Pathari, Yusuf Muhammad
Khan's Jagir, Sehore Agency
limits.

Enclosure 1 in No. 1.

Letter from J. Lang, Esq., Political Agent in Bhopal, to the First Assistant Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, No. 4 C., dated Camp via Sehore, the 7th May, 1900.

I have the honour to submit herewith the Famine Statements* of the marginally named areas for the month of April, 1900.

Bhopal State, Narsingarh,
Kurwai, Pathari, Yusuf Mu-
hammad Khan's Jagir, Sehore
Agency limits.

2. I took over charge of the Agency in the latter half of the month under report. I have inspected a number of relief centres in Narsingarh, where arrangements generally show much method and remarkable organization. The wages are somewhat liberal in the case of the better-to-do classes, but the necessity of making separate provision for dependants had hitherto not been recognized, nor perhaps had the necessity arisen. It was evident from the general condition of the children on the older established works that the time for opening kitchens where they may be regularly-fed has now arrived. When this form of relief is in working order, the rest day allowance can be safely abolished, or the daily wage reduced. Economy also demands that the old and infirm should be fed in kitchens at three pice per head instead of being separately classed as workers so as to earn five pice each a day. Many distressful cases were seen in the poor-house, where room for improvement was noticed and suitable instructions given. In Narsingarh the poor-house population is composed chiefly of foreigners from neighbouring States of Central India and

* The detailed famine statements are not printed, but general statistics of the numbers on relief at the end of each month will be found at pp. 499-541 of Vol. I.

Rajputana. There were a few sporadic cases of cholera on the Khujner works at the end of the month, but the epidemic had not there appeared in virulent form.

3. The above remarks, so far as they suggest the possibility of further economies, apply with greater force to relief within Agency limits where the condition of the people is good, and their treatment inclined to be liberal. The comparatively large number of persons relieved by the Friends' Mission is deserving of notice. The fact is that, for want of works or establishment to supervise them, the bulk of people earn a working wage by sitting idle, an attractive form of relief which will account for the numbers. The organization is merely a question of time. The Sehore poor-house received a large increase of numbers at the end of the month, and was found too small for actual requirements. The management generally has been re-organized, and the whole placed under the immediate supervision of the Agency Surgeon. Village relief by daily cash doles to 59 selected paupers residing within Agency limits is properly administered, and with great success.

4. I have also succeeded in touring through the distant portions of the Rajgarh and Khilchipur States, at the head-quarters of which paupers in an emaciated condition have collected from Rajputana and elsewhere. In the districts generally I noticed no distress, but the condition of the inmates in the so-called poor-houses (there was not even an enclosure) indicates more distress than meets the eye. Taccavi and small relief works have been liberally opened, but this class of relief is not generally enjoyed except by labourers in the best condition. Advice was given personally to the Chiefs of each of the States named, and defects of management were pointed out on the spot. Tasks and measurements where checked were found adequate for the wages earned, which in their turn were neither too large nor too small. The condition of labourers on those works was sufficiently good.

No. 2.

Letter from C. S. Bayley, Esq., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 6489 G., dated Indore, the 15th June, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 5660 G., dated the 25th May, 1900,*

Bhopal, Rajgarh, Narsingarh, Khilchipur, Kurwai, Pathari, Maksudangarh, Basoda, Sehore Agency Limits, Shujalpur and Sonkach Parganas of Gwalior.

I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Government of India, a letter No. 2170, dated the 9th June, 1900, from the Political Agent in Bhopal, giving cover to the Famine Statements for the month of May, 1900, of the states in his Agency noted on the margin.

2. It will be seen that the Political Agent has spoken privately to the Rao of Khilchipur on the subject of the arrangements for relief in the Khilchipur State, mentioned in paragraph 2 of my letter cited above, and is satisfied that sufficient relief is given.

3. I have asked Mr. Lang what steps he has taken in regard to the alleged conduct of the officials at Biaora in suddenly reducing the relief given in the poor-house at that place, and the Resident at Gwalior has been requested to call the attention of the Darbar to the Political Agent's remarks regarding the Shujalpur and Sonkach Parganas of Gwalior.

* Not printed.

Enclosure 1 in No. 2.

Letter from J. Lang, Esq., Political Agent in Bhopal, to the First Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, No. 2170, dated Sehore, the 9th June, 1900.

Bhopal State, Rajgarh, Narsingarh, Khilchipur, Kurwai, Pathari, Maksudangarh, Basoda, Sehore Agency Limits, Shujalpur and Sonkach Parganas of Gwalior.

I have the honour to submit herewith the Famine Statements* of the marginally named areas for the month of May, 1900.

2. The tour which I commenced last April on taking over charge of the Agency was continued during the present month. I found cholera prevalent wherever I went. The fear of the disease scared people away. In the smaller independent States, there is always the danger of relief measures being "faked" up for the occasion of the Political Agent's visit. There have been instances of this in connection with the establishment of a poor-house at Biaora in the Rajgarh State, where my departure from State limits was signalled by the reduction of the poor-house population to 25 per cent. of the needy number whom I had inspected a few days before. It was satisfactory, therefore, on visiting the Piplia work under the management of the same State to find, after checking the accounts and registers of the last six weeks, that the work was indeed, what it pretended to be, a genuine attempt to afford adequate relief to the working classes. As to the poor-house at Biaora, a somewhat popular centre for wanderers, I have arranged to have a hand in the management myself.

3. In the Pachore and Khujner Parganas of the Narsingarh State, there were as many as twelve tank works open. This State being under the Political Agent's management, the details of famine relief had my special attention, so the principles of the North-Western Provinces Code have been introduced in practice. As stated in paragraph 2 of my letter No. 4 C., dated the 7th May, 1900, arrangements were found to err on the side of liberality, to be in fact unduly attractive. The economies then introduced, viz., the reduction of the wage for adults and the provision of cooked food for non-working dependents, has brought down the numbers on relief works and on gratuitous relief from 8,877 and 712 to 6,198 and 1,451, respectively, in spite of increasing distress.

The four poor-houses established at the tahsil centres have been supplied with corrugated iron roofs, which, when heavy rain falls, will provide unusually good shelter. This measure of apparent extravagance has been rendered possible by the project of a city market for which the roofs will be used at the end of the famine.

4. In the Shujalpur and Sonkach Parganas of the Gwalior State, there have been many deaths from privation. The fact came late to my notice, for when I passed through the Shujalpur Pargana I saw no indication of distress, nor from my information had I reason to expect it.

A system of sudden visits to the villages followed by the gratuitous distribution of grain through the village bania or the local headman has brought me in contact with the poorer classes, many of whom, though they remain at home, are in great distress. The present number of relief works is quite inadequate, although the people do tolerably well upon the inside of date palms and earn a few mouthfuls by the sale of fuel.

5. At Sonkach, the non-working paupers were not in such numbers as the condition of the villages would have led me to expect, but I was assured that four or five carts are filled daily with paupers, and despatched to a large poor-house near Maksi, which is outside my jurisdiction. There is no relief work in the pargana at all. On the apparent inadequacy of relief measures, the Assistant Director of Prant Malwa was promptly addressed.

6. Coming closer home, I have observed considerable distress in the Ashta Pargana of the Bhopal State. It is here in Bhopal that effective

* Not printed.

arrangements are now most needed. The Darbar with the very best of intentions appear to have been living in a fool's paradise, the extent of which has been brought into relief by the local works of the Friend's Mission. The head of the Mission, Mr. A. Taylor, has now nearly 10,000 Bhopali subjects collected on absolutely unremunerative work in and about Sehore, while the State shows work for 741. The Mission wages are so liberal and the task so light (from inability to check it in a rocky soil) that numbers are attracted who can support themselves. The scarcity of water and the outbreak of cholera render the presence of such crowds a source of danger. The Mission people have been asked to relieve the dependents by doles of cooked food instead of in cash, and the Darbar has been urgently addressed with a view to relieving the present pressure. In this matter (as always in the trail of my tour) the State will loyally co-operate. But ocular demonstration like money is much required, as reports from State subordinates seem very misleading. I recently met the State Engineer, Mr. Cook, out on tour, and the meeting, I hope, will produce good results. The statement of relief works in the Bhopal return needs verification.

7. I have also traversed the jungle hill tract to the south-east of the district, in order to ascertain the condition of its people. Many of the residents seemed to have lost condition. They live of course upon jungle products.

Beyond the forest tracts is the Hoshangabad district in the Central Provinces. The Deputy Commissioner of that place has, in answer to an enquiry that I had made, replied that he has observed no great in-rush of Bhopal subjects upon his works, but he agrees with me in thinking that the distress will intensify in those parts during the rains, and that special relief arrangements will probably be necessary. I propose to discuss the subject with the Minister next week when I proceed *via* Bhopal to tour in the north-eastern affected States.

No. 3.

Letter from C. S. Bayley, Esq., I.C.S., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 8842 G., dated Central India Agency, Indore, the 17th August, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 7846 G., dated the 19th July, 1900,*
Bhopal, Rajgarh, Narsin-
garh, Khilchipur, Kurwai,
Mahomedgarh, Hydergarh
(Basoda), Yusuf Mahomed
Khan's Jagir and Sehore
Agency Limits.

I have the honour to submit in original, for the information of the Government of India, letter No. 2779, dated the 12th August, 1900, received from the Political Agent in Bhopal, forwarding the Famine Statements for the month of July, 1900, from the marginally noted States in his Agency.

Enclosure 1 in No. 3.

Letter from J. Lang, Esq., I.C.S., Political Agent in Bhopal, to the First Assistant to the Honourable the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, Indore, No. 2779, dated Bhopal Political Agency, Sehore, the 12th August, 1900.

I have the honour to submit the Famine Statements* for the marginally noted areas during the month of July.

Bhopal State, Rajgarh, Narsin-
garh, Khilchipur, Kurwai,
Mahomedgarh, Hydergarh (Ba-
soda), Yusuf Mahomed Khan's
Jagir and Sehore Agency
Limits.

2. The feature of the month was the large increase of gratuitous relief in the more affected areas consequent upon the good rainfall which rendered the closing of several relief works possible. The rainfall has been well distributed, varying between 21.8 inches in the Sonkach Pargana of Gwalior and 9.4 inches in the Khilchipur State, and the autumn crops sown are doing well.

* Not printed.

3. My tour this month took me through the Nimawar District of the Indore State, whence emigrants were reported to be frequenting the kitchens in the Central Provinces. I visited relief centres at Nimawar, Kanode, Kantaphor, Khatagaon, etc., and distributed clothing to some 3,000 paupers. Observations in detail have been separately reported.

In Kurwai and the Sironj Pargana of Tonk I found arrangements respectively adequate and fair. In regard to Sironj, I have communicated my suggestions to the Political Agent, Deoli. The Famine Statements for the outlying Parganas in this Agency of Tonk, Gwalior and Indore, are not submitted from this office.

4. There was a marked increase in the cattle mortality after the rains broke, while a large number of bullocks have been exported from Sehore to Bombay and Rajputana.

No. 4.

Letter from the Honourable Mr. C. S. Bayley, I.C.S., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 9815 G., dated Indore, the 19th September, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 8842 G., dated the 17th August, 1900,
Bhopal, Rajgarh, Narsin-
garh, Khilchipur, Kurwai,
Basoda and Sehore Agency
Limits.

I have the honour to submit, in original, for the information of the Government of India, a letter No. 3043, dated the 14th September, 1900, from the Political Agent in Bhopal, forwarding the famine statements for the month of August, 1900,

from the States in his Agency noted on the margin.

Enclosure 1 in No. 4.

Letter from J. Lang, Esq., I.C.S., Political Agent in Bhopal, to the First Assistant to the Honourable the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, No. 3043, dated Bhopal, the 14th September, 1900.

I have the honour to submit the famine statements* for the marginally noted areas during the month of August, 1900.

Bhopal, Rajgarh, Narsin-
garh, Khilchipur, Kurwai,
Basoda and Sehore Agency
Limits.

2. There is often a tendency in Native States to close relief measures prematurely when the rains commence. I accordingly visited practically all the relief centres in the affected area in order to keep the Darbars up to the mark. There has been considerable distress in the smaller poor-houses, owing, perhaps, to the insidious weather. The Gwalior people have been busy in recalling their subjects from the various poor-houses within this Agency. The Deputy Commissioner of Hoshangabad reports that the few emigrants from this Agency have been recalled.

The rainfall has been ample and well distributed, but anxiety has been caused for want of a break. There has been little opportunity for weeding, and now the jowar is beginning to wither.

No. 5.

Letter from C. S. Bayley, Esq., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 4730 G., dated Indore, the 30th April, 1900.

In continuation of my letter, No. 4511 G., dated the 23rd April, 1900,* I have the honour to submit, in original, for the information of the Government of India, a letter, No. 1174, dated the 24th April, 1900, from the Political Agent in Malwa, forwarding Lieutenant Stewart's diary for the week ending the 20th April, 1900.

Enclosure 1 in No. 5.

Diary of Lieutenant H. Stewart, Famine Assistant in Malwa, from 14th to 20th April, 1900.

14th April.—Sacrandia to Sarwan. Inspected Bhil villages on the way. No distress apparent, though water is becoming very scarce. On my arrival in Sarwan, I found that the Thakur, whose absence I have already referred to in my diary of April 1st, had not yet returned. His Kamdar stated that he believed the Thakur to be then on his way, which subsequently proved to be correct. Work had been commenced on a tank near Sarwan, and on this day 321 persons were at work. They were all of them Bhils. I have already reported on the state of the Bhils of Sarwan in my diary for 1st April.

15th April.—Sarwan to Namli Railway Station, via Sailana and Dhamnod, and thence by train to Neemuch. On my way through Sailana I had a few minutes' conversation with His Highness the Raja. He told me that the tank on which relief workers had been hitherto engaged was now completed, and that a new work had been commenced on a tank close under the walls of the palace. I saw the Rutlam work at Dhamnod in full swing. A visit from His Highness the Raja was expected this morning.

At Namli I was unable to see the Thakur, who sent a message to say that that he had fever. I told his Kamdar that I was very dissatisfied with what I had seen of the relief works instituted by the Thakur of Namli, and that I should report unfavourably on them to the Political Agent. The Kamdar acknowledged that the relief provided was inadequate, and regretted that the Thakur should be under the influence of bad advisers.

16th to 20th April.—Neemuch.

No. 6.

Letter from C. S. Bayley, Esq., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 5193 G., dated Indore, the 12th May, 1900.

In continuation of my letter, No. 4730 G., dated the 30th April, 1900, I have the honour to submit, in original, for the information of the Government of India, a letter, No. 156 C., dated the 5th May, 1900, from the Political Agent in Malwa, forwarding Lieutenant Stewart's Diary for the week ending on the 27th April, 1900, together with a detailed report by him on relief works at Barandi of Jaora.

* Not printed.

2. I quite concur in Captain Cubitt's commendation of the arrangements which the Jaora Darbar has made for famine relief. The result of my inspection early in April of the poor-house at Jaora and of the relief work at Hariakhera was to convince me that the Darbar was doing all in its power to administer relief on proper lines.

Enclosure in No. 6.

Diary of Lieutenant H. Stewart, Famine Assistant in Malwa, from 21st to 27th April, 1900.

April 21st.—Neemuch. I accompanied the Political Agent on his inspection of the Gwalior State relief works at Sagrana and the poor-house at Kanauti.

April 22nd and 23rd.—Neemuch. Nothing to record.

April 24th.—Neemuch to Malhargarh (Jaori) by train, and thence on to Jaora in the evening. I inspected the poor-house at Malhargarh, of which the Tahsildar of that district is the Superintendent. There were 288 inmates. Condition of people fairly good. No cases of extreme emaciation. Immigrants from other States are apparently freely admitted, as there were many of them in the poor-house who are said to have come in from Gwalior territory. The poor-house is clean and well kept. Cholera appeared on the neighbouring relief works at Salauri on the 16th instant, on which occasion there was 1 seizure and 1 death. The same occurred on the 17th, and on the 18th numbers rose to 16 cases and 8 deaths on the work, and appeared for the first time in the poor-house with 11 seizures and 3 deaths. The number of cases on the work having risen to 28 a day by the 22nd instant, the Minister gave orders for work to be opened on another tank, 9 miles away, at Kamli, whither all workers have now gone. No information is yet available to show whether there have been any cases of cholera at Kamli. The epidemic did not seriously attack the poor-house, and the number of fresh cases is diminishing daily. Arrangements for segregation are good. Disinfectants are freely used in the poor-house, and permanganate of potassium is regularly mixed with the water in the wells. Milk and nourishing diet is provided for the patients. Out of 27 seizures in the poor-house, only 6 have resulted in death.

April 25th.—Jaora. Inspected poor-houses; 1,792 inmates. General condition good. Cholera broke out on the 15th instant. In order to minimise its ravages among so large a number of persons, the poor-house has now been divided into three parts—two new houses being opened in the vicinity, and large numbers of paupers from the old poor-house having been drafted into them. Up to the present 199 persons have been attacked, of which number 116 have died, and 83 are under treatment. The number of new cases appears now to be decreasing, but whether permanently or not it is impossible to say. Under the superintendence of Mr. Hormusji, the State Doctor, every effort is being made by the local officials to stamp out the epidemic, and to alleviate the sufferings of the patients. They are provided with brandy, milk, and soda-water. The interiors of the poor-houses are kept scrupulously clean, and are thoroughly disinfected. In the afternoon I inspected the works at Hariakhera, 3 miles from Jaora, for the fourth time since their commencement. There were 2,430 workers and 640 dependants. The advice regarding management and the system of accounts recommended by the North-Western Provinces Famine Code, have been applied to this work, and are giving very good results. The application of the principles laid down in this code has greatly improved the organisation of this work. I consider it is now very satisfactory, and the good condition of the people strengthens the proof provided by the registers that they are not defrauded. The returns sent in daily to the Darbar office by the Superintendent render any misappropriation of funds difficult to execute—if the Central officer carefully uses the various checks on his subordinates thus afforded to him. Cholera appeared here on the 23rd instant, with 18 cases and 6 deaths. Segregation and medical arrangements good. The Superintendent has great

difficulty in preventing the removal of cholera patients from the hospital by their relatives, who usually desire to carry them off to their houses, as they consider it derogatory to allow them to die at the works. If cholera continues to increase here, this work will be removed to another site.

April 26th.—Jaora. Visited relief works on a tank at Barandi, 9 miles from Jaora; 2,667 attendants. Condition good. North-Western Provinces Code in use, and giving excellent results. The necessary forms have been translated into the vernacular, a better class of gang mohurrir than was formerly employed in this State has now been engaged, and from the central officer to the mohurrirs, all unite to praise the easy working of the system. No cholera yet, but arrangements have been made to meet it. Ploughing operations are now beginning, and the better class of cultivators are leaving the works. Their women, however, remain; and, as this exodus of men will probably continue, it will shortly become most difficult to find sufficient diggers to provide work for the large number of carriers. The condition of plough oxen in this part seems very good. Water is fairly plentiful. I think there is no doubt that numbers on relief have now reached their highest figure, and will continue to slowly diminish until the advent of the rains provide agricultural employment for even the poorest classes. The Minister is at present engaged on a scheme to provide work as far as possible for such as will not be able to find employment in the fields during the rains. For Jaora itself he suggests stone-breaking under cover. All poor-houses which are likely to be occupied during the rains will be rendered as water-proof as possible by the first week of June.

April 27th.—Jaora to Indore.

No. 7.

Letter from C. S. Bayley, Esq., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 5987 G., dated Indore, the 2nd June, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 5193 G., dated the 12th May, 1900, I have the honour to submit, in original, for the information of the Government of India, a letter No. 226 C., dated the 17th May, 1900, from the Political Agent in Malwa, forwarding Lieutenant Stewart's diary from 28th April to the 11th May, 1900.

2. A copy of Lieutenant Stewart's remarks has been sent to the Resident at Indore, who has been instructed to invite the special attention of the Darbar to the necessity for improving the poor-houses and to the inadequacy of the relief afforded to children.

Enclosure in No. 7.

Diary of Lieutenant H. Stewart, Famine Assistant in Malwa, from 28th April to 11th May, 1900, dated Agar, the 14th May, 1900.

28th-30th April.—Indore. Nothing to record.

1st May.—Indore to Neemuch.

2nd May.—Neemuch.

3rd May.—Neemuch to Manasa (Indore). I left Neemuch this morning with the Political Agent in order to accompany him during his tour through the Rampura and Bhanpura Tahsils of Indore to Agar, Mehidpur and Tal. We found a few people employed on the Neemuch-Manasa road. This work is situated in Gwalior territory. The condition of the workers was very good, and most of them said they were inhabitants of Neemuch. At some of the

villages we visited, we were told that, at the commencement of the famine, deaths from starvation had occurred among the Bhils, but that none had died recently. The condition of all persons we saw was good. A slight outbreak of cholera had occurred here, but the epidemic now seems to have died out. We inspected Indore State relief works, the excavation of a tank, close to Manasa. 450 labourers present. Condition fairly good. Registers well kept, and, as far as it was possible to ascertain, the people themselves were in receipt of sufficient and regular wages. The only point in this connection, deserving of notice, is that no gratuitous relief is given to children who are too young to work, and here, as is generally the case, their condition was worse than that of the older children and adults. The local officials are unable to remedy this defect without orders from the Indore Darbar, but they have promised to represent the matter. In the afternoon I accompanied the Political Agent on a visit to the poor-house at Manasa; nearly 400 inmates. Condition fair. Once in the poor-house, they are not allowed to leave it again till discharged on account of the recent prevalence of cholera.

4th May.—Manasa to Kukraisa (Indore). We inspected relief works on a tank at Kukraisa. 700 attendants. Work commenced on the 7th April. The Indore Darbar has sanctioned Rs. 4,000 for the expenses of this work, of which sum Rs. 3,100 now remain. Condition of workers fair. Men were receiving 8 pice (Indori), women 6 pice, and children 4 pice. Fines are exacted for short work and late attendance. Daily task—100 cubic feet for one man, two women, and one child. No tools are provided by the State, and those the people bring with them are not suitable for the execution of such a task. The overseer stated this evening that, for the future, he is going to have it reduced very considerably.

5th May.—Kukraisa to Rampura. I accompanied the Political Agent to inspect the poor-house at Rampura. About 600 inmates. The arrangements for their shelter are of a highly unsatisfactory description. The situation is a mango grove, and, with the exception of a high thorn hedge which surrounds it, no preparations, other than those provided by nature, have been undertaken. The Amin stated that the poor-house had been till lately situated in a commodious building in the town; but that, on the outbreak of cholera, it had been considered wiser to remove the paupers to the present locality. The adult inmates presented a thin and depressed appearance, while the condition of the younger children was bad in the extreme. No nourishing food is provided for them, and milk does not appear among the articles of diet given by the local authorities. The famine here is severe, and relief measures have been started too late; consequently the condition of the people demands an extra amount of care and attention which they will not probably obtain. Afterwards we inspected relief works on the Rampura-Garote road. Work had commenced on the 1st April. The scale of wages, which prevails throughout Indore State, is that mentioned in the account of the works at Kukraisa. Here, as at the latter place, no gratuitous relief is afforded to children too young to work, but the Amin has promised to represent the matter. Work is also in hand on the excavation of a tank at Bamesar, 6 miles from Rampura. The registers show the number now on the works at 569, and the date of commencement as 24th April. Work is also proceeding on a second tank close to Rampura. 134 workers; commenced 18th March. The work now provided should be sufficient, but the state of the young children and the condition of the poor-house call for immediate notice.

6th May.—Rampura to Karauda. 500 persons are employed at Karauda on the excavation of two tanks. Another 500 are working on the Garote road. The poor-house, situated in the court-yard of an old temple, contains 93 inmates. Their condition was in no way superior to that of the inmates of the Rampura enclosure. Food given about eight chittacks. Cholera seems to have completely died out.

7th May.—Karauda to Garote. A tank work gives employment to 800 persons at Burkhera, midway between Karauda and Garote. In Garote itself 845 persons are similarly employed; besides which, upwards of

3,000 persons are working on the road. Work commenced here on the 25th February, and the condition of the people is noticeably better than at Rampura, a circumstance which would seem to be mainly due to the energy displayed by the Subah of Bhanpura, whose exertions compare more than favourably with those of the local officials of Rampura. 600 deaths from cholera have occurred in this pargana, but the epidemic has now subsided. Grain, 6 seers per rupee.

8th May.—Camp Garote. This morning we visited the poor-house. The shelter provided, viz., huts made of branches and dry leaves, is scarcely adequate. The Subah says this will be improved before the rains. Great losses of cattle are said to have taken place in this Tahsil (Bhanpura). Owing to the long delay in opening relief works, the poorer cultivators are completely at the end of their resources, and cannot live away from the works; therefore, even those who possess cattle are unable to indulge their present inclination, which is to prepare their fields for the next kharif crop. The Subah of Bhanpura stated that he had already addressed his Darbar on this subject, but had not as yet received any reply.

9th May.—Garote to Bholia. No works have been started at Bholia, but a poor-house containing to-day 318 persons has been opened there. The Superintendent stated that the food given was not weighed, and that the daily allowance was three flat cakes and a little dhalia. The cakes were small in size and unwholesome in appearance. The condition of the people plainly shows that this ration is insufficient; and it is more than probable that the amount of food sanctioned by the Darbar is not given in full to the inmates.

10th May.—Bholia to Khotri. There are neither works nor poor-house at this place.

11th May.—Khotri to Patpura (Gwalior). No works. Since leaving Khotri the condition of the people seems clearly better, and continues to improve the further south we go.

No. 8.

Letter from C. S. Bayley, Esq., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 6084 G., dated Indore, the 6th June, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 5987 G., dated the 2nd June, 1900, I have the honour to submit, in original, for the information of the Government of India, letters Nos. 1294 and 1327, dated the 28th and 30th May, 1900, from the Political Agent in Malwa, forwarding Lieutenant Stewart's Diaries from 12th to 18th and 19th to 25th May, 1900.

Enclosure 1 in No. 8.

Diary of Lieutenant H. Stewart, Famine Assistant in Malwa, from 12th to 18th May, 1900 (on tour with the Political Agent), dated Camp Tal, the 22nd May, 1900.

12th May.—Patpura to Susner (Gwalior). All work in the immediate vicinity of Susner has been stopped owing to an outbreak of cholera; it has, however, been recommenced further up the Susner-Suhait road, on which 1,200 persons are employed.

13th May.—Susner to Mankheri (Gwalior). No work in progress here. Condition of people fairly good. Those who need relief can obtain it on the Susner-Suhait road.

14th May.—Mankheri to Agar (Gwalior).

15th May.—Camp Agar. I accompanied the Political Agent on a visit of inspection to the Agar poor-house. There were 5,400 inmates. Both the condition of the people and the arrangements made for their relief were very good. We were struck by the extremely robust appearance of many of the adult inmates, who were clearly capable of performing a useful day's work. The Political Agent recommended that they should be drafted on to the works.

16th May.—Agar.

17th May.—Agar to Piplaun (Gwalior). No work here, but those who require it can obtain employment on the Susner-Suhait road.

18th May.—Piplaun to Mankheri (Indore). People of Mankheri and surrounding villages who need relief and desire work, can obtain it on the Mehidpur-Patsi road. The condition of all I saw was good.

Enclosure 2 in No. 8.

Diary of Lieutenant H. Stewart, Famine Assistant in Malwa, from 19th to 25th May, 1900, dated Camp Piploda, the 28th May, 1900.

19th May.—Mankheri to Mehidpur (Indore). 7,166 persons are at work on the Mehidpur-Patsi road, of which number 175 are subjects of other States. The total length of the road will be 19 miles, the earthwork of 16 miles has already been completed. The condition of the people was good. They have now recovered from a cholera scare which drove many away from the works, and the large numbers on relief prove conclusively that the management of the work is such as to allow of the people obtaining a sufficient subsistence. The work is divided into two divisions, each under a superintendent. Wages are paid in grain: a man receives 15 chittacks; a woman 11½ chittacks, and a child fit to work, 7½. Nothing is given to dependants. Work commenced on the 20th of December with 200 workers. By the 22nd March, this number had risen to over 2,000. I think that very good work is being done here by the Indore Darbar. Mehidpur poor-house contains 380 inmates; condition good, but shelter scanty; clothing also very slight. There are altogether about 12,000 persons in receipt of relief in Mehidpur. The Subah furnishes the following figures, from which, if correct, the effects of famine and cholera in the Mehidpur Pargana can be accurately gauged. Population 38,000:—

Deaths.	Number.
From all causes, year 1897-98	597
" " " 1898-99	489
" " " 1899-00	951
" acknowledged starvation	76
" " cholera	47

But a large proportion of the deaths this year must be traceable to illnesses directly caused by privation.

21st May.—Kasari to Tal. I accompanied the Political Agent on a visit of inspection to the Tal poor-house. There were about 500 inmates. A neatly built, clearly kept poor-house, already prepared for occupation in the rains. Condition of people, on the whole, very good, though late arrivals were generally emaciated.

22nd May.—Camp Tal. Accompanied the Political Agent to inspect relief works at Karwa, three miles from Tal. About 3,000 attendants. Condition of people very good. Everything in the way of famine relief in Jaora State is most satisfactory.

23rd May.—Tal to Jaora. I left the Political Agent's camp to-day at Tal and proceeded to Jaora. In the evening, in the company of the minister, I inspected some of the inmates of the poor-house, who had been employed on light labour. Their condition was exceedingly good.

24th May.—Jaora. Nothing to record.

25th May.—Jaora. Visited works at Sujapur, seven miles from Jaora. 4,100 attendants. A tank is in process of excavation. An absurdly easy task has been imposed. The soil was so soft that it could almost be dug out with the hands, yet 25 cubic feet was the average amount of work done. Labourers take no pains to work, contenting themselves with the minimum wage. The condition of all was superlatively good. I have mentioned the matter to the minister, and have advocated a severe increase in the task. A strong man should without difficulty excavate 100 cubic feet in this soil. Large numbers of workers were cultivators, who, apparently allured by so easy a manner of obtaining a few pice, show no intention of returning to agricultural pursuits. A significant fact is that, in the case of several cultivators whom I questioned, I found that the headman of the family was on the works, while his brothers and relations were engaged in ploughing the lands—a circumstance which seems to me to demonstrate which of the two is considered the easiest form of labour. I had a talk with the minister regarding probable effect of the rains on the people. He is not inclined to think that the position of the cultivators this year will permit of their employing much labour outside their own families; that is to say, in the sowing operations. If this forecast is correct, the position of more than half the people now on works will be by no means improved until weeding commences.

No. 9.

Letter from C. S. Bayley, Esq., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 6347 G., dated Indore, the 13th June, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 6084 G., dated the 6th June, 1900, I have the honour to submit, in original, for the information of the Government of India, a letter No. 1413, dated the 6th June, 1900, received from the Political Agent in Malwa, forwarding Lieutenant Stewart's Diary for the period from the 26th May to the 1st June, 1900.

Enclosure in No. 9.

Diary of Lieutenant H. Stewart, Famine Assistant in Malwa, from 26th May to 1st June, 1900, dated Jaora, the 5th June, 1900.

26th May.—Jaora. Nothing to record.

27th May.—Jaora to Piploda. I inspected relief works which are situated on a tank near the Thakur's Summer House; 450 workers. Condition fairly good. There has been no cholera here. I think the work at Piploda is sufficient; and, although a good many people from here are frequently found on adjacent Jaora works, they probably only resort to them from convenience, and not from necessity.

28th May.—Piploda. Nothing to record.

29th May.—Piploda to Sailana. I inspected villages between Piploda and Sailana. The requirements of all are met by the relief works at either one or the other of these two places. The cattle appear to be very thin. At Bodina, a village belonging to the Thakur of Sarwan, I found that relief works had been opened since my last visit, but that they were now closed on account of an outbreak of cholera. This has now died out, and I would suggest that the relief works be re-opened. I am told that all persons requiring relief in this village resort freely to the works at either Sailana or at the Rutlam State work of Dhamnod. So long as this continues to be the case, these people are sufficiently provided for.

30th May.—Camp Sailana. His Highness the Raja personally conducted me to see the relief works in and about Sailana. The tank, which has hitherto been the main stand-by, has now been completed. The Raja has, therefore, commenced to construct a metalled road from Sailana to some sacred caves, distant about three miles. In addition to this road work, 75 wells have been or are in process of construction. I inspected several of these, and all I saw were well constructed. Work for 1,000 persons is provided by the road and these wells. The condition of the people is excellent. The Raja takes the keenest personal interest in his relief works, and, owing to the thorough manner in which they have been instituted in all parts of his State, I am confident that there has been little or no distress.

31st May.—Camp Sailana. Visited Puniakheri of Jaori, 9 miles from Sailana. A mixed population containing 70 or 80 jungle Bhils. 148 persons were engaged on the excavation of a tank. Condition very good. Same system of management and same payments as at all other Jaora works already reported on. From there I went to Amba, the residence of a Rathore Thakur, a jagirdar of Jaora. 350 persons were at work on a tank. The entire management of this work is in the hands of the Jaora Darbar. The condition of the people was good. I noticed several men on the work who had every appearance of being cultivators of comfortable circumstances. In some cases they admitted that it was so; and their neighbours were ready to supply information as to the amount of their land, and the number of oxen they possessed. In a very small isolated community like this one—for it is completely cut off from the rest of Jaora State—the Superintendent should be able to exercise discretion in admitting persons to relief, as everyone's circumstances must be fully known to all. At Karia, a village belonging to the Thakur of Sheogarh, I found that work on a tank had been commenced, but that it had now been closed for about three weeks. The villagers appeared to be in good condition, and stated that they were well off. This village has been free from cholera.

1st June.—Sailana to Namli. I inspected the Rutlam State relief works at Dhamnod. This work had at one time risen to 1,500 attendants; a week ago it consisted of 1,000, and now there are only 500. The decrease is accounted for by the cultivators returning to agricultural employment. The great majority of those who remain are of the poorest classes; but their condition was good. Many complaints were made to me that no gratuitous relief is now given to children too young to work. I have, subsequently, met the Rutlam Central Officer, and spoken to him about this. The reason for the new regulation is because it was found that the number of children attendant at the work had increased out of all usual proportion, and many of them belonged to fairly well-to-do cultivators who had themselves left the work. These have been eliminated, but those children who now remain are in poor condition, and most of them, I should say, deserving of relief. I do not think it will be wise to continue any longer so stringent a measure, and one which appears to have already effected the object for which it was intended. I inspected the large village of Dhamnod, and found no trace of famine there. The Thakur of Namli came to see me in the evening. He seems to take a keener interest in relief measures than was formerly the case with him.

No. 10.

Letter from C. S. Bayley, Esq., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 7037 G., dated Indore, the 28th June, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 6347 G., dated the 13th June, 1900, I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Government of India, letters Nos. 1531 and 1581, dated the 18th and 21st June, 1900, respectively, from the Political Agent in Malwa, forwarding Lieutenant Stewart's diaries for the weeks ending on the 8th and 15th idem.

Enclosure 1 in No. 10.

Diary of Lieutenant H. Stewart, Famine Assistant in Malwa, from 2nd to 8th June, 1900, dated Camp Bajna, the 15th June, 1900.

June 2nd, Camp Namli.—Relief works are in progress on several wells. An inspection of the vernacular registers showed that fairly regular work is now going on here. Distress in Namli is by no means great, and is much less than that which prevails at other villages belonging to this Thakur, notably at Sacranda and Kumer. With regard to these two villages, the Rutlam Central Officer, who met me here, assures me that sufficient work has now been opened. I shall visit Sacranda again in a few days.

June 3rd, Namli to Jaora.—I inspected several Rutlam and Jaora villages on the way, and saw no signs of distress of any sort. Agricultural operations are proceeding vigorously. I hear from the Rutlam Central Officer that great difficulty is being experienced in procuring seed grain for the makki crop. The stores of indigenous Malwa makki appear to have been consumed, and although grain can be easily imported, it is said that foreign seeds will not readily germinate in this locality, and in some cases refuse to do so at all. So there is considerable anxiety on this subject. At Sarsi, the Thakur is employing 150 persons on improvements to his house. Their condition was good, and I think the work is sufficient. Distress is exceedingly slight here.

June 4th, Jaora.—Visited the poor-house. Numbers have greatly decreased since my last visit. There are now only about 1,200 inmates. This poor-house continues to be very well managed. With its well-constructed tile roof, it will afford highly efficient shelter during the rains. Cholera has completely died out.

June 5th, Jaora.—Visited work at Sujapur. A very large diminution in the number of workers has been effected since my last visit here on the 25th ultimo. There were then 4,100; now the number is under 2,000. The task is still too light, and the hours much too short. Few people do more than five hours' work. I hope eight hours will be exacted from them for the future.

June 6th, Jaora.—Discussed with the Minister the best plans for distributing help from the Charitable Relief Fund in Jaora State.

June 7th, Jaora to Rutlam.—I went with the Dewan of Rutlam to inspect the relief works on a tank at Kalmora. There were 400 persons on the relief works, and 100 others ordinarily employed on masonry work under a contractor. This work was opened to meet the requirements of the Dharar Tahsil, one in which there has not been very much distress. The condition of the people was good, but all were of poor classes and most of them Bhils. The proportion of children on all these works had lately much increased, the majority of whom were too young to work. It was found that many of them were the children of cultivators of comfortable circumstances, who had themselves left the work. An order was, therefore, issued by the Central Officer that in future no gratuitous relief was to be given to children dependents, save only to babies in arms. This had the effect of speedily eliminating those children who were not fit objects for

charity. But now there only remains the poorest classes, whose parents are also on the work, whose condition is often bad, and to whom I think it is most necessary that gratuitous relief should be given as before. I drew the attention of the Dewan to this matter, and I hope the prohibitory order will now be cancelled, as it has served its purpose.

June 8th, Rutlam.—I inspected two State poor-houses and a Famine Hospital; also a poor-house entirely supported by the local Mahajans. The State poor-houses are well kept, and the people properly fed and looked after. The shelter will not be sufficient after the monsoon bursts, but the people will then be removed to some empty houses in the city. Many of the inmates were wretchedly clad; but it appears that in several cases, although clothes had been given them by the State, they had taken the first opportunity for disposing of them in the bazaar. I think the people will be better able to appreciate presents of clothing after the rains come. The Famine Hospital also is well kept, and contains separate accommodation for 20 orphans. Cholera is practically extinct. The Mahajan's poor-house was instituted by them, on the Central Officer's advice, as a means of satisfying their charitable designs, which had formerly led only to indiscriminate alms-giving in the city. These poor-houses accommodate about 2,000 persons. Many of them are quite fit to work, but if drafted to the works at Dhamnod or Kalmora, they speedily return to the poor-house.

Enclosure 2 in No. 10.

Diary of Lieutenant H. Stewart, Famine Assistant in Malwa, from 9th to 15th June, 1900.

June 9th.—Rutlam to Raoti (Sailana) and thence to Bajrangarh. Train to Raoti, where I inspected relief works on a tank. 300 workers. Condition good. On my way to Bajrangarh, I inspected Bhil huts on the estate of the Thakur of Raoti, and also some belonging to Sailana State. On the whole, the condition of these Bhils is fairly good. They are able to pick up a living in various ways, such as by selling grass and wood in the nearest towns. No men were to be seen in any of the huts I visited. Some of the women were in rather poor condition, more so than those who were at work on the tank. I asked them why they did not go to work, and they said they were unable to leave their children; but many women at work on the tank take their children.

June 10th.—Bajrangarh to Raoti, and thence by train to Neemuch.

June 11th and 12th.—Neemuch.

June 13th.—Neemuch to Rutlam.

June 14th.—Rutlam to Bajna. I passed numbers of Bhils on the road, carrying wood and pipal leaves into Rutlam. Their condition was good, and the fact that such as care to do so can procure a living in this way, protects them against famine. I saw no weak or emaciated people in any of the villages I passed through. On all sides the Bhils are repairing their huts or building new ones, and make no complaints. In several places I found them at work ploughing. In order to find out how the money of the Charitable Relief Fund might be best employed in this tahsil, I spoke to the Tahsildar of Bajna regarding the arrangements which it was proposed to make for helping the people with cattle and seeds. At present it is impossible to arrive at the number of cattle or the amount of seed which will be required for these Bhils. A house-to-house inspection is made annually by the Tahsildar of Bajna about the end of June or the beginning of July. Till this is done, local requirements can only be guessed at. Nothing will be lent by the State or Sowcars till the nature of this year's rains has declared itself. If good, the Tahsildar imagines that grain and cattle will be forthcoming in sufficient quantities. The plan to be followed is that all who have credit with the Sowcars will obtain advances from them in the usual way. Those to whom the Sowcars will not lend, the State proposes to provide for, on terms of easy repayment. Such loans would

be oftenest repaid in grain. It is most necessary that a poor-house or kitchen should be kept open at Bajna; at any rate, for one month after the rains break, though I think the great majority will be able to return to ordinary work immediately. Large numbers have already gone; those now remaining being a few of the very poorest, and also inhabitants of huts close to the work, who find that they can combine a day's work on the tank with the repair of their houses.

June 15th.—Camp Bajna. Inspected relief works on a tank near Bajna. 1,400 attendants. Their condition was very good. I spoke to several of the Bhils regarding their intentions when the rains break. They say they will return to their fields. They complain of a great loss of cattle, but it is believed that they exaggerate, having heard that the Darbar intends to supply those in greatest need on easy terms. They say that no help is to be expected from their Sowcars at present; but that later on, if the rains are good, they will come of themselves to the Bhil cultivators, and beg them to accept assistance.

I inspected the poor-house. About 300 inmates. Their condition was very poor, and as some of them had been several weeks in receipt of relief, I think the present management cannot be very good. I spoke to Gouri Shanker, the Superintendent of the works, about this, and he has promised to see everything properly arranged before the rains come. This poor-house was formerly well kept, but there has been a change of managers. Another man will, I think, be employed in the place of the present official, whose short tenure of the post (2 months) has not given very satisfactory results. To account for the great difference in condition between the people on the works and those in the poor-house, it is believed the latter are immigrants.

No. 11.

Letter from the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 7306 G., dated Indore, the 6th July, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 7037 G., dated the 28th June, 1900, I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Government of India, a letter No. 1677, dated the 28th June, 1900, from the Political Agent in Malwa, forwarding Lieutenant Stewart's diary for the week ending on the 22nd June, 1900.

Enclosure in No. 11.

Diary of Lieutenant H. Stewart, Famine Assistant in Malwa, from 16th to 22nd June, 1900, dated Mandasaur, the 26th June, 1900.

16th June, 1900.—Bajna to Kelkach. No signs of distress in any of the Bhil villages I visited on the way. Everywhere huts are being repaired. A little work on wells is progressing in Kelkach. As all who need relief from here have been allowed on the Bajna works, there has been no difficulty in finding employment.

17th June.—Kelkach to Sarwan. Condition of Bhils in all villages I passed through fair. The Thakur of Berda, whom I saw at his village, tells me that he has now no more money to expend on relief works, the small loan which he had obtained from the Rutlam Darbar being now spent. What is chiefly needed at Berda is taccavi advances. At Sarwan I found 250 persons at work on a tank. Their condition was good, and the amount done since my last visit here shows that work must have proceeded regularly. In the evening I saw a free distribution of grain to 400 Bhils. This is done daily. Most of them were in good condition, and should have been at work.

18th June.—Sarwan to Sailana. All persons in need of relief can obtain it, either at Sarwan or Sailana. I saw no signs of distress. Agricultural operations commencing.

19th June.—Sailana. Visited the poor-house. On account of cholera, the site has been removed to some sacred temples, 3 miles out of Sailana. This is scarcely as convenient as the original position; for, being at some distance from the town and in a very secluded place, persons needing immediate relief may be in doubt where to go. I think more attention might be bestowed on the orphans in this poor-house than appears to be given. Otherwise it satisfies requirements, though will do so more thoroughly when the site is changed back to the original one.

In the afternoon I visited the Rutlam works at Dhamnod. About 300 persons present. All cultivators have now left this work, those remaining being of the very poorest classes. The work is very well managed, and the condition of the people is good.

20th June.—Sailana. Revisited Dhamnod work. The same number present as yesterday.

21st June.—Sailana. Visited Sacranda on the estate of the Thakur of Namli. No work going on. A heavy fall of rain on the night of the 18th instant had left so much water in the tank upon which the relief workers were engaged that that form of occupation has had to be abandoned for the present. This tank work was taken up by the Thakur on the advice of the Rutlam Darbar, and somewhat against his inclinations. Previously he had expressed a preference for, and carried into execution, a rather unsatisfactory form of employment, which he called "jungle safai," and which consisted mainly in setting people to pick up stones and cut down bushes. As the tank work cannot be proceeded with just at present, and as the condition of the Bhils on this part of the Thakur's estate is worse than that of any others I know in this Agency, I think he should recommence the abandoned "jungle safai" till the tank is fit for working in again. It would be highly advantageous if the Rutlam Darbar were to bestow immediate supervision here.

22nd June.—Sailana to Neemuch.

No. 12.

Letter from the Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 7517 G., dated Indore, the 12th July, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 7306 G., dated the 6th July, 1900, I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Government of India, a letter No. 1781, dated the 7th July, 1900, from the Political Agent in Malwa, forwarding Lieutenant Stewart's diary for the week ending on the 29th June, 1900.

Enclosure in No. 12.

Diary of Lieutenant H. Stewart, Famine Assistant in Malwa, from 23rd to 29th June, 1900.

23rd to 25th June.—Neemuch, to receive instructions from the Political Agent regarding the distribution of money from the Indian Charitable Relief Fund in the zilla of Mandasaur.

26th June.—Neemuch to Mandasaur. Interviewed Subah and Tahsildar of Mandasaur regarding the best manner of apportioning the money at my disposal among the three parganas of the zilla.

27th June.—Visited the poor-house. 1,300 inmates. All in good condition and fairly well clothed. All arrangements in this poor-house are most excellent.

28th June.—Mandsaur. Nothing to record. Waiting for cattle, which are daily expected from Sitamau.

29th June.—Mandsaur. Heard from Kamdar of Sitamau, saying that he is sending me 26 bullocks.

No. 13.

Letter from C. S. Bayley, Esq., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 7845 G., dated Indore, the 19th July, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 7517 G., dated the 12th July, 1900, I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Government of India, a letter No. 1802, dated the 11th July, 1900, from the Political Agent in Malwa, forwarding Lieutenant Stewart's diary for the week ending on the 6th July, 1900.

Enclosure in No. 13.

Diary of Lieutenant H. Stewart, Famine Assistant in Malwa, from 30th June to 6th July, 1900.

30th June.—Mandsaur. Engaged in distributing cattle and grain to distressed cultivators on behalf of the Charitable Relief Fund. 26 bullocks arrived from Sitamau. Distributed them in the evening, together with 14½ maunds of grain.

1st July.—Mandsaur to Jaora, to buy cattle for Mandsaur.

2nd July.—Jaora. Bought 50 bullocks.

3rd July.—Jaora to Rutlam, to buy cattle for Mandsaur. Bought 10 bullocks.

4th July.—Rutlam to Mandsaur. The bullocks purchased in Jaora on the 2nd instant arrived here this evening.

5th July.—Mandsaur. Distributed bullocks and grain to cultivators of Bhanghar Tahsil of Mandsaur.

6th July.—Mandsaur. 30 bullocks arrived this evening from Tal (Jaora) and 10 from Rutlam.

No. 14.

Letter from C. S. Bayley, Esq., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 7993 G., dated Indore, the 24th July, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 7845 G., dated the 19th July, 1900, I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Government of India, a letter No. 1901, dated the 19th July, 1900, from the Political Agent in Malwa, forwarding Lieutenant Stewart's diary for the week ending on the 13th July, 1900.

Enclosure in No. 14.

Diary of Lieutenant H. Stewart, Famine Assistant in Malwa, from 7th to 13th July, 1900.

7th July, 1900.—Mandsaur. Distributed 40 bullocks and Rs. 200 worth of grain to cultivators of Mandsaur Tahsil.

8th July.—Mandsaur to Neemuch, to see the Political Agent regarding a distribution of cattle among the Bhil cultivators on the estates of the Rutlam Jagirdars of Sarwan, Namli and Benda.

9th to 11th July.—Neemuch. Nothing to record.

12th July.—Neemuch to Sailana. Good rain has fallen round Namli and Sailana. Ploughing operations are proceeding vigorously. In some parts the new crop is already 4 or 5 inches high. This has been very prematurely sown, and a prolonged break in the rains will result in its destruction. In the evening I visited a few villages round Sailana. Ploughing was going on everywhere, and the condition of the people outwardly good. A few people are still at work on the tank near the city, and the poor-house contains 180 inmates.

13th July.—Sailana. Heavy rain fell last night. Over 6 inches is now recorded here. Visited Rutlam State relief work at Dhamnod. There are now only 80 workers, all others having returned to their villages of their own accord. After two or three days more of heavy rain, work on this tank will be no longer practicable.

No. 15.

Letter from C. S. Bayley, Esq., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 8194 G., dated Indore, the 28th July, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 7993 G., dated the 24th July, 1900, I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Government of India, a letter No. 1957, dated the 24th July, 1900, from the Political Agent in Malwa, forwarding Lieutenant Stewart's diary for the week ending on the 20th July, 1900.

2. I have instructed the Political Agent to see that the necessary arrangements are made for the distribution of grain in the Sarwan Estate of Rutlam.

Enclosure in No. 15.

Diary of Lieutenant H. Stewart, Famine Assistant in Malwa, from the 14th to 20th July, 1900, dated Mandsaur, the 23rd July, 1900.

14th July, 1900.—Sailana. Heavy rain fell last night and during the greater part of the morning. In the evening I visited the tank work at Dhamnod; 80 people were present. There is a good deal of water now in this tank, and it will not be possible to continue the work after many more heavy falls of rain.

15th July.—Sailana. Visited poor-house. 180 inmates. This institution now re-occupies its original site, that temporarily used having been found unsuitable. The present building is well protected against rain, and was quite dry and watertight in spite of the recent downpours. The people are in very fair condition, and all have received blankets from money supplied by the Charitable Fund.

16th July.—Sailana to Namli by road, and thence by train to Jaora, to attend the weekly cattle market held there. Bought 71 bullocks for distribution among the Bhil cultivators on the estates of the Rutlam Jagirdars of Sarwan, Benda and Namli.

17th July.—Jaora to Sailana. Engaged in arranging fodder-supply for cattle bought yesterday in Jaora.

18th July.—Sailana. Cattle arrived to-day from Jaora. Despatched them to Sarwan, where the distribution is to take place.

19th July.—Sailana to Sarwan. Distributed the cattle I had sent here yesterday. Many complaints were made to me at villages I passed through and by people on the road that no grain advances were being made by the Thakur. I spoke to him about this, and he said that such statements were untrue, and that good arrangements are being made. Returned in the evening to Sailana, where I met the Rutlam Central Famine Officer, who is at present engaged in inspecting villages in the Dhamnod Tahsil. I told him about the complaints made by the people of Sarwan, and he suggests sending the Naib Dewan there to make enquiries, which I hope will be done.

20th July.—Sailana. Despatched my camp by road to Mandsaur, where I will join it, after visiting the cattle market to be held to-morrow in Mandli of Dewas.

No. 16.

Letter from C. S. Bayley, Esq., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 8484 G., dated Indore, the 6th August, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 8194 G., dated the 28th July, 1900, I have the honour to submit for the information of the Government of India, a letter No. 2090, dated the 3rd August, 1900, from the Political Agent in Malwa, forwarding Lieutenant Stewart's Diary for the fortnight ending on the 3rd August, 1900.

Enclosure in No. 16.

Diary of Lieutenant H. Stewart, Famine Assistant in Malwa, from 21st July to 3rd August, 1900.

21st July, 1900.—Sailana to Namli by road, and thence by train to Dodhar, hoping to be able to get from thence to Mandwi in Dewas, where a large cattle market is held. Finding I could not arrive in time for the market, went on by the evening train to Mandsaur.

22nd July.—Mandsaur. Heard from the Minister of Jaora, advising me of the despatch of 28 bullocks to Mandsaur.

23rd July.—Mandsaur. 28 bullocks arrived from Tal. I distributed them in the evening to distressed cultivators of the Nahargarh Tahsil of Mandsaur. Food-grain and a small allowance for fodder were also given to each cultivator.

24th July.—Mandsaur. Sent on my camp to Sitamau, where I propose to go to-morrow in order to attend the cattle market held there every Thursday.

25th July.—Mandsaur to Sitamau. Heavy rain fell last night, and roads nearly impassable. The makka crop seems everywhere to be doing well. In this locality it is now 4 or 5 inches high. At all the villages I visited to-day, the cultivators told me that they had had excellent rain: and in places where

had been heaviest, some said they did not want any more for at least 15 days. In another week there should be a sufficient supply of green grass for the cattle. The Kamdar came to see me in the evening, and told me what arrangements he was making regarding taccavi advances. They should be sufficient as stated by him.

26th July.—Sitamau. The poor-house has been closed and burnt on account of the severity of a cholera epidemic. In its place kitchens have been established. This morning I visited the kitchen at Laduna. I found there 150 persons, mostly women and children. Condition generally good. All have been recently supplied by the State with new clothes. I inspected the registers of this kitchen, and found that they had been well and regularly kept. There are other kitchens in the State at Titrod and Bhagore. In the afternoon I attended the cattle fair and purchased 98 bullocks for Mandsaur. They will be sent on to-morrow.

27th July.—Sitamau to Mandsaur. Returned to Mandsaur in order to distribute the cattle purchased yesterday. They arrived in the evening.

28th July, 1900.—Mandsaur. Owing to heavy rain I was unable to distribute any cattle to-day.

29th July.—Mandsaur to Neemuch. In the morning I distributed 98 bullocks to cultivators of the Nahargarh and Mandsaur tahsils, together with food-grain and a small allowance for fodder. As I have completed the distribution of cattle and food-grain to the extent of the allotment made to me by the Political Agent from the Charitable Fund, viz., Rs. 5,000 to Mandsaur, and Rs. 1,000 for the Rutlam Jagirdars of Sarwan, Namli and Berda, a short account is now given as to the manner in which this distribution has taken place. In the case of the Rutlam Jagirdars, I have obtained lists of the most deserving and poorest cultivators from the Dewan of Rutlam. From his lists I selected the very poorest to the extent of my allotment, and personally distributed cattle to them. The cattle required for this purpose were brought by me in Jaora. I caused all cattle which I distributed on these estates to be branded on the near hind quarter with the letters C. F. (Charitable Fund), in order to facilitate the work of the Darbar officials in the periodical visits of inspection which they have pledged themselves to make, and also in the hopes of frustrating any attempts which might be made to wrongfully dispose of them, either willingly by the owners, or on the false representations of petty officials. I have in my possession lists showing the names and condition of all persons to whom cattle were given. With regard to the Mandsaur Zillah of Gwalior State, to which Rs. 5,000 was allotted by the Political Agent, lists of the most needy cultivators were prepared by the tahsildars of the three parganas which comprise the zillah, viz., Mandsaur, Bhangarh and Nahargarh. These lists were made out under the superintendence of the Subah. After questioning all such persons, and comparing their answers with the information regarding them given on the lists, I personally distributed to them, in the presence of their village patwaris, their tahsildars, and, in the case of one distribution, in the presence of the Subah also, cattle, food-grain and a small allowance (Rs. 1-8-0) per head of cattle for fodder. The object of this small allowance was to enable them to buy a few bundles of leaves and early grass in order to keep their animals going till the grass should be long enough for grazing. Lists of all persons so supplied, showing their names and condition, are in my possession and afford a ready means of check at any time. The tahsildars are pledged to visits of inspection and to report at once any mortality or cases of improper treatment. The cattle required for Mandsaur were purchased by me in Jaora, Rutlam and Sitamau. No money transactions of any sort took place, save only that of the allowance of Rs. 1-8-0 per head given for fodder.

I left Mandsaur by the evening train for Neemuch.

30th July to 3rd August.—Neemuch. In charge of Political Agent's office during his absence on leave.

No. 17.

Letter from C. S. Bayley, Esq., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 2988 G., dated Indore, the 17th March, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 2164 G., dated the 26th February, 1900,* I have the honour to submit the Famine Statement† furnished by the Indore State for the month of February, 1900.

2. The deaths from starvation mentioned in paragraph 7 of the remarks that accompany the statement include those which were mentioned in Colonel Pears's diary for the week ending on the 21st February. The figures now given are those which were compiled by the several Members of the State Council, who made tours of inspection previous to the commencement of real measures for famine relief, and I trust that the arrangements now made will prevent the occurrence of serious mortality in future.

Enclosure in No. 17.

Remarks by Nanak Chand, Minister to His Highness Maharaja Holkar, to accompany Famine Statement for the month ending 28th February, 1900, dated Darbar Office, Indore, the 8th March, 1900.

1. No rain fell in any district of the State.
2. The rabi has been sown 1,851 bighas in the Khargone district, 12,607 bighas in the Mehidpur district, 227 bighas in Petlawad Mahal of Indore district, 514 bighas in Narayangad, 668 bighas in Manasa, 446 bighas in Rampura in the Rampura district and 450 bighas in Garote in the Bhanpura district. The sowings in the other mahals are between 1½ and 2 annas.
3. The condition of standing crops is not satisfactory.
4. The prospects of harvest cannot precisely be foretold, but they may safely be put down as gloomy except in Nimawar, where the outturn is expected to be 8 annas in the rupee.
5. Food-supply will last for two months in the Mehidpur and Nimar districts, for four months in the Nimawar and Indore districts and for one month in Rampura and Bhanpura districts, but is being and will be supplemented by private trade and State help.
6. Many cattle have died and are dying in Rampura and Bhanpura districts. Condition unsatisfactory all round and growing worse every day.
7. One thousand six hundred and fifteen deaths from starvation in Mehidpur district, 259 in Khargone district and 33 in Petlawad Mahal of Indore district have been reported up to this month. Deaths from starvation as reported by the Subahs were 25 to 30 a day in Rampura and Bhanpura districts and 25 to 30 throughout the whole month in Nimar.
8. There is no supply of fodder in Rampura and Bhanpura districts. Cattle subsist on leaves of trees. Fodder will last for about half a month in Nimar, for about one month and a half in Mehidpur, for about a month in Khargone and for about two months in Petlawad of Indore district.
9. Prices of food-grains remained stationary throughout the month.
10. Opium has been sown on 1,170 bighas in Mehidpur, and the sowings in all districts have generally been far below the average.
11. No change in the wages.

* See page 162 of Command Paper No. 206, presented in 1900.

† Not printed.

No. 18.

Letter from C. S. Bayley, Esq., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 4438 G., dated Indore, the 21st April, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 2988 G., dated the 17th March, 1900, I have the honour to submit the Famine Statement* furnished by the Indore State, for the month of March, 1900, together with a map.†

Enclosure in No. 18.

Remarks by Nanak Chand, Minister to His Highness the Maharaja Holkar, G.C.S.I., to accompany Famine Statement for the month ending 31st March, 1900, dated Darbar Office, Indore, the 7th April, 1900.

1. Nearly 5,520 persons are relieved by private charity without taking any labour from them in the State.
2. Persons in receipt of gratuitous relief in the poor-houses of the State are :—

State.	Persons.
Indore City	611
Rampura District	1,012
Bhanpura „	1,021
Nimar „	317
Mehidpur „	487
Total	3,448

These persons are given cooked food, i.e., rice, dal, &c.

3. The works of constructing roads and of deepening wells and tanks are going on in and near all the affected areas.
4. Physically people are emaciated in places affected by famine, but owing to their being taken in the poor-houses they are improving now.
5. Three hundred and eight deaths from starvation have been reported to have occurred in the affected area in this month. Of this many are immigrants, and reports have not been received from all Mahals. I apprehend that probably another 100 should be added to the total deaths from starvation in the State during March. This is a vast improvement on February, and I trust we shall be better still this month.
6. Present food-supply will last for two months in Mehidpur and Nimar districts, for three months in the Nimawar and Indore districts.
7. Much grain is being imported, but the quantity is not known.
8. The rabi has been sown 1,581 bighas in the Khargone district, 12,607 bighas in Mehidpur district, 227 bighas in Petlawad Mahal of Indore district, 514 bighas in Narayangarh, 668 bighas in Manasa, 446 bighas in Rampura in the Rampura district, and 450 bighas in Garot in the Bhanpura district. The

* Not printed.

† Map not reproduced.

sowings in the other Mahals are between $1\frac{1}{2}$ and 2 annas. The condition of standing crops is not satisfactory. The prospects of harvest cannot precisely be foretold, but they may safely be put down as gloomy, except in Nimawar, where the outturn is expected to be from 8 to 10 annas in the rupee.

9. No change in the wages.

10. Only 50 persons of the Indore State have been reported to have emigrated to the poor-house at Agar (Gwalior), but orders have been issued to deport them back to the State; 2,136 immigrants are being relieved in the State, but their number is increasing.

11. There is very little supply of regular fodder in Rampura, Bhanpura, Nimar and Khargone districts. Cattle subsist on leaves of trees, but fodder is expected to last for about a month in Mehidpur and in Petlawad.

12. Prices of food-grains remained almost stationary.

13. Opium has been sown in 1,170 bighas in Mehidpur, and the sowings in all districts have generally been far below the average.

No. 19.

Letter from C. S. Bayley, Esq., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 5290 G., dated Indore, the 15th May, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 4438 G., dated the 21st April, 1900, I have the honour to submit the Famine Statement* furnished by the Indore State for the month of April, 1900, together with a map†.

Enclosure in No. 19.

Remarks by Nanak Chand, Minister to His Highness Maharaja Holkar, to accompany Famine Statement for the month ending 30th April, 1900, dated Darbar Office, Indore, the 5th May, 1900.

1. Nearly 6,015 persons are relieved by private charity without taking any labour from them.
2. Persons in receipt of gratuitous relief in the poor-houses of the State are :—

State.	Persons.
Indore City	615
Rampura District	1,013
Bhanpura District	1,017
Nimar District	312
Mehidpore District	523
Nimawar District	353
Total	3,833

* Not printed.

† Map not reproduced.

3. The work of constructing roads and of deepening wells and tanks is going on in and near all the affected areas.

4. Physically people are emaciated in places affected by famine, but, owing to their being taken in the poor-houses, they are improving now. Owing to the prevalence of cholera their numbers on relief works are falling.

5. Three hundred and thirty-three deaths from starvation have been reported to have occurred in this month.

6. Owing to importation, grain is available.

7. The exact quantity of the imported grain is not known.

8. The rabi has been harvested, and there is no crop standing in the fields now. Agricultural operations have been commenced in some places.

9. No change in the wages.

10. Indore subjects reported to have emigrated have been brought back. One thousand three hundred and sixty-eight immigrants are being relieved in the State.

11. There is very little fodder in Rampura, Bhanpura, Nimar and Khargone districts. Cattle subsist on leaves of trees and karbi.

12. Prices of food-grains remain almost stationary.

13. Opium has been harvested. Its out-turn is not yet known.

No. 20.

Letter from C. S. Bayley, Esq., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 6446 G., dated Indore, the 15th June, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 5290 G., dated the 15th May, 1900, I have the honour to submit the Famine Statement* furnished by the Resident at Indore for the month of May, 1900, together with a map† of the affected area.

2. With reference to paragraph 9 of the remarks of the Minister to His Highness the Maharaja Holkar accompanying the statement, I enclose a copy of a letter No. 2578 G., dated the 13th June, 1900, from Colonel Jennings, explaining the nature of the change in the rate of wages which has been made.

Enclosure 1 in No. 20.

Remarks by Nanak Chand, Minister to His Highness Maharaja Holkar, to accompany Famine Statement for the month ending 31st May, 1900, dated Indore, the 6th June, 1900.

1. Nearly 6,939 persons are relieved by private charity without taking any labour from them.

* Not printed.

† Map not reproduced.

2. Persons in receipt of gratuitous relief in the poor-houses of the State are :—

	Persons.
Indore City	930
Rampura District	1,989
Bhanpura „	791
Nimar „	456
Mehidpur „	680
Nimawar „	379
Total	5,225

3. The work of constructing roads and deepening wells and tanks is going on in and near all the affected areas.

4. The physical condition of the people is better than it was in the last month. Doctors have been appointed at proper places, and measures taken to prevent cholera.

5. 346 deaths from starvation have been reported to have occurred in this month.

6. Owing to importation grain is available.

7. The exact quantity of imported grain is not known.

8. Agricultural operations have been commenced in some places.

9. There has been a change in the wages during the month.

10. Indore subjects reported to have emigrated have been brought back. 1,287 immigrants are being relieved in the State.

11. There is very little fodder, while in some places it is not at all. Cattle subsist on leaves of trees and kadbi, and many die of starvation.

12. Prices of food-grains are almost stationary.

13. Opium is not in the fields.

Enclosure 2 in No. 20.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel R. H. Jennings, R.E., Resident at Indore, to the First Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, No. 2578 G., dated Indore, the 13th June, 1900.

I have the honour to inform you that the Indore Minister reports that the following order has been passed regulating the scale of wages to persons on famine relief :—

“The farmers, &c., employed on relief works being given sufficient wages, will not be willing to turn to cultivation. Hence the following wages are settled to be paid to the workers : 1½ annas to each man ; 1¼ annas to each woman ; 1 anna to each worker above 10 years of age has been already settled before. —½ anna to each boy between 3 and 10 years of age, and ¼ anna to each boy under 3 years. The labourers on relief works should be paid according to the above.”

2. This cutting down of wages, I beg to explain, is in accordance with my advice—vide paragraph 2 of my letter No. 2317 G., dated the 28th May, 1900, to your address—in order to induce cultivators to return to their fields. It is also recommended by Captain Cubitt in his circular, a copy of which I received with your No. 6254, dated the 9th June, 1900.

3. I have addressed the Darbar in terms of your last-quoted letter.

No. 21.

Letter from the Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 7550 G., dated Indore, the 13th July, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 6446 G., dated the 15th June, 1900, I have the honour to submit, in original, the Famine Statement* furnished by the Resident at Indore for the month of June, 1900, together with a map† of the affected area.

Enclosure in No. 21.

Remarks by Narak Chand, Minister to His Highness the Maharaja Holkar, to accompany Famine Statement for the month ending 30th June, 1900, dated Indore, the 7th July, 1900.

1. Nearly 4,948 persons are relieved by private charity without taking any labour from them.

2. Persons in receipt of gratuitous relief in the poor-houses of the State are :—

	Persons.
Indore City	905
Rampur District	2,105
Bhanpura „	1,503
Nimar „	346
Mehidpur „	499
Nimawar „	451
Total	5,809

3. The work of constructing roads and of deepening wells and tanks is going on, but the number of workers is falling owing to the commencement of agricultural operations.

4. The physical condition of the people is improving. Cholera is decreasing.

5. 355 deaths from starvation have been reported to have occurred during the month.

* Not printed.

† Map not reproduced.

6. Grain is available owing to importation.
7. The exact quantity of the imported grain is not known.
8. Agricultural operations are in progress.
9. Wages have been reduced to $1\frac{1}{2}$ anna per man, $1\frac{1}{4}$ anna per woman, 1 anna to each worker above 10 years, $\frac{1}{2}$ anna between 3 and 10 years of age and $\frac{1}{4}$ anna to children below.
10. No information has been received as regards emigration or immigration.
11. There is very little quantity of fodder, while in some places it is not available at all: consequently cattle are dying. Grass has been imported from Jabalpur, &c., out of the grant of famine fund, and it has done and is doing great good.
12. Prices of food-grains continued fluctuating, but are nearly the same.

No. 22.

Letter from C. S. Bayley, Esq., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 8689 G., dated Indore, the 14th August, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 7550 G., dated the 13th July, 1900, I have the honour to submit, in original, the Famine Statement* furnished by the Resident at Indore for the month of July, 1900, together with a map† of the area affected.

Enclosure in No. 22.

Remarks by Nanak Chand, Minister to His Highness Maharaja Holkar, to accompany Famine Statement for the month ending 31st July, 1900, dated Indore, the 7th August, 1900.

1. Nearly 3,746 persons were relieved daily by private charity without taking any labour from them.
2. Persons in daily receipt of gratuitous relief in the poor-houses of the State are :—

	Persons.
1. Indore city	1,645
2. " district	708
3. Rampura "	1,522
4. Bhanpura "	2,025
5. Mehidpur "	575
6. Khargone "	999
7. Mandleshwar district	386
8. Nimawar "	296
Total	8,156

* Not printed.

† Map not reproduced.

3. The work of constructing roads is going on. A few tanks are under repairs.
4. The physical condition of the people has much improved. A few doubtful cases of cholera were reported.
5. 273 deaths from starvation have been reported to have occurred during the month.
6. Grain is available everywhere.
7. The exact quantity of the imported grain is not known. Import is now decreasing.
8. Agricultural operations are in progress all over the State, and at many places makka sowings have nearly been finished and crops have grown up about one foot high.
9. No change in the rates of wages.
10. No emigration is reported. The number of immigrants on relief works and on gratuitous relief is 1,525.
11. There is no want of fodder. Green grass is growing at all places. Grass has also been purchased and imported into the State from the famine fund. It has been distributed in many Mahals and has done great good. The condition of cattle is every day improving.
12. Prices of food-grains are fluctuating, but slightly falling.

No. 23.

Letter from C. S. Bayley, Esq., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 9756 G., dated Indore, the 17th September, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 8689 G., dated the 14th August, 1900, I have the honour to submit, in original, the Famine Statement furnished by the Resident at Indore for the month of August, 1900, together with a map* of the area affected.

2. Enquiry is being made regarding the 145 deaths which are said to have occurred from starvation.

Enclosure in No. 23.

Remarks by Nanak Chand, Minister to His Highness Maharaja Holkar, to accompany Famine Statement for the month ending 31st August, 1900, dated Indore, the 7th September, 1900.

1. Nearly 1,378 persons were relieved daily by private charity without taking any labour from them.

* Map not reproduced.

2. Persons in daily receipt of gratuitous relief in the State poor-houses are :—

	Persons.
1. Indore City	1,847
2. " District	3,012
3. Rampura "	1,345
4. Bhanpura "	1,583
5. Mehidpur "	673
6. Khargone "	809
7. Mandleshwar "	393
8. Nimawar "	1,962
Total	11,624

3. The work of constructing roads is going on. A few tanks are under repairs.

4. The physical condition of the people is much improved. Fever and dysentery are prevalent.

5. One hundred and forty-five deaths have been reported to have occurred from starvation.

6. Grain is available everywhere.

7. Quantity of the imported grain is not known. Importation is now diminished.

8. Agricultural operations are everywhere in progress and the condition of standing crops is good.

9. There was no change in the rates of wages.

10. Arrangements are being made to bring back the persons reported to have emigrated to British Nimar, Bhopal, Gwalior, &c. 1,357 immigrants are in receipt of relief in the State.

11. Green grass is available everywhere.

12. The prices of food-grains are falling everywhere.

13. Rainfall has been sufficient all over the State.

No. 24.

Letter from C. S. Bayley, Esq., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 5504 G., dated Indore, the 21st May, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 4573 G., dated the 25th April, 1900* I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statement† furnished by the Resident at Gwalior for the month of April, 1900, together with a map‡ of the affected area.

* See page 490 of Command Paper No. 206, presented in 1900.
† Not printed.

‡ Map not reproduced.

Enclosure in No. 24.

Remarks by J. Filose, Esq., Famine Secretary.

Relief works in progress consist of construction of, and repairs to, kutchapucca roads, wells, tanks, canals, bunds, baories, &c. Tests works have been freely opened almost everywhere in the State, in order to determine the extent to which relief may be needed by the people. Gwalior to Sabalgarh and Sipri to Sheopore, two railway lines are under survey, and abundant labour of all sorts will shortly be available on the same. Immigrants from adjoining States, and from Marwar and Mewar in particular, still continue to resort to this State where relief works provide free and unrestricted labour to all persons affected with famine. Poor-houses already exist at Neemuch, Agar and Amjhera, the last one being amalgamated with that at Sardarpore, under the supervision of the Political Agent. Owing to the great want of gratuitous relief in Mandasaur district, a poor-house has been ordered to be opened, which is now in working order. More relief works have been opened in Neemuch, Agar, Amjhera and Mandasaur districts, where famine is still reported to be severe. Relief works have also been opened lately in Ujjain and Shajapur Parganas. Emigration on any noticeable scale has not yet set in. The conditions of the people and cattle in Neemuch and a part of Mandasaur, Agar and Amjhera is bad, but no death from starvation of any Gwalior subjects has yet been reported. There has been a sudden outbreak of cholera in Agar and Neemuch poor-houses, and on some relief works in Amjhera district, and measures are being adopted to check the spread of the disease. The number of immigrants registered on various works on last day of the month is as under :—

Datia.	Jhansi.	Jaipur.	Udaipur.	Indore.	Dhar.	Marwar.	Ajmer.	Total.
83	3	93	52	5	2	36	10	284

No. 25.

Letter from C. S. Bayley, Esq., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 6294 G., dated Indore, the 10th June, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 5504 G., dated the 21st May, 1900, I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statement* furnished by the Resident at Gwalior for the month of May, 1900, together with a map† of the affected area.

Enclosure in No. 25.

Remarks by J. Filose, Esq., Famine Secretary.

Relief works in progress consist of construction of, and repairs to, kutchapucca roads, wells, tanks, canals, bunds, baories, &c. Test works are still in progress almost everywhere in the State, in order to determine the extent to which relief may be needed by the people; abundant labour will shortly be available on two railway lines under survey, i.e., Gwalior to Sabalgarh and Sipri to Sheopore. Immigrants from the adjoining States still continue to resort to this State, where relief works provide free and unrestricted labour to all famine-stricken people. Poor-houses already exist at Neemuch, Agar,

* Not printed. † Map not reproduced.

Mandsaur and Amjhera, the last one being under the immediate supervision of the Political Agent, Bhopawar. Further want of gratuitous relief has made the Darbar to sanction another poor-house to be opened lately at Maksi, which will be in working order very shortly. More relief works have been opened in Neemuch, Agar and Mandsaur districts, where famine has been reported to be more severe. Lately the Darbar felt the necessity of opening relief works in parganas of Tonk and Badnagar. Emigration on any noticeable scale has not yet set in.

The conditions of the people and cattle in Neemuch and a part of Mandsaur, Agar and Amjhera is bad, but no deaths from starvation of any Gwalior subject has yet been reported. The cholera reported to have broken out in severity during the last month has now subsided to a large extent. The number of immigrants registered on various works on the last day of the month is as under :—

Jodhpur.	British.	Kotah.	Marwar.	Jeypur.	Indore.	Udaipur.	Patan.	Total.
139	3	1	219	124	175	9	5	675

No 26.

Letter from the Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 7673 G., dated Indore, the 16th July, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 6294 G., dated the 10th June, 1900, I have the honour to submit, in original, for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statement* furnished by the Resident at Gwalior for the month of June, 1900, together with a map† of the affected area.

Enclosure in No. 26.

Remarks by H. C. Mukherji, Esq., Personal Assistant, Department Land Records, for Famine Secretary.

Relief works in progress consist of construction of, and repairs to, katcha-pucca roads, wells, tanks, canals, bunds and baories, &c. Test works are still in progress almost everywhere in the State, in order to determine the extent to which relief may be needed by the people. Immigrants from the adjoining States still continue to resort to this State, where relief works provide free and unrestricted labour to all famine-stricken people. Poor-houses already exist at Nimuch, Agar, Mandsaur and Amjhera, the last one being under the immediate supervision of the Political Agent, Bhopawar. Further want of gratuitous relief has made the Darbar to sanction another poor-house to be opened at Maksi, which is now in working order. Emigration on any noticeable scale has not yet set in. The condition of the people and cattle in Nimuch and part of Mandsaur, Agar and Amjhera is bad, but no death from starvation of any Gwalior subject has yet been reported. The number of emigrants registered on various works on the last day of the month is as under :—

Jodhpur.	Indore.	Dholpur.	British.	Patan.	Udaipur.
42	331	22	109	5	9

* Not printed.

† Map not reproduced.

No. 27.

Letter from C. S. Bayley, Esq., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 8640 G., dated Indore, the 11th August, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 7673 G., dated the 16th July, 1900, I have the honour to submit, in original, for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statement* furnished by the Resident at Gwalior for the month of July, 1900, together with a map† of the affected area.

Enclosure in No. 27.

Remarks.

Relief works in progress consist of construction of and repairs to kachapucca roads, wells, tanks, canals and bunds, &c., but, as the agricultural operations have begun throughout the State, the number of people on relief works has been considerably reduced.

Immigrants from adjoining States still continue to resort to this State, but in small number. Poor-houses already exist at Neemuch, Agar, Mandsaur, Amjhera and Maksi. No emigration to any noticeable scale has been reported. The condition of the people and cattle in Neemuch and part of Mandsaur, Agar, Amjhera and Shajapur is bad, but no death from starvation of any Gwalior subject has been reported. The number of immigrants registered on various works on last day of the month is as under :—

District.	Number.
Jhalrapatan	43
Tonk	12
Udaipur	5
Dhar	3
Total	63

No. 28.

Letter from C. S. Bayley, Esq., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 9755 G., dated Indore, the 17th September, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 8640 G., dated the 11th August, 1900, I have the honour to submit, in original, for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statement* furnished by the Resident at Gwalior for the month of August, 1900, together with a map† of the affected area.

* Not printed.

† Map not reproduced.

Enclosure in No. 28.

Remarks.

Relief works in progress consist of construction of and repairs to katcha-pucca roads, canals and bunds, &c., but as the agricultural operations are in progress throughout the State, the number of labourers on relief works has been considerably reduced, and such is the case with the number of inmates in the poor-houses at Neemuch, Mandsaur, Agar, Amjhera and Maksi which are existing since a long time. The immigrants from adjoining States still continue to resort to this State, but in very small numbers. No emigration has been reported, nor any death from starvation of Gwalior subject has occurred. The condition of the people all over the area affected with famine is getting fair.

The number of immigrants on last day of the month is as under:—

British.	Jaipur.	Dholpur.	Indore.
4	1	2	109

No. 29.

Letter from C. S. Bayley, Esq., I.C.S., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 8744 G., dated Indore, the 15th August, 1900.

I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Government of

1. Letter No. 2661, dated the 28th July, 1900, from the Political Agent in Bhopal, to the First Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, and enclosures.
2. Letter No. 8306, dated the 1st August, 1900, from the First Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Resident at Indore.
3. Letter No. 3543 G., dated the 1st August, 1900, from the Resident at Indore to the First Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, and enclosure.
4. Letter No. 3562 G., dated the 3rd August, 1900, from the Resident at Indore, to the First Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India.
5. Letter No. 8566, dated the 9th August, 1900, from the First Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Resident at Indore.
6. Letter No. 3623 G., dated the 7th August, 1900, from the Resident at Indore, to the First Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, and enclosure.

it. The Indore Darbar has shown commendable promptitude in remedying the defects in famine administration pointed out by Mr. Lang.

Enclosure 1 in No. 29.

Letter from J. Lang, Esq., I.C.S., Political Agent in Bhopal, to the First Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, No. 2661, dated Bhopal, the 28th July, 1900.

I have the honour to forward for your information, a copy of the notes recorded by me during a recent tour in the Nimawar Pargana of the Indore State.

2. The figures of relief for this district, which belongs to the Bhopal Agency, are incorporated, it is understood, in the Indore State returns. I regret that the Indore vakil at Sehore has hitherto failed to furnish me with any famine statements, so that I was much in the dark when I commenced the tour. In May last there was a great rush of Nimawar people into the Harda Sub-division of the Central Provinces, and the local British officer was given to understand that no relief was given in the Nimawar District. The statement of the Amin, who gave the information, has not borne the test of my investigation. For on the 9th May, when the assertion was made, I find by the registers that five kitchens were open and 896 people employed on road work.

3. There are undoubtedly large numbers of Indore subjects in receipt of relief in the Hoshangabad District, and the British authorities have good cause to complain. The Deputy Commissioner has received orders to make over to the Subah of Nimawar all immigrants from Indore, if practicable. At present, unless my recommendations in paragraph 11 of the accompanying note are adopted, the Subah will scarcely be in a position to receive them. A good Amin is required at Nimawar. I trust, therefore, that the Darbar may be moved to take early action so that when the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces visits Hoshangabad next week, he will no longer have any cause to complain.

Annexure.

Notes on Famine Inspection Tour in Nimawar District of the Indore State.

Harda, Central Provinces.—At Harda I met the Subdivisional Officer and the Deputy Commissioner, Hoshangabad, and accompanied them over the poor-house. The number of Indore subjects from the Nimawar District within the poor-house was 121. They should be removed by the Darbar.

Abgaon, Central Provinces.—Six miles further on towards Nimawar there was a large road relief work at Abgaon upon which I found several gangs of Indore subjects, who had left their district for want of employment.

Hundia, Central Provinces.—Seven miles beyond, at Hundia, which is on the opposite side of the river to Nimawar, I found 700 persons being fed in a Central Provinces kitchen. Thirty-three per cent. of this number, say 230, belonged to the Nimawar District. Half of them were fit to work, but 110 were decidedly run down. The conditions of relief were dangerously liberal. Anyone seeking relief was to be admitted without distinction, and practically everyone might eat as much as he liked, a privilege of which some fine strapping loafers were already availing.

2. *Nimawar, Indore State.*—Crossing over the river to Nimawar in the Indore State, I was met by Krishna Rao Gopal Deo, the Naib Subah, with whom I watched the feeding of some 300 paupers. The food was good, but the ration scarcely more than 3 chittacks to adults and children alike. The short ration will account for the rush of paupers to the kitchen across the water, and for the debilitated condition of those who remained. The Subah promised to double the ration. In the case of adults it might well be trebled. He assured me that the kitchen had been open since the 1st April, and daily accounts were produced which corroborated the assertion.

3. From Nimawar I went to Sundalpur, striking within 3 miles of Nimawar a newly-made famine relief road embankment.

Sundalpur.—At Sundalpur I found about 120 labourers employed on metal breaking. It was then about 9 a.m., and I was informed that many of the labourers had not yet come to work. The previous day's attendance roll showed the number present as 222, while on the 12th July there were only 138 in consequence of the rain. Some ordinary complaints regarding non-payment of wages were enquired into and rectified.

About 8,000 cubic feet of metal had been broken, at the rate of 6 annas (Hali) for 25 cubic feet, which has proved a day's task for four people. Practically each workman receives 6 pice, which, with grain at 8½ seers a rupee, is a carrier's minimum wage according to our code. The task is a full one, but the metal is soft.

I saw also a small tank, the repairs of which at a cost of Rs. 194 (Rs. 100 from the State Rs. 94 from local subscription) had given employment to 2,370 units of people in October and November and for 10 days in March.

Gratuitous relief in the form of cooked food was generally alleged to have been given to the local paupers to a number not exceeding 300 for about three months from the 28th March to the 26th June, 1900. The cost had been paid by the State and the local

mahajans in the proportion of 1 to 2. This method of financing the relief measures is common in the district.

4. *Khathagaon*.—From Sundalpur I went on to Khathagaon, where some 450 paupers in a wretched condition were collected to receive cooked food. The paupers admitted to having received regular relief, but the ration, though more liberal than at Nimawar, was still too small in the case of adults. I took the opportunity to distribute clothing on behalf of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund to 602 deserving paupers. The numbers had risen as the meal went on, many having to come from a considerable distance. Moreover, I had arrived before the proper meal time.

A tank work which had been completed in December at a cost of Rs. 1,200, after being open for two and a half months, was also seen.

5. *Kanod*.—At Kanod, 10 miles further north, where the headquarters of the district are situated, I found 742 paupers in a very bad condition awaiting their daily dole of khichri. I gave them all clothes from the charitable fund. On the next day the numbers had risen to 1,250.

A tank work was carried out for two months and five days during February, March, and April on the side of this township, the numbers on relief reaching to 1,200.

I followed the road embankment which started close to Sundalpur up to Kanod. The construction of this road, for which the Darbar is understood to have sanctioned Rs. 32,711, must have afforded a vast amount* of relief over a prolonged period of days.

* The Registers showed 1,600 on the 25th May.

The earthwork is almost finished, and much metal has been broken and collected, but only about half the sanctioned allotment has been spent up to date.

6. *Jail at Kanod*.—I took the opportunity to inspect the jail and dispensary at Kanod. No indoor employment is given to the prisoners who can serve sentences there up to two years. According to rules of sanitation, the building will admit of about 40 under shelter exclusive of the cooking shed.

The actual population on the date of inspection was 81 as against 150 reported three months ago. The jail is therefore overcrowded. The daily ration of nearly 14 chittacks flour and dal seemed suitable. The prisoners were well clothed and all had blankets. There were no reasonable complaints. One prisoner wanted to make an appeal, but said that he had no funds to enable him to do so. The jail is in charge of the native doctor, who for the last eight years has managed the dispensary.

Dispensary.—The number of new patients up to the 23rd July from the 1st January, 1900, was 2,263, the monthly number 241, and the daily average about 10 a day.

The medicines were neat and cleanly kept, and the instruments appeared and were said to be good. Some of them had been supplied about six months ago.

The dispensary was inspected last year by the State doctor. No major operations are performed here. Minor operations in 1899 amounted to 102. No ailment is peculiarly prevalent. At present cases of diarrhoea and dysentery are in the ascendant. The native doctor, B. Manna Lal, from Cawnpore, draws Hali Rs. 22-8 and Rs. 4 jail allowance, there is also a compounder on Rs. 6 a month, and a vaccinator on Rs. 10.

7. At Kanod I was fortunate in meeting Major Ram Prasad Dube, Judicial Secretary to the Indore Darbar, who had been deputed to distribute over Rs. 23,000 in seed and cattle to the cultivators within the district from the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund. As this sum is as much as has been allotted to the whole of the Bhopal Agency, we arranged to debit the cost of all clothes, which I distributed, to his allotment. For the rest of my tour Major Dube accompanied me and proved a pleasant and very sensible companion. The distribution of the fund is in good hands.

8. *Loharda, Kantaphor*.—From Kanod I visited Loharda and Kantaphor, a distance of 24 miles, and distributed clothes to over 400 paupers at a cost of Rs. 192-8. At Kantaphor a kitchen had been open from the 12th March, but it was shut for want of funds on the 5th July. This was a great mistake, for the number of attendants according to the last return was 1,265.

Ajnas.—At Ajnas there were a number of paupers but no arrangements for their relief: 221 were fed gratuitously the day I arrived, and a subscription of Rs. 150 was promised by the mahajans with a corresponding contribution from the State. A kitchen could be maintained at Ajnas till the distress is over.

Between Ajnas and Nimawar where on my return I distributed clothes to 570 paupers at a cost of Rs. 262-8 (Hali), I noticed less distress, probably because this tract of country is opposite the Hoshangabad district of the Central Provinces and the labouring classes may have wandered across to the British works.

9. *General observations*.—There are no metalled roads in the district. The soil is mostly black cotton, and in the rains transport except by elephants is impracticable. I rode over 90 miles during the tour, but saw no corpses or moribund persons. The people were everywhere collecting and eating wild indigo, which in the Central Provinces I was told produced diarrhoea. Ample rain had fallen and sowings were generally over. I was most impressed by the mortality among the cattle, too weak, I fancy, to resist the

rains, the difficulty of communication, the broad streets and cleanliness of the villages, the bad condition of the labouring classes, the poverty-stricken appearance of many of the cultivators, and the generosity of the banias in the townships named. The manner in which the latter class had been induced to assist in person and in money in the maintenance of the kitchens reflected great credit on the Naib Subah Krishna Rao Gopal Deo.

No Political Agent has been in the district for ten years, and the wholesale distribution of clothing on behalf of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund on this the next occasion of the Political Agent's visit evidently left a great impression on the people of the benefits of the English raj. A general acclamation of "Jai Angrezi raj ki jai" was altogether new to me.

In the way of famine relief much has been done from early in the cold weather, but much has been left undone, and the partial closing of relief measures with the commencement of the rains has not been justified by results.

10. The expenditure on famine relief by the State and the allotments sanctioned for the purpose are understood to be as follows:—

	Sanctioned.	Expended.
Water-supply (tanks, &c.)	25,000	9,821
Taccavi	23,340	16,350
Road works	32,711	16,224
Gratuitous relief	3,951	5,988
Add contributions from mahajans ...	—	6,856

Thus it will be seen that there is no sufficient reason for closing works or keeping down the number of labourers employed on the same, and yet want of money is the explanation given. This policy of restriction has caused much distress. 627 persons are reported by Punch-nama to have died of starvation, though the majority probably died a natural death, accelerated perhaps by privation. The population of the district is over 100,000, nearly 10 per cent. of whom in May, June and July probably needed relief. Nevertheless in May there were only about 2,500 on works altogether, and at present when the pinch of famine is much felt and gangs of the people are on the Central Provinces works, there is only the stone-breaking work at Sundalpur, the numbers on which are limited to 300.

Only half the allotment for roads has been spent, and there is no metal between Nanasa and Khemikhera, while more is wanted between Sundalpur and Khatagaon.

11. I strongly recommend that works be reopened to all comers in two or three places, especially at Nimawar in order to prevent emigration. The kitchens at the places mentioned which were started in March and also at Hirangaon should be regularly kept open and managed as at present with success by the banias. The reappropriation to gratuitous relief of the unspent allotment on account of water-supply would provide the necessary funds. The ration to adults is quite insufficient in most cases to maintain condition. It is very essential that not less than the cooked equivalent of 9 chittacks raw grain should be given to each adult, and the children less in proportion according to their size.

Unless the change is made at Nimawar and Ajnas and Kantaphor it will be impossible to prevent emigrants crossing the river Nerbada in order to get the more liberal ration in the Central Provinces kitchens close by where they are freely admitted. The cultivators are much in need of the taccavi which was being distributed in a systematic manner. Had the works been freely opened gratuitous relief need not have been given so largely. The recipients, however, are no longer fit for work.

12. The Naib Subah was able to give me all information required, accounts, &c., being well kept. He appears to have done good work during his short time of office. With a free hand, he might give much relief.

The management of the Nimawar Pargana by the local Amin is less satisfactory.

Enclosure 2 in No. 29.

Letter from the First Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India to the Resident at Indore, No. 8306, dated Indore, the 1st August, 1900.

I am directed to forward in original (to be returned) the accompanying letter No. 2661, dated the 28th July, 1900, from the Political Agent in Bhopal,

together with a copy of the notes recorded by him during his recent tour in the Nimawar Pargana of the Indore State.

2. I am to request that the special attention of the Darbar may be invited to the recommendations made in paragraph 11 of Mr. Lang's notes, and that they may be moved to take early action in the matter.

The Honourable the Agent to the Governor-General will, I am to add, be glad to receive a report of the action contemplated by the Darbar for report to Government of India.

Enclosure 3 in No. 29.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel R. H. Jennings, R.E., Resident at Indore, to the First Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, No. 3543 G., dated Indore Residency, the 1st August, 1900.

With reference to a letter, dated 23rd July, from Mr. Lang to the Honourable Mr. Bayley, which letter the latter gave me for necessary action on the 25th July, I have the honour to report as follows.

2. I made an extract from the letter (the original I returned to Mr. Bayley, and the parts I cut out are marked in blue on the original) and read out most of it to Mr. Babu Mall, the State Engineer, on the morning of the 26th July.

3. The same morning I sent Mr. Babu Mall to the Minister with the following note, No. 3429:—

"I read out most of this extract from a letter from Political Agent, Bhopal, to the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India to Mr. Babu Mall, and I told him to go and see you to-day. I have asked him likewise to come here with you at 8 a.m. to-morrow. Mr. Bayley desires immediate steps taken to remedy the evils that Mr. Lang brings to notice, viz.—(1) at least 9 chittacks to men should be given daily, not three—vide page 16 of Famine Code; (2) kitchens should be opened at Kataphod and Hirangaon; (3) regular relief works should be continued under the Public Works Department, and the numbers must not be limited, or the people will starve. I suggest the continuation of the road from Kanod to the west towards Danta Talao. Please think over the matter in consultation with the State Engineer, and let me know to-morrow, for the Agent to the Governor-General's information, what you propose." Ends.

4. Next morning, the 27th July, I saw the Minister and the State Engineer, and the result of our consultation was the issue of orders contained in Minister's letter No. 1636, dated 28th July, a copy of which I enclose. It deals with all the points brought to notice by Mr. Lang.

5. Regarding Mr. Lang's not getting returns of relief works in Nimawar, such are not sent to the Political Agents of Bhopawar or Malwa. They come to me and are submitted by me for the Agent to the Governor-General's information.

6. I have not received Mr. Lang's promised communication; I hence have not yet written to him, but I am now sending him a copy of this letter with enclosure and asking him to kindly let me know of any further defects he may see on his tour, which I will at once strive to remedy.

Annexure.

Letter from the Minister to His Highness the Maharaja Holkar, G.C.S.I., Indore, to the Resident at Indore, No. 1636, dated the 28th July, 1900.

In reply to your letter No. 3429, dated the 26th July, 1900, forwarding an extract of a letter from the Political Agent, Bhopal, to the Agent to the Governor-General, I have the honour to state that the information that the ration given is 3 chittaks was learnt with

great surprise. I concur with the Political Agent that this quantity is quite insufficient. I have ordered enquiries to be made in the matter and have further ordered that ration in the kitchens should be distributed not less than that laid down in the Famine Code,* except to the sickly and emaciated dependants

* Page 16.

who cannot eat and digest that quantity.

2. On the 28th instant the Council have, according to the kind advice of the Honourable Mr. Bayley and yourself, sanctioned the opening of two poor-houses, one at Kataphod and other at Harangaon, and orders have also been issued and Rs. 1,000 have been advanced for the present pending the sanction of His Highness.

3. The Council have further been pleased to accord their sanction at present to the construction of one mile extra of the road from Kanod to the west towards Dhan Talao. This is in addition to the work going on the road to east and south of Kanod towards Nimawar. The State Engineer has accordingly been ordered to commence work at once and has been instructed that he should not limit the number of workers on the work. If subsequently it is found that a large number resort to the work, further sanctions will no doubt be made on the completion of the road of one mile now sanctioned. Rupees 2,000 have been ordered to be advanced to begin with.

Enclosure 4 in No. 29.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel R. H. Jennings, R.E., Resident at Indore, to the First Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, No. 3562 G., dated Indore Residency, the 3rd August, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 3543 G., dated the 1st instant, I have the honour to inform you that the Minister, under date the 2nd instant, writes to me as follows:—"I am glad to inform you that orders have been issued to open a State kitchen at Ajnas in the Nimawar district, as I have heard that the want of a kitchen is felt at that place."

2. I may add that regular relief works are being re-opened near Nimawar and also at Hirangaon, 20 miles north of Nimawar, in addition to the works mentioned in the Minister's letter, which formed an enclosure to my letter No. 3543 G., dated 1st August, 1900, to your address.

Enclosure 5 in No. 29.

Letter from the First Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India to the Resident at Indore, No. 8566, dated Indore, the 9th August, 1900.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letters Nos. 3543 G. and 3562 G., dated respectively the 1st and 3rd August, 1900, regarding famine relief measures in Indore territory, and in reply to inform you that the Honourable the Agent to the Governor-General is glad to hear that such prompt steps were taken by you to remedy the defects brought to notice by Mr. Lang. It would probably be convenient if copies of returns of relief works were sent to Political Agents, and you might, I am to add, consult them on the point.

Enclosure 6 in No. 29.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel R. H. Jennings, R.E., Resident at Indore, to the First Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, No. 3623 G., dated Indore Residency, the 7th August, 1900.

I have the honour to return the enclosures received with your No. 8306, dated 1st August, namely, Mr. Lang's letter No. 266 L., dated 28th July 1900, and a copy of notes made by him during his recent tour in Nimawar.

2. With reference to paragraph 2 of your letter under reply, I beg to state that I am forwarding a copy of Mr. Lang's notes to the Darbar for

detailed report, but you will see from my letter No. 3543, dated 1st August, 1900 (which crossed your letter under reply) and from my letter No. 3562 G., dated 3rd of August, that the action recommended by Mr. Lang in paragraph 11 of his notes has already been taken, namely:—

- (1) Poor-houses have been opened at Hirangaon, Kantaphod and Ajnas;
- (2) Rations are being given according to the Famine Code;
- (3) Works have been re-opened—
 - (1) to the west of Kanod,
 - (2) near Nimawar,
 - (3) at Hirangaon,

while the works going on between Kanod and Nimawar are being continued, i.e., works under the Public Works Department are now open at four different places.

3. I beg to forward you a copy of my letter No. 3544, dated 1st August, 1900, to Mr. Lang. It was unfortunate that the real Amin Thakur Dowlat Singh, who is an excellent man, should have been away during Mr. Lang's tour. But it is very satisfactory to me to know that Mr. Lang holds a high opinion of the new Subah, Mr. Krishen Rao Gopal Deo, who was appointed under my advice. It is also gratifying to learn that "taccavi" was being distributed in a systematic manner (paragraph 11 of Mr. Lang's notes), and that the distribution of Indian Famine Charitable Relief Funds by Major Ram Pershad Dube, the newly appointed Judicial Secretary, "is in good hands" (paragraph 7 of Mr. Lang's notes). I may note that Mr. Cholmondeley strongly recommended this man to me, and he was recently appointed Judicial Secretary and selected by the Minister and myself to go to Nimawar to superintend the distribution of taccavi and charitable funds.

4. When I receive the report asked for from the Darbar, I shall have the honour to communicate its contents to you, but this letter, together with the correspondence quoted, will, I trust, enable the Agent to the Governor-General to inform the Government of India that all needful steps were taken with the least possible delay. It may, perhaps, be regretted that works were closed as an experimental measure, and in order to induce cultivators to return to their fields, but not much damage seems to have been done: while this Darbar cannot be supposed to compete with the system that appears to obtain in the Central Provinces of giving free meals without distinction to all who choose to ask for them: and I concur with Mr. Lang's views that it is a dangerously liberal policy, while it is a temptation, scarcely to be resisted, that induces our cultivators to cross the river where they can live free and well instead of attending to their fields.

No. 30.

Letter from C. S. Bayley, Esq., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 9653 G., dated Indore, the 14th September, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 874 G., dated the 15th August, 1900, I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Government of India, a letter No. 4046 G., dated the 1st September, 1900, with enclosures, from the Resident at Indore, regarding famine relief measures in the Nimawar Pargana of the Indore State.

Enclosure in No. 30.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel R. H. Jennings, R.E., Resident at Indore, to the First Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, No. 4046 G., dated Indore, the 1st September, 1900.

- In continuation of my letter No. 3623 G., dated 7th August, 1900, I have the honour to forward you copies of the marginally noted correspondence.
1. Letter from Resident to Minister, Indore State, No. 3701, dated the 11th August, 1900.
 2. Letter from Minister, Indore State, to Resident, No. 1899, dated the 31st August, 1900.

2. The second letter is the formal report by the Minister with reference to Mr. Lang's "Notes on Famine Inspection Tour in Nimawar District of the Indore State."

Annexure I.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel R. H. Jennings, R.E., Resident at Indore, to the Minister to His Highness the Maharaja Holkar, No. 3701, dated Indore, the 11th August, 1900.

I have the honour to forward copy of notes (to be kindly returned) made by Mr. Lang during his recent tour in Nimawar, and, at the request of the Agent to the Governor-General for Central India, to invite your attention to the recommendations contained in paragraph 11.

In forwarding me these notes the Honourable Mr. Bayley asked me to report, for the information of the Government of India, what action the Darbar contemplated taking.

2. As you are aware, however, action was at once taken by you, and I cannot do better than forward you copies of the three marginally noted letters, which I addressed to the First Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India and which contain a succinct account of what has been done.
1. Letter No. 3543 G., dated 1st August.
 2. " " 3562 G., " 3rd "
 3. " " 3623 G., " 7th "

3. All you need now do is to peruse these notes and make remarks on such paragraphs as call for comment.

Annexure II.

Letter from the Minister to His Highness the Maharaja Holkar to the Resident at Indore, No. 1899, dated Indore, the 31st August, 1900.

With reference to your letter No. 3701, dated the 11th August, 1900, I have the honour to return the copy of notes made by Mr. Lang, Political Agent, Bhopal, during his recent tour in the Nimawar district.

2. In reply to the concluding portion of paragraph 9 of the notes, regarding partial closing of relief measures at the end of June, I beg to state that it was done as an experimental measure to induce people to revert to the agricultural operations, especially as Rs. 20,000 British coin had been sent for distribution from Charitable Funds; more than Rs. 13,000 had been sent for taccavi; and an 8-anna suspension of revenue had been given. It was intended to open works again if necessary, and this having proved to be the case, orders to that effect were issued directly the Darbar was informed.

3. In reference to paragraph 10 in respect to 627 persons reported to have died of starvation, I beg to observe that deaths from cholera and other diseases have also been included in the number. I am also led to think that deaths of animals from starvation, as is sometimes the case, seem to be included in the number, and I concur with Mr. Lang that the majority of them died a natural death. I regret to say that some Amins do not make a distinction in deaths from starvation and from cholera and other causes. Mr. Damodar Martand, former Amin of Nimawar (who was dismissed for incompetence in April last), had actually reported to the Darbar Famine Department that 48 deaths occurred in one week from starvation, while on enquiry he himself admitted that the number of the deaths of cattle was also included.

4. Regarding paragraph 11 I write to say that there are four tank and road works open—

- (1) at the place north and west of Kannod,
- (2) & (3) at two places at north of Nimawar, and
- (4) at Harangaon.

Previously there were four poor-houses in the Nimawar district—

- | | |
|-------------|---------------|
| 1. Kannod. | 3. Kataphod. |
| 2. Nimawar. | 4. Khategaon. |

To these four poor-houses the following four have been added :—

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| 1. Satwas. | 3. Ajnas. |
| 2. Harangaon. | 4. Sandalpore. |

The unspent allotment on account of water-supply is transferred for gratuitous relief, but the road work money cannot be transferred from roads, as the unexpended balance is to complete the metalling and masonry work.

Orders have been issued to the Famine Department to see that ration in the kitchens is distributed according to the quantities prescribed in the Famine Code.

5. In reply to the last portion of paragraph 12, I beg to inform you that it was not the real Amin of Nimawar whom Mr. Lang saw. The real Amin is Thakur Doulat Singh, who was absent on account of his daughter's marriage, and the man who met Mr. Lang was a mere Daftardar. Thakur Doulat Singh has since returned to his post.

In conclusion, the Darbar offer their sincere thanks to Mr. Lang for his kind suggestions, and they cannot but feel pleased to know that he considered the distribution of taccavi was being made in a systematic manner, and that the distribution of Charitable Funds was being made equally well.

No 31.

Letter from C. S. Bayley, Esq., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 5480 G., dated Indore, the 19th May, 1900.

I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Government of India, copies of letters cited on the margin received from the Political Agent in Malwa, giving a brief account of his tour through the Rampura and Bhanpura districts of Indore.

2. The purport of these reports has been communicated to the Indore Darbar through the Resident, who has been requested to report what action is taken on the suggestion made by the Political Agent in paragraph 6 of his letter No. 172 C., dated the 10th May.

Enclosure 1 in No. 31.

Letter from Captain W. M. Cubitt, Political Agent in Malwa, to the First Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, No. 161 C., dated Camp Girote, the 7th May, 1900.

I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, a brief report upon the measures for the relief of the famine-stricken people in the district of Rampura.

2. I left Neemuch for Manassa on Thursday, the 3rd instant, accompanied by Lieutenant H. Stewart, my Famine Assistant for Malwa. We drove by a slightly circuitous route, and made a few enquiries at the villages by which we passed and which lay in Gwalior territory. Their general appearance indicated the severity of the famine in these parts, and there is no doubt that the famine has caused the death of several of the lowest and poorest classes. The remainder seem to be able to hold on until better times come.

3. Before we reached camp, we visited the relief works in progress, namely, the construction of a road (which will join up the Neemuch-Sawan and Manassa road with the old metalled road from Piplia) and repairs to a large bund. The total number on both these works was nearly 700. The condition of the majority was better than I had anticipated, but there was every evidence

of many having suffered. The numbers had decreased owing to the recent outbreak of cholera, but as cholera had abated the people were resorting to the works more freely. The workers seem to receive a sufficient wage; and I was told that their appearance had improved. I was informed by the local officials that 1,600 deaths had occurred from all causes between the 1st October, 1899, and 30th April, 1900, in the Manassa Pargana, the population of which was said to be 25,000; the normal death rate was reported to be 50 a month. Consequently, it may be stated that at least 1,200 deaths have been due to famine. Those now on relief represent the survival of the fittest.

4. In the evening we inspected the poor-house, which is located in some buildings within the town of Manassa. The inmates numbered between 500 and 600: the exact figures were not given to me. I believe that the inmates do receive the usual poor-house subsistence allowance and are well cared for. I was, however, told that the majority do not appreciate the place and prefer to wander about begging. Compared with the Gwalior State poor-houses, the arrangements at Manassa are primitive, but it answers its purpose. I advised the Amin to take in the next court-yard, as there was too much crowding. He said that this would be done. On the whole, I was satisfied that the relief works and the poor-house meet requirements, and that the people can obtain suitable relief if they choose to ask for it.

5. On Friday, May 4th, we marched to Kukresar and visited the relief work in progress there. The work in this case is the deepening of an old and large tank just outside the town. The work was opened on the 7th April, and was in charge of the District Officers. The number of workers was nearly 700. The wages paid were the same as on the other works in the district, viz., two annas a man, six pice a woman, and one anna for each child fit to work. This wage, if paid, allows a man to purchase nearly 14 chittacks of grain. There were few complaints of short wage, and those present appeared to be thoughtful for what is being done for them. I advised that every effort should be made to ensure each worker receiving sufficient to keep himself, and that eight hours should be taken from them. No allowance is given to dependants. I suggested the opening of a public kitchen from which the children should be fed, as this would guarantee their getting some food. The Amin told me before I left that arrangements will be made for feeding the children.

6. On Saturday, May 5th, we marched to Rampura. The relief works here are the construction of a road to Girote on which over 3,000 are employed, and which is under the management of the Public Works Department, and two tanks on which some 800 more are employed. We visited the poor-house and also some of the workers on the road. The wages paid are the same as mentioned in the preceding paragraph; nor did I receive any complaints. I believe that they receive a fair wage, or at all events sufficient to support them. The number on the works proves that the task is not made too severe, and that they must receive a wage which is adequate. The poor-house was not a highly-organised establishment. The appearance of the people was, perhaps, worse than any I have come across. Everyone had that drawn expression which betokens starvation. They appeared too weak to have any spirit left in them. I am of opinion that it meets requirements, though I am unable to speak highly of its general management. The inmates numbered nearly 600.

7. On Sunday, May 6th, we marched to Karauda, a village on the right bank of the Chambal, but in the Rampura district. The relief works open here and in the vicinity are: the new road from Rampura to Girote and three tanks. These between them give employment to 1,275 people; owing to cholera, which is now abated, many people had left the works. There is also a small poor-house at Karauda, the inmates of which number 93. The appearance of the people on the works near Karauda was fair and decidedly far better than those near Rampura. Their spirits were better, and altogether we were favourably impressed. The wages were the same, and I believe that the workers receive their wage regularly. The price of corn is high; it is all imported from Neemuch. Over 900 deaths had occurred in a population of 10,000. I am satisfied that the relief works and the poor-house meet all requirements, and that all that is necessary is now being done to afford adequate relief to the poor.

8. Roughly speaking, in the Manassa, Rampura, and Karauda Tahsils of the Rampura districts, 6,500 people are on relief works, and about 1,250 are in receipt of gratuitous relief in poor-houses. The management is working well, and the people appear to be grateful. The general appearance of the people in the Rampura Tahsil was distinctly worse than that of the inhabitants of the other tahsils. It is, however, satisfactory to know that the measures for their relief are adequate, and on the whole well managed.

Enclosure 2 in No. 31.

Letter from Captain W. M. Cubitt, Political Agent in Malwa, to the First Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, No. 172 C., dated Camp Kotri, the 10th May, 1900.

I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, a brief account of my tour through a part of the Bhanpura district of Indore.

2. On Monday, the 7th, Mr. Stewart and I marched from Karauda to Girote, which is the temporary headquarters of the Subah of Bhanpura. At Barkhera, a village on the road between Karauda and Girote, the deepening of a large tank is giving employment to 800 people. This relief works was opened on the 1st instant. The general appearance of the people contrasted favourably with what we had seen in Rampura itself, and was better than that of the other tahsils of Rampura district. In Rampura itself the general condition was far worse than elsewhere. The Thanadar at Barkhera told me that 300 deaths had occurred between the 1st October and the 30th April, while the normal death-rate averaged some 10 or 12 a month. Cholera had killed some, but famine had been the principal cause. Cholera had practically disappeared. The rate of wage was two annas a man, six pice for a woman, and four pice for each child able to work.

3. At Girote we were met by the Subah of Bhanpura and the other District Officers. The Subah, I am glad to say, seems to interest himself actively in the welfare of the district, and it was due to his urgent representations that some relief works had been opened at Girote on the 25th February. We visited a large tank close to the town, where relief work is in progress. The number of workers on the 6th instant was 875. Their general condition was fair, the workers seemed to be content, and I believe that they are paid regularly. Besides this work, 3,000 more people are employed on the construction of the new road between Girote and Rampura. This is in charge of the Public Works Department. While riding to Girote I came across some of the workers on the road, who complained of receiving a short wage. I mentioned this to the Subah, and advised him to satisfy himself that people on the road are not defrauded of their proper wage. I ought to add that those who had complained to me had not gone to their work, though it was eight o'clock.

4. I was informed by the Subah that 3,000 deaths had occurred in the Girote Pargana between the 1st October and the 30th April. The population of the tahsil was 37,000. The normal death-rate over that period was stated to be 700, and 600 had died this year from cholera. The number of deaths due directly to starvation may, therefore, be stated to 1,700. Cholera had been prevalent, but for the last two days there have been only two or three cases. There are other works in the tahsil which I have not inspected. Judging, however, from those I have seen, I consider that the relief operations are satisfactorily conducted, and that adequate relief is given. The loss of life proves that relief operations should have been commenced sooner. The delay cannot be attributed to the local officers. There is also a poor-house at Girote. It is situated on a good site about a mile from the town. The number of inmates was about 300. They seem to receive the usual poor-house subsistence allowance, and I am of opinion that the arrangements are satisfactory. Steps are being taken to improve the sheds, and it is expected that by the time the rains set in it will afford ample shelter and cover.

5. On the 9th we marched to Bholia, a small tahsil under the charge of an Amin at Bholia. There is no relief work near Bholia itself. There is a small poor-house containing 218 inmates. The condition of the newer arrivals was distinctly bad, many being living skeletons. I doubt that the people receive a full poor-house ration, and I advised the Amin to see that they get a little more than they appeared to receive. It was estimated that between the 1st October and the 30th April 1,500 deaths had occurred in this tahsil, the population of which was stated to be 20,000. The normal death-rate would average 550. Cholera apparently had carried off a very large number. I was informed by the Amin that people of one tahsil were not allowed to go on to the relief works in another tahsil. This arrangement is, in my opinion, distinctly unsatisfactory, and has had unfortunate results in other places.

6. The conclusion at which I have arrived is that, although relief works have been opened at too late a date, they are adequate, and that on the whole they are satisfactorily managed. But the question is whether the time is not come when every step should be taken to enable the agricultural classes to resume agricultural operations. Those on the works are, I am aware, anxious to commence ploughing, but many have lost their cattle. It is estimated that 25 per cent. of plough and draft oxen have died. I should advise the Indore Darbar to give advances of grain or money to all who can possibly set to work on their fields, and to also advance money for the purchase of cattle to all who require it, and are in a position to repay gradually. Large powers of discretion should be given to the local officials for these objects. These remarks apply to the whole of Rampura and Bhanpura districts. The Subah of Bhanpura has addressed the Darbar on this subject.

No. 32.

Letter from C. S. Bayley, Esq., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 5505 G., dated Indore, the 21st May, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 5291 G., dated the 15th May, 1900,* I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Government of India, the Monthly Famine Statement* for April, 1900, received from the Political Agent in Baghelkhand.

Enclosure in No. 32.

Remarks by Captain R. B. Berkeley, Political Agent in Baghelkhand.

REWAH.

1. *Ramnagar.*—Relief works of the nature as reported last month have been continued. Condition of the people and cattle is good. Mohwa has been much below normal. Fodder and water can be obtained without much difficulty. No deaths from starvation. No emigration or immigration. Decrease in number of persons working on relief works is probably due to picking up of mohwa and the rabi harvest operations.

Sohagpur.—Rabi crops have been poor. Mohwa produce has been 5 annas in a rupee. Condition of people and cattle is fair. Fodder and water are sufficient.

Bardi.—Ordinary Zamindari and Darbar works have been continued. Mr. Adams, Famine Assistant, has finished his inspection of this tahsil, and reported that there is no distress in Bardi. Mohwa crop has been 8 annas in a rupee.

* Not printed.

NAGODE.

2. The Darbar and Zamindari relief works in 22 places have been continued. Prices have slightly fallen. Grain is exported from Nagode to Unchehra and Parsmania. There has been practically no emigration or immigration. Out of 234 persons who went to cut crops towards Gadha, Central Provinces, 215 have returned to their homes in Dhanwahi. Arrangements have been made to get the rest back. Crops have been gathered. No death from starvation. Numbers on relief works have increased, owing to rabi crops and mohwa having been gathered. Mohwa crop less than 8 annas. Three more kitchens have been established in the vicinity of large relief works. Wells have been cleared and deepened in places where scarcity of water was threatened. Fodder is scarce, but can be obtained without much difficulty.

MAIHAR.

3. Relief works have been continued. Condition of people is indifferent. No deaths reported from starvation. Water is growing scarce, but wells are being deepened. Fodder is available. Mohwa has been only an 8-anna crop. No change in wages is reported.

SOHAWAL.

4. *Durjanpur*.—Relief works consist of bunds. Physical condition of people is good. No deaths from starvation are reported. Grain and fodder are enough.

GENERAL.

Rewah.—Scarcity of drinking water is reported from several directions, but is not general. The Darbar has sanctioned Rs. 3,000 for clearing and deepening wells wherever necessary. Private agency is also aiding. The wells in Rewah and Sutna are being deepened.

No. 33.

Letter from C. S. Bayley, Esq., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 6442 G., dated Indore, the 14th June, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 5505 G., dated the 21st May, 1900, I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Government of India, the Monthly Famine Statement* for May, 1900, received from the Political Agent in Baghelkhand.

Enclosure in No. 33.

Remarks by Captain R. B. Berkeley, Political Agent in Baghelkhand.

REWAH.

1. *Ramnagar*.—In addition to the ordinary relief works, a large number of Harwahas (serfs) are being employed or supported gratuitously by the landowners. The latter, now that the rains are close at hand, are desirous of keeping their "Harwahas" in the villages, so that there may be no lack of labour for agricultural operations directly the rain breaks. Physical condition of people is good, except in Beohari Ilaka, where relief operations have not been carried out according to the pre-arranged programme. No deaths from starvation.

* Not printed.

tion and no cases of cholera reported. Condition of cattle indifferent. A few isolated cases of mortality from rinderpest have occurred. No change in rates of wages. Water scarce in parts, but no fear of a water famine. Lists for taccavi and grants of clothing are being made up. Rs. 13,000 have been sanctioned from the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund for distribution to cultivators on object IV.

Sohagpur.—No emigration. Condition of people and cattle is fair.

Berdi.—Report not received.

NAGODE.

2. Relief works have been in full operation. There has been a rise in price of grain and a corresponding rise in wages. A certain amount of mortality is reported among cattle, probably due to rinderpest. The showers during the month under report have been of great temporary benefit, and there is now no fear of a water famine. Condition of people is fair; a few cases of cholera have occurred in Unchehra and village Piparia, Parsmania Ilaka, since the beginning of June. No death from starvation is reported. Food-stock is sufficient and is continually replenished by import from the neighbouring markets. General condition of the affected area fair. Emigration nil. Those who had gone to the Central Provinces to cut crops have all returned. Six persons have come from Maihar and settled in a village of Pargana Unchehra. Number of Darbar works is 39 and of private works, 35. Arrangements are being made for distribution of taccavi.

MAIHAR.

3. Works are being carried on satisfactorily. Condition of people on works is fair, and a great improvement in the condition of the people fed in kitchens is noticeable. No deaths from starvation. Three deaths from cholera reported on relief works. A few cases of immigration from non-famine districts of Rewah. Water and fodder are obtained with some difficulty. Decrease in the number of relief works is due to the fact that people from relief works are retiring to their homes to repair their houses and agricultural implements in anticipation of rain. Cholera has frightened away some. Ninety-two people out of 204 on gratuitous relief received dry ration. Arrangements are being made for distribution of taccavi.

SOHAWAL.

4. *Durjanpur*.—The relief work is construction of a bandh. Condition of people and cattle is fair. Water and fodder are available, though with some difficulty. Food-grain is imported from Sutna. The stronger labourers have withdrawn from the work to do ordinary labour, and hence the decrease in the number of persons working on relief work. Arrangements for distribution of taccavi are being made.

No. 34.

Letter from C. S. Bayley, Esq., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 7798 G., dated Indore, the 18th July, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 6442 G., dated the 14th June, 1900, I have the honour to submit, in original, for the information of the Government of India, the Monthly Famine Statement* for June, 1900, received from the Political Agent in Baghelkhand.

* Not printed.

Enclosure in No. 34.

Remarks by Captain R. B. Berkeley, Political Agent in Baghelkhand.

REWAH.

1. *Ramnagar*.—Relief works consist of bunds and tanks. Physical condition of people is fair except Beohari, and the jungle tribes which are in poor condition. No deaths from starvation. Food-stocks insufficient, but supplemented by grain imported by rail. There is mortality among cattle owing to rinderpest. Insufficiency of water nearly everywhere except in the neighbourhood of large rivers. No emigration or immigration. No rain in June, and general condition a little deteriorated. A few cases of cholera in one or two villages. Decrease in numbers on relief works is due to people having left the works in order to do petty repairs to their houses before the rains.

Bardi.—General condition stated to be as in Ramnagar.

Sohagpur.—General condition stated to be as in Ramnagar. Emaciated wanderers are reported to have appeared in the kitchens on the borders of Mandla (Jabalpur Division, Central Provinces). A Darbar official has been sent to bring them back. It is believed that they are members of hill tribes from Sohagpur. Rewah Darbar requested to start more kitchens and relief works from wherever they may have emigrated.

NAGODE.

2. The relief works are of the nature of bunds and road-making. Seven works were completed and six works were started during the month. Two additional kitchens have been established at Unchehra and Parsmania. Condition of people on the whole is fair. A few cases of cholera in some of the villages, but none on relief works. A compounder has been detailed for cholera duty. Mortality among cattle from rinderpest. Water scarce. Price of grain has risen for want of rain in June. Grain is imported from Sutna and other neighbouring bazars. Emigration nil. 23 persons are reported to have come from Maihar and Rewah and settled in Dhanwahi and Unchehra. No deaths from starvation. 441 persons were employed on private relief works of the Thakurs and Lumberdars. General condition of the affected area is fair.

MAIHAR.

3. Relief works are being carried on satisfactorily. Condition of people is fair. No deaths from starvation. Fodder and water scarce. Cattle in very poor condition. Decrease in the number on relief works is due to the fact that people left the works for petty repairs to their houses and preparations for agricultural operations. Lists are being made for distribution of taccavi. The cholera has greatly abated.

SOHAWAL.

4. Relief works have been continued. Condition of people and cattle is fair. Water and fodder are available. Food-grain is imported from Sutna.

GENERAL.

Taccavi from the Charitable Relief Fund has been distributed in Ramnagar, Nagode and Durjanpur. Arrangements are being made to distribute taccavi from the same fund in Sohagpur and Bardi. The Darbar taccavi also has been distributed in the Nagode State.

Cloth and blankets have been supplied from the Charitable Relief Fund to the indigent persons on relief works in Ramnagar, Dhanwahi, Unchehra, and Durjanpur. A few deserving persons have been relieved under object III.

Political Agent has lately visited Sahdole (Sohagpur) to enquire into cause of emigration to the kitchens in the Mandla district of Jabalpur.

(Prospects have improved in most districts owing to the rainfall in the first week of July.)

No. 35.

Letter from C. S. Bayley, Esq., C.S., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 8850 G., dated Central India Agency, Indore, the 17th August, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 7798 G., dated the 18th July, 1900, I have the honour to submit in original, for the information of the Government of India, the Monthly Famine Statement* for July, 1900, received from the Political Agent in Baghelkhand.

Enclosure in No. 35.

Remarks by Captain R. B. Berkeley, Political Agent, Baghelkhand, dated Sutna, the 15th August, 1900.

REWAH.

1. *Ramnagar*.—Figures have not been received. Condition of people and cattle is fair, no emigration and no deaths from starvation. Water-supply and pasturage ample since the rains in July. The standing crops and general prospects are good. Prices of grain fairly steady; relief works in the Ramnagar and Pathraula Circles have stopped owing to rain.

Sohagpur.—Relief works have continued and many more kitchens established. The relief works now consist of breaking metal for road. 109 persons who had emigrated from this ilaka were brought back from the Mandla District and admitted into the kitchens and the State relief works, many were emaciated. Some deaths are said to have occurred from starvation. Rainfall has been ample and the condition of crops is good. Grain imported by rail. Prices of grain stationary. There is little doubt that the condition of affairs in this pargana has been far from satisfactory for some weeks, and that the fact has been concealed. There has probably been much emigration to the Central Provinces and no adequate arrangements were made for the distribution of Taccavi and for maintenance when the rains commenced. Lieutenant Knollys is superintending the distribution of Taccavi and has opened several new kitchens.

Bardi.—The reduction in the number of people on relief works is owing to the commencement of agricultural operations. Condition of standing crops is good. No emigration and no deaths from starvation. Prices of grain stationary. Condition of people and cattle is good.

NAGODE.

2. Relief works consisting of roads and breaking metal for roads have continued. There are now 10 relief works and four kitchens in the State. Condition of people is good. Cholera has died out. Many weak cattle have died. Rainfall has been sufficient and the condition of crops is good. Emigration practically nil. Nine persons have left the State and 12 have come in from neighbouring States and settled in Unchehra and Dhanwahi. No deaths from starvation. 1,908 labourers on relief works, include 168 persons employed on

* Not printed.

the private relief works of the Thakurs and the Numbardars. Out of 359 people gratuitously relieved, 47 have received cash payments and an equal number grain doles. Taccavi and loans have been given by the State and also by the Thakurs. Grain supply by rail is sufficient. Reduction in the number of persons working on relief works is due to the commencement of agricultural operations. A further reduction is expected. One death from starvation through the negligence of three village officials, all of whom have been punished.

MAIHAR.

3. Reduction in the number of people employed on relief works due to the commencement of agricultural operations. Such persons as desired to leave relief works were given a few days wages in advance besides clothing and allowed to go. Cholera has died out. Condition of people and cattle is fair. Pasturage is ample. Two men died of starvation. Investigation shows that they voluntarily left the relief works and returned to their home and never applied for kitchen relief.

SOHAWAL.

Durjanpur.—Relief works were continued during the month under report. Condition of people and cattle fair. Fodder and pasturage ample. No emigration or death from starvation. Condition of crops fair.

GENERAL.

Aid from the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund.—Clothing and blankets have been given to 115 persons under object I. and to four orphans under object II. Eight persons were relieved with cash payments under object III. Rs. 15,021 were distributed to 2,086 broken down agriculturists for purchase of grain, cattle and agricultural implements under object IV.

No. 36.

Letter from C. S. Bayley, Esq., I.C.S., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 9816 G., dated Indore, the 19th September, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 8850 G., dated the 17th August, 1900, I have the honour to submit, in original, for the information of the Government of India, the monthly famine statement* for August, 1900, received from the Political Agent in Baghelkhand.

Enclosure in No. 36.

Remarks by Captain R. B. Berkeley, Political Agent, Baghelkhand.

REWAH.

Ramnagor.—With the exception of a relief work in the Manpur illaqua employing 41 persons, all relief works have been closed, weeding affording ample employment for all able-bodied persons. The number of kitchens has

* Not printed.

also been reduced. The condition of people, crops, and cattle are good. Prices of food-grain are as follows :—

Grain.						Seers.
Wheat	...	...	...	...	...	9
Jawa	...	...	...	...	...	10½
Gram	...	...	...	...	...	10
Muttra	...	...	...	...	...	11½

Sohagpur.—Relief works consist of bamboo cutting and stone-breaking; 53 kitchens have been started throughout the district. Darbar officials are touring in the district distributing grain to the destitute. The Thakurs (land-holders) have realised their responsibility and have distributed seed-grain, and are supplying food to their ryots. Physical condition of people on relief works is good, and of those in kitchens is bad owing to relief works having been instituted late. Prospects of the affected area are fair. About three-quarters of the normal area is alleged to have been sown, and the condition of the crops is good. Kutki has been cut in some places. No change in rates of wages. One or two isolated cases of immigration from British territory. No actual emigration in the month under report. A large number of those who formerly emigrated have returned. Five deaths in relief kitchens have been reported. Some deaths from starvation are alleged to have occurred, but present arrangements should prevent any more deaths. Taccavi has been distributed, and arrangements are being made for taccavi for the rabi sowings. Prices of grain are as follows :—

Grain.						Seers.
Wheat	...	...	...	...	...	9½
Rice	...	...	...	...	...	10
Gram	...	...	...	...	...	10½
Muttra	...	...	...	...	...	12

Bardi.—The condition of people, crops, and cattle is good. Prices of grain are as follows :—

Grain.						Seers.
Wheat	...	...	...	...	...	11½
Rice	...	...	...	...	...	From 8½ to 10½

NAGODE.

2. Field labour has withdrawn people from relief works. Some people were induced to leave the relief works by payment of two days' wages in advance, and others were provided with sickles for cutting grass and hoes for weeding. Wages were slightly reduced in the case of strong persons who did not require relief but still remained on relief works. This effected a reduction in the number. Sawan and kakun being now ripe, relief works have been

ordered to be closed. Kitchens will be kept open for some time at Dhanwahi and Unchehra. No emigration or immigration or deaths from starvation. Prices of food-grain have slightly fallen. Condition of crops is good. Sawan is said to have been slightly damaged by insects. Physical condition of people and cattle is good. Rinderpest and cholera have died out. Deaths from the former have been between 80 and 90 and from the latter 95 in Dhanwahi.

MAIHAR.

3. Everything satisfactory. The condition of crops, cattle, and people is good.

SOHAWAL.

4. *Durjanpur*.—Relief works and kitchens were closed on the 2nd of August. The Thakur took over four orphans who remained in the kitchens.

GENERAL.

The Political Agent visited Sahdol on the 31st, where he met several of the illaquaders of Sohagpur and urged them to continue to aid their subjects till the crops are ripe.

Six hundred and fifty-nine persons under object I., 739 under object III., and 3,112 under object IV. were relieved from the Charitable Relief Fund.

No. 37.

Letter from C. S. Bayley, Esq., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 8220 G., dated Indore, the 31st July, 1900.

I have the honour to submit, for the consideration and orders of the Government of India, the accompanying letter No. 2336, dated the 24th July, 1900, in which the Political Agent in Bhopawar asks permission to take a loan of one lakh of rupees from the Bank of Bengal, on the security of Government promissory notes held by the Barwani State.

2. The facts are clearly stated in Mr. Bosanquet's letter, and I would ask that if possible sanction to his proposal may be communicated to me by telegraph.

Enclosure in No. 37.

Letter from O. V. Bosanquet, Esq., Political Agent, Bhopawar, to the First Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, No. 2336, dated Camp Dhar, the 24th July, 1900.

The attached statement* exhibits the effects of the famine on the finances of the Barwani State.

* Not printed

2. In the past year, the receipts fell to Rs. 1,80,394, or, in round numbers, Rs. 1,45,000 below the estimate. The expenditure (Rs. 3,21,892) exceeded the budget provision by Rs. 34,000 in spite of retrenchments, and although the cost of famine relief was materially reduced by the success of the grass cutting operations conducted by the Forest Department. The latter employed 465,777 units to the close of the year, and 8,000,000 lb. of grass were cut: the produce was sold practically at cost price to cattle-owners both within and outside the State, and sales were so rapid that the operations were self-supporting almost from the first: consequently the figures were not brought in to the State accounts from month to month, and only the net result will be incorporated at the close of the famine. The only other item on the expenditure side calling for remark are the palace charges which amounted to Rs. 58,200. These include Rs. 17,939 on account of the Rana's College and other expenses at Indore for which only Rs. 10,000 had been estimated: the excess more than accounts for the difference between the budget provision and the actuals under this head.

3. In the budget estimates for the current year, the expenditure is set down at Rs. 1,07,000 in round numbers in excess of income. Though much of the land revenue uncollected during 1899-1900

* The question of suspensions and remissions is to be separately reported on by the Superintendent. has only been suspended,* the receipts of this year, even with a favourable monsoon, are not likely to exceed Rs. 1,56,420. The abkari and customs revenue share in the general depression, since the sale of liquor and trade are not expected

to revive under any circumstances till October. The increase under the head of miscellaneous revenue is due to my having appropriated for State purposes Rs. 20,000 out of the assets of the Ruling Family Fund. The latter is designed to meet expenditure on "deaths and marriages in the ruling family, scarcity and other unforeseen events." On the 31st March, 1900, the balance to the credit of the fund amounted in round numbers to Rs. 35,000. The Rana and his younger brother are separately provided for under the orders which sanctioned the formation of the Ruling Family Fund. Consequently as the Chief's family consists of only four dowager Ranis, all of whom have separate maintenance allowances, and as the Rana's and his brother's marriages will not take place for many years to come, it seemed to me both safe and expedient to appropriate Rs. 20,000 from the Ruling Family Fund for the urgent needs of the State, and during the current year to suspend the usual allotment of Rs. 10,000 from State revenues to the fund and to meet any unforeseen expenditure in the Chief's family from the capital of the fund.

On the expenditure side head 16 represents taccavi advances to cultivators. The provision of Rs. 1,32,000 on account of famine relief is considerably in excess of the actuals of 1899-1900, though the period of relief operations should

be about the same in each year. Of these Rs. 1,32,000, Rs. 1,12,000 are assigned to roads† which are at present being carried out as relief works, but which would in any case have to be undertaken for the proper development of the State. The Khetia-Rajpur road will open up the rich district of Pansemal (Jalgone), besides providing through communication between the country to the north of the Narbada and Khandesh, and affording an outlet in both directions to the produce of the Barwani forests. The Khetia Pati road traverses the central districts of the State, and only requires improvement in places to be largely used. The Telwara-Tikri road is being undertaken in conjunction with the Indore and Dhar Darbars, and will be a shorter route between Barwani and Indore, and develop the rich pargana of Bamangaon. The Anjar-Mohipura road places the Narbada ferry at Mohipura in direct communication with the system of metalled roads; there is already heavy

	Rs.
† Khetia-Moida-Rajpur road ...	80,000
Telwara-Tikri road ...	10,000
Pati-Khetia road... ..	10,000
Anjar-Mohipura road ...	7,000
Barwani-Julwania road...	5,000

traffic along this line. The Barwani-Julwani road is a metalled road connect-

	Rs.
New buildings	10,100
Repairs to buildings	6,500
Wells	1,000
Irrigation works	4,000
Repairs to roads and waterways	20,000
Establishment	12,680
Narbada bridges	1,500
Tools and plant	2,000
Total	57,780

cations to open cotton-ginning factories. The provision of Rs. 57,780 under head seven represents minor public works,* including hospital buildings at Khetia and Pati where they are much needed.

4. The deficit of 1899-1900 was met from the cash balances of the State, and even the further deficit of the current year will not reduce the State's balance much below what it was at the commencement of the present minority. The State balance, however, includes Rs. 3,56,500 of securities which could only be realised at a loss in the present condition of the market. Accordingly, in anticipation of the approval of the Agent to the Governor-General, I enquired of the Bank of Bengal whether they would be prepared to lend the State Rs. 1,00,000, on terms similar to those sanctioned for the Dhar famine loan, but subject to repayment by the 1st January, 1904. The Superintendent agrees with me that the State can without difficulty pay Rs. 30,000 on the 1st January, 1902, and the 1st January, 1903, respectively, and the balance of the loan (which need not necessarily be taken up in full if the season proves favourable) on the 1st January, 1904. The Bank of Bengal agree to the proposal and are prepared to lend the money at 5 per cent. I have the honour to apply for sanction to conclude the loan.

5. The State balance as exhibited in the enclosed statement included only Rs. 13,903 in cash on the 30th June. It is desirable, therefore, to borrow Rs. 50,000 at once. I awaited the decision regarding the Dhar Famine Loan before submitting this case.

No. 38.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, to the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, Indore, No. 3693 I.A., dated 18th August, 1900.

Your letter 8220 G., July 31st. Permission is given to Barwani State to take loan of one lakh from Bank of Bengal, but as section 37 of Presidency Banks Act forbids bank to give loans for longer period than three months, Barwani State must be prepared to repay the loan at any time after lapse of that period if called on to do so by the bank, selling its Government paper for the purpose. Even if bank does not expect to require to demand repayment, the bank's right to do so cannot be affected by any supplementary understanding.

No. 39.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel M. J. Meade, C.I.E., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 8153 G., dated Indore, the 29th July, 1901.

With reference to the correspondence ending with your telegram No. 3693 I.A., dated the 18th August, 1900, I have the honour to forward, for the favourable consideration and orders of the Government of India, a copy of a letter No. 3354, dated the 24th July, 1901, with enclosures, from the Political Agent in Bhopawar, requesting sanction to a further loan of one lakh of rupees from the Bank of Bengal for the Barwani State.

2. As the matter is somewhat urgent, I would ask that the orders of the Government of India may be communicated to me by telegraph.

Enclosure 1 in No. 39.

Letter from Captain E. Barnes, I.S.C., Political Agent in Bhopawar, Sirdarpur, Central India, to the First Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, No. 3354, dated Dhar, the 24 July, 1901.

I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Honourable the Agent to the Governor-General, the enclosed copy of letter No. 121, dated the 11th July, 1901, received from the Superintendent Khan Bahadur N. M. Khory, on the present financial condition of the Barwani State.

2. The current year's total estimated expenditure exceeds the estimated receipts of the year by about Rs. 1,00,000, as shown in the margin. The deficit, in addition to the repayment of an instalment Rs. 30,000 on account of last year's loan from the Bank of Bengal, is due to the large allotment which was essentially necessary for the Public Works Department of the State, in order to allow of the completion of important roads which were commenced during the famine of 1899, and which have been continued ever since. The allotment for original works for the current year amounts to Rs. 64,000, and the continuation of these works apart from their great economic value has afforded much-needed employment to an average of more than 3,000 persons daily during the past four months.

3. It may be seen from the enclosed letter and its enclosures that the income for April, May, and June, 1901, was Rs. 28,379-3-10, which, together with the opening cash balance Rs. 14,991-7-6 on the 1st April, 1901, amounted to Rs. 43,370-11-4 on the 1st July, 1901; the expenditure during the last three months amounted to Rs. 69,715-9-3, thus exceeding the total receipts by Rs. 26,344-11-3, which had to be borrowed and utilised from the cash balance on account of Khasgi Funds. Furthermore, the Superintendent estimates, and I agree with him, that an additional sum of about Rs. 74,000 will be required by the State immediately to carry on the administration until the land revenue instalments begin to fall due in December, 1901. The State holds Government Securities to the extent of Rs. 3,22,500. But the market rates at present are not favourable, and the State could only realise these Securities at a loss of approximately 5 per cent.

4. I therefore request sanction to borrow up to one lakh of rupees (1,00,000) from the Bank of Bengal on the same terms as last year, viz., (1) whole loan to be covered by Government Paper of a nominal value equal to the total amount of the loan plus 10 per cent.; (2) interest to be payable at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum.

As the State receives $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. from Government as interest on its Government Paper, the net interest payable by the State is only $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

5. I would venture to ask that, as the matter is somewhat urgent, I may be favoured with orders at an early date.

Annexure.

Letter from the Superintendent of Barwani to the Political Agent in Bhopawar, No. 121, date the 11th July, 1901.

I have the honour to request you to be so good as to borrow on security of the State Promissory Notes in your office a sum of Rs. 1,00,000 for State expenses. The annexed statements will show the present financial condition. On 1st July the cash balance, including the Khasgi, was Rs. 28,939-9-9, out of which the pay and other bills for June and current expenses are being met.

It may be seen from statement A. that on the 30th June the income for April, May and June amounted to Rs. 28,379-3-10, which, together with the cash balance of Rs. 14,991-7-6 on the 1st of April, came to Rs. 43,370-11-4 on 1st July. The expenditure during the last three months, amounting to Rs. 69,715-9-3, exceeded the total receipts by Rs. 26,344-13-11, a sum that had to be borrowed and used from the Khasgi cash balance, which on 1st April amounted to Rs. 66,156-10-5. Thus the Khasgi cash balance was on 30th June reduced to Rs. 39,811-12-6, which, minus the Khasgi expenses for the three months, amounting to Rs. 405-5-6, left a balance of Rs. 39,406-7-0 on 1st July. In this the Khasgi cash was on 1st July Rs. 9,189-9-10, the balance being Rs. 30,216-13-2 distributed in the State Amanat, which will be debited to State account after the amount of advances made to the Public Works Department, Forest, Palace, &c., are adjusted. In short, the State has already borrowed Rs. 56,561-11-1 from the Khasgi. Rs. 26,344-13-11 excess of expenditure over income plus Rs. 30,216-13-2 credited in State Amanat.

From the statements of receipts and expenditure for the month of June submitted to you yesterday, it will appear that the closing balance on 30th June amounts to Rs. 3,28,155-2-1, which, when deducted from the opening balance on 1st April of Rs. 3,69,491-7-6, reduces the latter by Rs. 41,336-5-5, which represents the difference between the expenditure for the last three months (Rs. 69,715-9-3) and receipts for the same period (Rs. 28,379-3-10).

The uncertain condition of the monsoon causes much anxiety, and therefore it is considered necessary to borrow one lakh of rupees instead of Rs. 50,000, as I had at first proposed. If the rainfall is favourable to crops, even then income will improve from November next. The Government papers belonging to the State now in your office are of the aggregate value of Rs. 3,22,500, thus :—

	Rs.
Promissory Notes of the State (after deducting Promissory Notes of 1,10,000) with the Bank of Bengal	2,44,500
Promissory Notes of Khasgi	78,000
TOTAL	3,22,500

STATE ACCOUNT.

A.

Cash balance on 1st April, 1901 Rs. a. p.
14,991 7 6

Income.

For April, 1901	Rs. a. p.	
" May, "	7,315 5 6	
" June, "	10,282 11 5	
	10,781 2 11	
Total	28,379 3 10	
	43,370 11 4	

CENTRAL INDIA AGENCY.

Expenditure.

	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
For April, 1901	9,004 2 0	
" May, "	30,826 8 0	
" June, "	29,884 15 3	
Excess of expenditure over income (Borrowed from Khasgi)		69,715 9 3
		26,344 13 11

A.

Cash balance on 1st April, 1901—
Cash 14,991 7 6
Promissory Notes (Note of Rs. 1,10,000 being with the Bank of Bengal) 2,44,500 0 0
2,59,491 7 6

Income.

For April, 1901	7,315 5 6	
" May, "	10,282 11 5	
" June, "	10,781 2 11	
Total	28,379 3 10	
	2,87,870 11 4	

Expenditure.

For April, 1901	9,004 2 0	
" May, "	30,826 8 0	
" June, "	29,884 15 3	
Balance on 1st July, 1901	69,715 9 3	
	2,18,155 2 1	

KHASGI ACCOUNT.

B.

Cash balance on 1st April, 1901—
Cash Rs. a. p.
66,156 10 5
Promissory Notes 78,000 0 0
Total 1,44,156 10 5

Income.

Nil.
Total 1,44,156 10 5

Expenditure.

For April, 1901	Rs. a. p.	
" May, "	2 0 0	
" June, "	334 5 6	
	69 0 0	
Balance on 1st July	405 5 6	
	1,43,751 4 11	

Cash	Rs. a. p.
Promissory Notes	9,189 9 10
Debited to State Amanat	78,000 0 0
	56,561 11 1
	1,43,751 4 11

E. BARNES, Captain,
Political Agent in Bhopawar.

Enclosure 2 in No. 39.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, to the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, Indore, No. 2944-I.A., dated the 3rd August, 1901.

2944 I.A., Your letter 8153-G., July 29th. Barwani may take further loan of one lakh from Bank of Bengal, on security of Government paper and subject to understanding explained in my telegam No. 3693-I.A., August 18th, 1900.

No. 40.

Letter from C. S. Bayley, Esq., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 19, G.C., dated Camp Bhandar, the 7th December, 1900.

I regret to have to submit, for the information of the Government of India, the accompanying copy of a letter No. 1 C., dated the 24th November, 1900,* in which the Political Agent in Bhopawar reports that, owing to the partial failure of the monsoon, there is likely to be a recurrence between the present time and the next rainy season of scarcity in the southern and south-western part of his Agency.

2. The States likely to be affected are Jhabua, Jobat and Ali Rajpur, and parts of Gwalior, Indore, Dhar and Barwani. The failure of crops will only be partial, and with the fall in the price of food-grains, which is likely to take place as soon as the present harvest has been gathered, distress would probably not be severe if it did not follow immediately on the failure of the current year. As things stand, however, the position is serious, and it will be necessary before long to open relief works to save the Bhil population. Captain Barnes's report, which was written after personal discussion of the whole question with me, is full, and I cannot add much to it. Fortunately, with two exceptions, the States concerned are in a position to afford the necessary relief. The Gwalior and Indore Darbars have been addressed, and Dhar, Ali Rajpur and Barwani, acting under the advice of the Political Agent, will do all that is required in their territories. It is probable that the services of a special Famine Officer will be required hereafter, but for the present the Political Agent, who is now on tour in the affected tracts, can supervise relief measures.

3. The two States, of which the Financial situation calls for serious consideration, are Jhabua and Jobat. In Jhabua the Raja, who received his powers two years ago, succeeded to a considerable heritage of debt which he had done his best to reduce when the famine of this year made his position worse than before. At the same time his action in suddenly reducing the interest payable on the State debts and the strained relations existing between himself and his Dewan seriously affected the credit of the Darbar, and in August last Mr. Bosanquet, then Political Agent, found himself obliged to recommend that an application should be made to Government for a loan, and that the Raja should be temporarily deprived of his powers, the administration of the State being entrusted to an officer acting under the direct control of the Political Agent. In view of the fact that the Raja's position was due more to misfortune than to any fault of his own, and that such mistakes as he had made were to a great extent the result of inexperience, I was unwilling to adopt this course. I asked His Highness to see me at Indore, and in the course of an interview at which Mr. Bosanquet and Capt Barnes were present, I spoke to him seriously about the position of his State and the necessity for taking immediate steps to effect an improvement. The Raja on this agreed to increase

the powers of his Dewan, to submit his budget annually to the Political Agent, and to follow the advice of the latter as to its details until such time as the debts should be liquidated. The Political Agent reported these arrangements and submitted a full account of the financial position in Jhabua in his letter No. 2961, dated the 17th October, 1900, of which I enclose a copy. The result is to show that a loan of Rs. 20,000 will be necessary to enable the State to carry on the administration during the current year and to pay the instalment of the Gwalior loan due on the 1st May. Arrangements may be made locally for this loan, but the effect of it will be to bring up the total indebtedness of the State by the 1st May to Rs. 2,15,299. When this letter was written, the Political Agent hoped that it would be possible for the Raja under the revised arrangements to meet and gradually pay off all his obligations, and that the necessity for taking the State under management would thus be obviated. Had the present harvest been a good one, it is, as shown by Captain Barnes in paragraph 7 of his letter No. 1-C. of the 24th November, probable that this hope would have been fully realised. The failure of the kharif harvest and the prospect of a very poor rabi crop have, however, altered the conditions very materially for the worse, and Captain Barnes now estimates that it will be necessary to borrow a further sum of one lakh of rupees, though it is possible that, if there is a really good mohwa crop, a smaller sum may suffice. There are only two ways in which this amount can be provided, namely a direct loan from Government or a loan raised locally under a Government guarantee, and I trust that the Government of India will sanction either the one or the other. The Political Agent, it will be seen, suggests that, as the works which it is proposed to undertake for famine relief will be valuable feeder-roads to the Godhra-Ratlam Railway, the Government of India might itself defray a portion of the cost. The adoption of this course might prove an inconvenient precedent, and I therefore hesitate to recommend it, but in view of the benefit which would accrue to the railway as to the State, I should be very glad if the Government of India could see their way to making some concession in the case by granting the loan on specially favourable terms in regard to interest. In order to secure the repayment of the loan, a larger measure of interference in the administration will be necessary. I am very unwilling that the Raja should be deprived entirely of his powers. His Highness is young and interested in the administration, and, if his powers are taken away, he will be left without employment, and by the time they are restored will probably be unfit to exercise them. I trust, therefore, that the Government of India will consent for the present to allow a system of administration to be tried by which the Raja shall appoint a Minister with the approval of the Political Agent, shall be guided by the Political Agent's advice in all important matters, including the preparation of his budget, and shall be forbidden to raise any money or to exceed the budget allotments without permission. If this arrangement, after a fair trial, fails to work satisfactorily, there will be no alternative but to take the State under management.

4. The position of the small State of Jobat is also very unsatisfactory. A full account of it is given in the enclosed copy of a letter No. 3262, dated the 15th November, 1900, from the Political Agent. This shows that the State, which has in the past year spent over Rs. 46,000, or nearly 1½ times its annual revenue, on famine relief, is absolutely penniless, and that a loan of Rs. 15,000 is required to enable it to carry on the ordinary administration. In addition to this, some Rs. 35,000 will be required for purposes of famine relief, and I recommend that a loan of Rs. 50,000 in all should be made to Jobat by the Government of India, the repayment of which, at the rate of Rs. 7,000 a year, should commence from the liquidation of the Gwalior loan, i.e., three years hence. As the Rana is a minor, the State is under management, and no special administrative arrangements are required.

5. The provision of funds in both Jhabua and Jobat is an urgent matter, and I trust that I may be favoured with an early answer to this letter.

No. 41.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Calcutta, to the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, Camp, No. 5455-I.A., dated the 29th December, 1900.

Your letter 19-G.C., December 7th. Famine loans of Rs. 50,000 for Jhabua and Rs. 30,000 for Jobat are sanctioned for current financial year. Provision will be made for next financial year for Rs. 50,000 more for Jhabua and Rs. 20,000 more for Jobat, if required. But please impress on the Political Agent the importance of strict economy and the rigid application of famine tests in the expenditure of the money given. The Government of India trust that, with care and strict supervision, it may not be necessary to ask for the balance of the loans next year. Orders as to terms of repayment will follow.

No. 42.

Letter from Captain H. Daly, C.I.E., Deputy Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, to the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, No. 231-I.A., dated Fort William, the 16th January, 1901.

I am directed to refer to the correspondence ending with the telegram marked on the margin, which sanctioned the grant of famine loans for the Jhabua and Jobat States.

From the Government of India in the Foreign Department, No. 5455-I.A., dated the 29th December, 1900.

2. I am to request that you will submit, in due course, your recommendations as to the periods within which the loans should be made repayable. The Government of India, as at present advised, do not see sufficient reason to concede to the Jhabua State easier terms, in regard to interest, than have been allowed in the case of neighbouring States. The loans granted to both States will, therefore, in the absence of further orders, bear interest at 4 per cent.

From the Government of India in the Foreign Department, No. 70-C., dated the 1st December, 1900 (Bijawar finances).

Your tentative proposals in regard to the future administration of the Jhabua State are approved generally. It will be convenient if you can furnish the Government of India with information, in a form somewhat similar to that contained in the letter marginally noted, as to the financial position of the State for the past three years.

No. 43.

Letter from C. S. Bayley, Esq., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 1868-G., dated Camp Palasi, the 2nd March, 1901.

In acknowledging the receipt of your telegram No. 5455-I.A., dated the 29th December, 1900, and of Captain Daly's letter No. 231-I.A., dated the 16th January, 1901, I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Government of India, a copy of the letters cited on the margin, which have passed between my office and the Political Agent in Bhopawar, regarding the application of the loans sanctioned by Government for purposes of famine relief in the Jhabua and Jobat States.

To the Political Agent No. 187-C., dated 17th January, 1901.

From the Political Agent, No. 530, dated the 5th February, 1901.

2. I have delayed addressing you on this subject until now, as I wished before doing so to satisfy myself by personal inspection of the conditions obtaining among the Bhil population of the States in question. This I have now done, and I regret to find that the position is even worse than I had anticipated. The population of Jhabua at the Census of 1891 was 119,787 and that of Jobat 15,047. The preliminary returns for the present Census show 77,627 and 8,500 respectively. There is every reason to believe that, up to the failure of the rains in 1899, the population had gone on increasing at its normal rate. The loss is thus greater than it appears from the figures. A small portion of it may be due to emigration to British territory; but in view of the state of things prevailing in Gujarat, no large deduction can be made on this account, and there can be no doubt that almost the whole decrease has been due to the terrible mortality caused by an abnormally unhealthy season among a people much reduced by famine. In the opinion alike of the late and present Political Agents, the Famine Assistants, and the Native officials best qualified to judge, comparatively few actually died from hunger, but the survivors were not strong enough to resist the cholera and fever which came during and after the rains. Evidences of the decrease of population are visible on all sides in the shape of uncultivated ground and deserted houses. Unfortunately, both the autumn and winter rains were scanty and unseasonable, and consequently, even where fields were sown almost entirely with seed, and bullocks provided by the Darbars, the seeds failed to germinate. A certain quantity of maize and other crops were raised, and on these and the seeds of the *sawa* and other grasses, which have happily been abundant, the people have lived till now. In ordinary years the Bhils eke out their resources for three or four weeks with grass seeds, but this year they have lived on them almost entirely since the beginning of November, and will be able to procure them for another month or so. About the end of March the *mohwa* crop, if it turns out well, will also help them on for a time. Neither of these foods are very nourishing and neither will last long, and, though, for the moment signs of emaciation are seldom apparent, the people will soon have nothing to eat till the autumn crops are reaped, and they are not in a state of health to enable them to resist the ordinary unhealthiness of the rainy season and the subsequent two months. For the most part their stocks are entirely exhausted. No better proof of the accuracy of this description could be given than is afforded by the fact that, on the relief work recently started near Jobat, some 1,800 people are at present at work. Last year the Bhils were only induced with difficulty to come to the works. This year they have come freely of their own accord. I asked many of them why they had come and what stock they had at home, and the answer was in every case the same—"If I had anything in my house should I come to work?" To anyone who knows the Bhil habit of working at his fields for the shortest time possible and of idling for the rest of the year, the answer is, I think, conclusive.

3. With grain at its present price of some 16 seers to the rupee, and with few signs of actual starvation among the people, ordinary famine conditions cannot be said to exist, but I submit that relief measures are none the less urgently necessary on this account. To people who have neither the money nor the means of raising it the price of food matters little, and in view of the heavy mortality of last year, and of the fact that the Bhils' power of resistance to privation and sickness is absolutely at an end, it is of the utmost importance to keep them above starvation point, and to place them in a position in which they can take advantage of more favourable agricultural conditions. The attainment of this object is, I venture with the utmost deference to submit, altogether incompatible with the rigid enforcement of famine tests. In this connection I would ask the careful attention of the Government of India to the remarks made by the Political Agent. Any attempt to enforce famine tests strictly would, I agree with Captain Barnes in thinking, lead to the immediate desertion of the works and to very heavy mortality. In Jhabua, which is a fairly large State, with some organisation, it will, I hope, be possible to have works under the supervision of the State officials and to fix a wage which will limit relief to those who are actually in real want, but it will not be possible to enforce a task which would be reasonable in more civilised parts of

the country, and it will probably be necessary, when the works are closed and people return to their fields, to give them small sums in money to enable them to tide over the time till their crops ripen. Should the arrangements prove unsatisfactory, a system similar to that which I am about to describe as in force in Jobat will be adopted. In Jobat which, though a separate State, has an area of only 127 square miles and a revenue in normal years of Rs. 34,000 (this year it is only Rs. 18,000), it is impossible with the necessarily very limited administrative staff adequately to supervise famine relief conducted on the lines of the Famine Code, and by far the most effective arrangement is that which the Political Agent had previously to the receipt of my letter authorised the Darbar to adopt, namely, to carry on the work by contract. I have carefully inspected the work which appears to me to be in all respects satisfactory. The contractor, a very respectable Parsi gentleman, who did much good work on behalf of Dhar and other Darbars last year, is obliged to provide labour for all who apply for it, except those who are physically unfit. He pays the male diggers at the rate of $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 annas according to the work done, and the female diggers at $1\frac{1}{2}$ annas. Nearly all these people bring their women or children, or both with them, and, as these earn two cowris for every basket carried, it is strongly to the interest of the diggers to enable them to carry as many baskets as possible. In practice, this affords a sufficient inducement to perform a full task. The workers save a little out of their earnings on which they will be able to live when the works are closed, and in some cases to pay part of the price of the bullocks or seed which will be given to them as *taccavi*. The system is cheap and works well, so much so that some of the other States, such as Ali Rajpur, have adopted it spontaneously. For persons who are unable to work, the contractor looks after a poorhouse which is provided at the cost of the State. At present, only one application has been made for admission, but the arrangement worked well last year, and when weakly persons appear this year there will be full provision for them. I can assure the Government of India that every endeavour is being made to prevent money from being wasted, and I trust that, in view of the altogether peculiar circumstances of the case, the Government of India will not insist on the application of ordinary famine tests. If this is done, I am assured by the Political Agent, and by the Superintendents of Jobat and Ali Rajpur, who are men who have lived and worked among the affected tract followed of necessity by the impoverishment for many years to come of the Darbars.

4. I am glad to say that the Political Agent has, in the light of further experience, been able to reduce his estimates of the amounts which are likely to be required as loans by the States. These he now gives as Rs. 65,000 for Jhabua and Rs. 45,000 for Jobat thus:—

JHABUA.			
			Rs.
Relief works and gratuitous relief	...		50,000
Taccavi advances	...		15,000
Total	...		65,000

JOBAT.			
			Rs.
Relief works and gratuitous relief	...		25,000
To meet deficit in the current year's budget	...		15,000
Taccavi	...		5,000
Total	...		45,000

In the case of both States advances on account of *taccavi* have been included, and in the case of Jobat the sum of Rs. 15,000 has been provided to meet the current year's deficit. This has been done, as in Jhabua the limit of the State's power to borrow in the open market has been reached, and although Jobat, being under superintendence, could borrow locally under what would practically amount to a guarantee from the Political Agent, still such a loan would not be obtainable at a less rate of interest than 9 per cent., which would involve an additional and almost insupportable burden on its finances.

5. The report called for in paragraph 2 of Captain Daly's letter, No. 231-I.A., dated the 16th January, 1901, will be submitted with as little delay as possible.

Enclosure 1 in No. 43.

Letter from the Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Political Agent in Bhopawar, No. 187-C., dated the 17th January, 1901.

With reference to your letters cited on the margin, I am directed to inform you that the Government of India have been pleased to sanction famine loans of Rs. 50,000 and Rs. 30,000 for the Jhabua and Jobat States, respectively, for the current financial year, and will make provision for further loans of Rs. 50,000 for Jhabua and Rs. 20,000 for Jobat in the year 1901-1902, if required.

In communicating sanction to these loans, the Government of India have desired the Agent to the Governor-General to impress on you the importance of strict economy and the rigid application of famine tests in the expenditure of the money lent. The Government of India trust that, with care and strict supervision, it may not be necessary to ask for the balance of the loans next year.

2. I am to ask your very careful attention to the order of the Government of India in respect of the loans, and to request that you will be so good as to report the steps which you propose to take to ensure economical administration of famine relief. In view of the peculiarities of the Bhil population of the affected tract, the enforcement of strict famine tests will necessarily be a matter of difficulty, but as inasmuch as a large portion of the people came on relief works last year, and are, therefore, to a great extent accustomed to famine conditions, the Agent to the Governor-General trusts that the difficulty may not prove insuperable.

3. Your proposal to allow the Raja of Jhabua to raise a loan of Rs. 50,000, instead of Rs. 20,000 originally proposed, to meet the expenses of administration for the current year is sanctioned, though it is regretted that the position should be worse than you supposed would be the case when your letter of the 24th November was written. It will not, however, be possible, as suggested by you, to employ any portion of the money lent by Government to discharge part of the loan raised by the Darbar, as it is evident from the terms in which sanction has been conveyed that the Government loan is intended only to supplement the resources of the State to the extent necessary to save life.

Enclosure 2 in No. 43.

Letter from the Political Agent in Bhopawar, to the First Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, No. 530, dated the 5th February, 1901.

I have the honour to reply to Mr. Gough's letter, No. 187-C., dated the 17th January, 1901, regarding the sanction which the Government of India has been pleased to accord to the grant of famine loans for the States of Jhabua and

Jobat, in connection with which I am asked to report the steps I propose to take to ensure strict economy in the expenditure of this money and in the administration of famine relief.

2. In the first place I would assure the Honourable the Agent to the Governor-General that no effort will be wanting on my part to enforce the greatest economy possible in the expenditure of the money lent, and I am certain that the Jhabua Darbar and the Superintendent, Jobat, will use every effort to second me in this direction. Both these States are so much in debt that it is obviously the object of all concerned to avoid, as much as may be possible, any increase of the burden. With the greatest deference, however, I submit that the condition of the people in both Jhabua and Jobat is such as to render the employment of rigid famine tests inexpedient. My reasons are the following.

In the first place the population is purely Bhil, and it is under any circumstances a difficulty to induce this class of people to continue on the works. I believe that the rigid imposition of tests would result in their remaining in the jungle, and in their endeavouring to eke out an existence on forest produce. This was what happened in certain cases last year, and was, I consider, one of the causes of very high mortality, and also of the large amount of dakaitis. Furthermore, works carried on under these conditions in these small States entail the enlistment from outside of a considerable supervising establishment, which but too often opens a way to wasteful expenditure and fraud. From the experience obtained during the past famine in this Agency it was found that the contract system was both economical and effective in affording relief, and it is for that reason that I advocated the employment of this system in my letter, No. 1-C., dated the 24th November, 1900.

3. In December last, I toured through the States of Jhabua, Jobat, and Ali Rajpur, and convinced myself of the need there would be of affording employment to the people during the coming months. But, apart from a personal inspection of the area, a consideration of the conditions which have existed during the past 18 months would, I submit, suffice to prove the need of giving work to the population, and as, from the orders of the Government of India, I fear that my previous reports may not have been sufficiently explicit, I venture to recapitulate these conditions. In 1899 the rains failed almost completely, so that in addition to the grain famine which ensued, the Bhils were deprived of the forest products, from which, in ordinary times, a considerable addition to their food-stocks is obtained. The suffering was thus very severe, and the result is now evident in the reduced population. Unfortunately, the monsoon of 1900 was not satisfactory. The rainfall was deficient in quantity, and ceased too soon. Owing to the past famine, and in spite of every effort made, only a six-anna kharif crop was obtained, and this was sown, for the most part, by the better classes. A very large proportion of the Bhils, who ordinarily sow a small area for their personal wants, did not in past year sow at all, or else sowed so late that their crops never ripened. They have thus been almost entirely dependent on forest produce supplemented by small earnings reaping the crops of their neighbours (it must be remembered that the rabi crop in this area is practically non-existent). The previous year having thus reduced the population to poverty, and the present year having afforded no sufficient means for recuperation, it appears evident that the people must be on the very margin of severe distress. It is true that the physical condition of the people is still good, so far as a number of persons nourished on grass-seed can be called good, but they are living absolutely from hand to mouth and have nothing in reserve. If in offering them employment rigid tests are employed, a large percentage of the people will, I believe, not come near the works. Very severe distress will become apparent, dakaiti will increase, and for the same reasons as last year the mortality will be very serious. A consideration of the figures obtained from the preliminary enumerations which have just been completed in Jobat will, I think, further strengthen my recommendations. The census of 1891 show a population of 15,000, and the preliminary returns which have just been completed show the present population to be 8,500. It is

evident that every effort must be made to prevent any repetition of such a mortality, and this can only be done by generous treatment at the present time.

4. It was the knowledge of the above-mentioned conditions which caused me (as already reported) to arrange for the opening of work by contract on the Jobat-Ambua road by the 15th January. This work was actually opened on the 19th, prior to the receipt of the orders contained in Mr. Gough's letter. It may be remarked that on the 15th many people had already collected and were awaiting the arrival of the contractor, and I now learn from the Superintendent of Jobat, who has just joined me in camp, that on the 29th there were 960 people working, and that he expects that numbers will rise to close on 2,000. I enclose, for the information of the Honourable the Agent to the Governor-General, a copy of the terms under which the contract has been made. The wages paid are as follows :—

					Maximum.
					Annas.
Male diggers	...	...	...	...	1½ to 2
Women diggers	...	...	...	...	1 to 1½

Those working with the baskets receive 2 cowries for every basket, so that to earn 1 anna 144 baskets have to be carried. I had sent for the Superintendent, who has many years' experience of the Bhils, to discuss with him the possibility of introducing tests or of reducing the wages now paid. He submits that it is not possible to lower the rate of wages given above. His view is that the condition of this small State is absolutely critical, and that employment must be given on liberal terms, otherwise, he urges, the Bhils will not come on the work, preferring to starve in their own houses than to work on what they consider insufficient pay. Unless they are nursed during the coming months, there will be a repetition of last year's mortality, with the result that the State will become practically a desert. I quote the Superintendent's opinion, as he is a man who has spent his whole service among the Bhils, and moreover I feel it my duty to place the matter before the Honourable the Agent to the Governor-General as clearly as possible, so that the situation may be fully understood, and there may be no doubt as to the issues which are at stake. The contract system which has been employed is distinctly economical to the State, the only extra establishment entailed being a sub-overseer on Rs. 30. Moreover in these small States, where officials are very poorly paid, there is less danger of peculation under this system than under the Famine Code, where the money passes through so many hands before reaching the labourer himself. A further guarantee of economy, or rather the prevention of waste, lies in the fact that all money will be paid to the contractor through my office direct after his bills have been passed by competent engineering authority. I trust, therefore, that, after a consideration of the remarks which, with all deference, I have ventured to submit in this and the previous paragraph, my action, in arranging for relief in Jobat under the contract system without subjecting workers to any rigid test, may be approved, and the extension of this system to Jhabua, as it may be found desirable, may be sanctioned.

I would again assure the Honourable the Agent to the Governor-General that in every way possible economy will be practised, but I beg, in the interests of the States concerned, that the very special conditions existing may be recognised, and that the orders regarding the application of the Famine Code tests may be reconsidered.

5. Up to the present no work has been opened in the Jhabua State, but in my opinion it will be necessary to do so very shortly. I have been awaiting information as to the action which the Public Works Department will take regarding the recommencement of work on the Jhabua-Meghnagar road. It

will be remembered that this road was commenced last year with money supplied by local funds, and that the share of the Jhabua Darbar in the total cost was estimated at Rs. 8,000, excluding the cost of maintenance; but apart from this other works will be necessary, and concerning them I am in correspondence with the Dewan. Amongst other proposals is one for improving the existing tract between Jhabua and Ranapur and Thandla-Bajrangarh, and a surveyor has been deputed by the Public Works Department to survey the former line. I propose the construction of a fourth-class road between these places, as the Darbar is not in position to provide for the maintenance charges of metalled roads. For the supervision of these works, the employment by the Darbar of a subordinate officer with special engineering qualifications will, I think, be necessary.

6. In conclusion I note the orders of the Honourable the Agent to the Governor-General contained in paragraph 3 of Mr. Gough's letter that no part of the money lent is to be employed by the Jhabua State to discharge part of any loan raised by the Darbar. I regret for the sake of the Darbar that this should be the case, but I trust that the ruling does not apply to Jobat, for whom I especially applied for a loan of Rs. 15,000

Vide my letter No. (C), dated the 24th November, 1900.

to meet the deficit in the current year's budget, which is solely due to the recent famine. If the ruling above mentioned is held to apply to Jobat, I would beg most earnestly for its reconsideration, and would ask that reference may be made to my letter No. 3262, dated the 15th November, 1900, in which the financial condition of the State is fully shown. I also trust that the grant of "taccavi" advances to cultivators for the purchase of bullocks and seed, both in the cases of Jhabua and Jobat, may be permitted from these loans. This subject is a general cause of preoccupation throughout the Agency, but especially so in the case of Jobat and Jhabua, who have no reserve funds to fall back on; and who, if they hope to recover some of the ground lost, must be ready to employ a liberal policy in this direction.

7. Finally I would beg that I may be informed of the conditions as to the interest and terms of repayment on which the loans have been granted.

No. 44.

Letter from J. B. Wood, Esq., the Under Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign Department, to the Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, No. 1427 I.-4., dated Simla, the 12th April, 1901.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1868 G., dated the 2nd March, 1901, regarding famine administration in the Jhabua and Jobat States.

2. The Government of India recognise that in dealing with Bhils special measures are required, and no departure from this policy was intended in the instructions to which you refer. In insisting on the rigid application of famine tests, the Government of India contemplated that appropriate tests would be devised, but desired that these should be carefully enforced. Accordingly the arrangements which you describe are suitable, provided that, as you state, they "limit relief to those really in want."

3. The loans of Rs. 15,000 to Jhabua and of Rs. 15,000 to Jobat during the current official year are sanctioned, as proposed by you, in lieu of Rs. 50,000 and Rs. 20,000, respectively, as previously estimated.

No. 45.

Letter from C. S. Bayley, Esq., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 3663 G., dated Indore, the 15th April, 1901.

In continuation of paragraph 6 of my letter No. 1868 G., dated the 2nd March, 1901, I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Government of India, a copy of a letter No. 1243, dated the 24th March, 1901, in which the Political Agent in Bhopawar reports on the financial position of the States of Jhabua and Jobat in connection with the repayment of the loans recently sanctioned by Government.

2. It will be seen that both States are for the time being in an extremely impoverished condition, and I regret that, in the circumstances described by Captain Barnes, I am unable at present to make any definite suggestion as to the date from which the repayment of the loans should commence.

3. In order to secure careful financial supervision, the Political Agent will be instructed to submit the budget estimates of both States to me annually for the next few years, and, with the permission of the Government of India, I will report again on the subject a year hence. In the meantime the Political Agent will be asked to investigate carefully the miscellaneous debts against the Jhabua Darbar, and to see what steps can be taken to substitute a proper system of land revenue collections for that described in paragraph 6 of his letter.

Enclosure in No. 45.

Letter from Captain E. Barnes, Political Agent in Bhopawar, to the First Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, No. 1243, dated Mhow, the 24th March, 1901.

With reference to correspondence ending with Captain Stratton's endorsement No. 815, dated the 5th February, 1901, I have the honour to submit the following report on the financial position of the States of Jhabua and Jobat in connection with the loans recently sanctioned by Government.

2. First as regards Jhabua. The following statement which I have received from the Jhabua Darbar shows the actual receipts and expenditure for the years 1898-1899 and 1899-1900, while for the current year (1900-1901) the figures shown are actuals for 10 months and estimates for two months:—

JHABUA.			
	Actuals, 1898-1899.	Actuals, 1899-1900.	Actuals, 10 months, and estimates, 2 months, 1900-1901.
	[Figures in thousands.]		
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Opening Balance	2	3	50*

* *Note.*—The opening balance of current year has been reduced by Rs. 7,000, as this item largely consists of bonds, Rs. 7,000 worth of which on investigation have been found to be valueless.

	Actuals, 1898-1899. •	Actuals, 1899-1900.	Actuals, 10 months and estimates, 2 months, 1900-1901.
	[Figures in thousands.]		
Receipts—			
(a) Ordinary—	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
I.—Land Revenue... ..	77	1	44
II.—Customs	36	21	15
III.—Abkari	29	30	25
IV.—Law and Justice	6	7	4
V.—Public Works Department	—	—	—
VI.—Interest... ..	1	—	—
VII.—Tribute... ..	5	5	5
VIII.—Miscellaneous	16	8	8
Total Ordinary	170	72	101
(b) Extraordinary—			
I.—Miscellaneous	—	1	—
II.—Advances and deposits	—	117	62
Grand Total	172	193	213
Expenditure—			
(a) Ordinary—			
I.—Allowances	29	32	34
II.—State Troops	24	23	22
III.—Karkhanas	—	—	—
IV. & V.—Public Works Department	3	4	1
VI.—Law and Justice	15	13	13
VII.—Land Revenue... ..	12	9	10
VIII.—Hospital, charities, pensions... ..	17	15	14
IX.—Miscellaneous	27	22	18
Total Ordinary	127	118	112
Extraordinary—			
Interest	—	—	10
Famine and Taccavi	—	11	70*
Other debts	3	1	3
Miscellaneous	39	6	17
Total Extraordinary	42	18	100
Grand Total	169	136	212
Closing balance	3	57	Nil.

* Of this sum Rs. 28,000 is recoverable from the Umraos. Arrangements have been already made to raise Rs. 15,000 locally to pay instalment of Gwalior loan due in May.

3. The effects of the recent famine on the revenue of the State are evident and require but little comment. From Rs. 77,000 (which may be taken as the normal) in 1898-99, the land revenue collections have fallen in the current year to Rs. 44,000. Last year practically no collections were possible and the whole revenue was suspended, one quarter being remitted by the Darbar. The customs revenue has fallen in even a greater proportion owing to lack of grain and other produce for export, while abkari also shows a notable decrease. The recent Census shows a decrease of about 33 % of the population as compared with the Census of 1891, and, although this large difference may be, in fact, due to the temporary absence of considerable numbers of the Bhil population, who at this time of year habitually migrate to Malwa for the wheat harvest, still there is little doubt that the actual loss, owing to the hardships of the last two years, is very great and must, for some time to come, materially affect the land revenue of the State.

As regards the expenditure shown in the above statement, an increase is noticeable under the heading "Allowance." This is due to marriages contracted by the Raja. The Raja's personal allowance was fixed at Rs. 24,000 when he was granted powers. Other heads show a decrease and I think that the total annual expenditure may be further reduced to Rs. 1,05,000.

4. The State debts* are shown to amount to Rs. 2,16,563. This is exclusive of the Rs. 50,000 now borrowed from the Government of India. Of this sum one lakh is owing to the Gwalior Darbar on account of the loan taken last year and the remainder to local mahajans. The interest due on these debts amounts in round numbers to Rs. 10,000.

5. I have not received from the Darbar their estimates for the coming year (1901-1902). With careful management the ordinary receipts may reach Rs. 1,15,000, in addition there will be "Extraordinary" receipts on account of $\frac{1}{4}$ of the land revenue outstanding from last year, probably about Rs. 10,000, and a further item of Rs. 28,000 advanced to the Umraos for relief works, the greater part of which will be recoverable during the next 12 months. The total receipts of the State for the coming year may thus, I think, be estimated at Rs. 1,40,000.

As already noted, the ordinary expenditure can, in my opinion, if strict economy is practised, be reduced from the figure given in the statement for the current year to approximately Rs. 1,05,000. Interest payable, on present debts and on the loan now taken from Government during the coming year, will amount approximately to Rs. 15,000; thus there remains an estimated balance of Rs. 20,000 to meet the instalment due on the Gwalior loan.

6. The recent famine has, however, so reduced the population, and the bad season which has immediately followed it has so weakened the resources even of the better classes among the cultivators, that until another, and it may be hoped a normal, year has passed, it is impossible, in my opinion, at the present time to gauge with any accuracy what will be the ultimate effect of these disastrous seasons on the revenue of the Jhabua State. The matter is further complicated by the very system under which the revenue is collected. Payments on account of land revenue are made entirely by the village banias not in cash but in bonds (*likhtangs*). Payments of the abkari contract are also made by the same means. Thus in bad years an element of uncertainty is introduced, of which an instance occurs in the statements of accounts given above, where the closing balance for 1899-1900 is shown as Rs. 57,000 and the opening balance of 1900-1901 as Rs. 50,000, a difference of Rs. 7,000 due to unrealisable bonds. Given good crops and a careful administration, the State may rapidly recover, and after two years or so a normal balance of Rs. 30,000 may be obtainable. Much depends on the capacity of the Darbar at the present time to provide food and seed-grain in sufficient quantity to ensure, so far as, humanly speaking, is possible, a full harvest. I have already touched on this matter in former communications, and

I trust that some part of the money now borrowed may be utilised for this purpose. As showing the Darbar's views on the subject, I enclose for the information of the Honourable the Agent to the Governor-General, a copy of the Dewan's letter with which he forwarded the statement of accounts. It shows the helplessness of their position, and I have accordingly been compelled to take the matter somewhat in my own hands, and from personal knowledge have submitted for consideration my estimates for the coming year. Any estimate for a period beyond this must, owing to the abnormal condition now existing, be unreliable, and I, therefore, recommend for the consideration of the Honourable the Agent to the Governor-General, that in the case of Jhabua the issue of definite orders as to the repayment of the Government loan now taken may be withheld until, say, March, 1902, when it is to be hoped that normal conditions will be re-established and figures will be available on which definite and reliable estimates can be based.

7. I now turn to the case of Jobat, which, financially speaking, has suffered comparatively more severely than Jhabua. The following statement gives the actuals for the years 1898-99 and 1899-1900, and the actuals for 10 months and estimates for 2 months for the current year:—

JOBAT.

	Actuals, 1898-99.	Actuals, 1899-1900.	Actuals, 10 months, and estimates, 2 months, 1900-1901.
[Figures in thousands.]			
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Opening balance	38	22	10
Receipts—			
(a) Ordinary—			
I.—Land Revenue	19	1	8
II.—Custom and Sayer	7	2	2
III.—Abkari	8	4	3
IV.—Law and Justice	1	—	—
V.—Public Works Department	—	—	—
VI.—Interest	—	—	—
VII.—Tribute	—	—	—
VIII.—Miscellaneous	1	1	1
Total Ordinary	36	7	14
Gwalior loan	—	20	5
Extraordinary—			
Cess received on purchase of elephant	2	—	—
Grand Total	76	49	29

	Actuals, 1898-99.	Actuals, 1899-1900.	Actuals, 10 months and estimates, 2 months, 1900-1901.
[Figures in thousands.]			
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Expenditure—			
(a) Ordinary—			
I.—Allowances (Khasgi)	7	6	10*
II.—State Troops	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
III.—Karkhanas	—	—	—
IV & V.—Public Works Department	4	4	2
VI.—Law and Justice	3	4	4
VII.—Land Revenue	6	6	6
VIII.—Hospitals, charities, pensions	1	2	1
IX.—Education	—	—	—
X.—Miscellaneous	2	1	1
Total Ordinary	23	25	24
(b) Extraordinary—			
Interest—			
Famine and Taccavi	—	14	18
Liquidation of late Rana's debts	29	—	—
Expenses connected with death of late and succession of present Chief	2	—	—
Total Extraordinary	31	14	18
Grand Total	54	39	42
Closing balance	22 *	10	Deficit 13

* Increase due to college expenses of young Rana at Indore.

The year 1898-99 opened with a balance of Rs. 38,000. The year was a particularly prosperous one owing to a bountiful "mohwa" crop, and the revenue was Rs. 2,000 above the normal. Some Rs. 30,000 of debts and other unadjusted charges owing from the late Rana's time were paid off, and the year closed with a balance of Rs. 22,000 in the treasury. Owing to the entire failure of crops in 1899-1900, no land revenue was collected, and the total income fell to Rs. 7,000. With the loan of Rs. 20,000 borrowed from Gwalior, the administration was carried on and the year closed with a balance of Rs. 10,000. In the current year, however, there has been but little recovery. Owing to the deficient rainfall, the land revenue collected has been only Rs. 8,000 instead of a normal of Rs. 18,000. The receipts from customs and

abkari have also been very low. Thus the total revenue this year will not exceed Rs. 14,000 as against a normal of Rs. 34,000. An additional Rs. 5,000 was borrowed from Gwalior, making a total debt of Rs. 25,000, and the year closes with a deficit of Rs. 13,000.

To meet this I have already applied for sanction to employ part of the sum now sanctioned as a famine loan.

8. For the coming year, the Superintendent estimates that given a normal season the total receipts will, including the value of the State elephant which, under present circumstances, must be sold, amount to Rs. 27,000. The normal expenditure may be put at Rs. 24,000 per annum. During the coming year this will be reduced to Rs. 22,000 by effecting economies in the salaries of the State officials, commencing with the Superintendent downwards. By this means a closing balance of Rs. 5,000 is estimated for the year 1901-1902. Rs. 2,500 will be required to meet the interest on the Gwalior loan and on the loan now taken from Government. The remainder should be carried forward to the year 1902-1903, from which year I consider it will be possible for the State to commence repayment of the Gwalior loan by instalments of at least Rs. 5,000 per annum. I am of opinion that Jobat, being a small and compact area, will, under the present good management of the Superintendent, recover its prosperity more rapidly than in the case of Jhabua. It may be hoped that after two or three years with normal seasons the budget will again show a normal balance of Rs. 10,000. In the meantime, however, I would recommend that the Gwalior loan should be first liquidated. This should be possible by May, 1908, at the latest. By that time the State will, I confidently believe, be able to commence repayment of the loan now taken from the Government of India by instalments of Rs. 10,000 per annum.

9. I fear that the recommendations contained in the report may be held to be vague and possibly unsatisfactory, but with the utmost deference I submit that conditions at the present time in both Jhabua and Jobat are so abnormal as to render any more definite proposals valueless.

Annexure.

Letter from the Dewan of Jhabua to the Political Agent in Bhopawar, No. 67, dated the 27th February, 1901.

With reference to your letter No. 5 (C), dated the 5th February, 1901, regarding the loan of Rs. 50,000 which the Government of India have been pleased to sanction for employment on famine relief in the State, and thereby calling for a full report on the finances of the State, I have the honour to forward to you a statement, showing the receipts and expenditure for the years 1897-98, 1898-99, 1899-1900 and 1900-1901, together with a full statement in tabular form of the debts now outstanding against the State, distinguishing between debts due from the time of the late Chief, and those incurred recently. The total amount of debt now outstanding against the State is Rs. 2,16,563, out of which Gwalior loan alone amounts to Rs. 1,00,000, which is to be repaid from the next financial year by a yearly instalment of Rs. 18,000, including interest.

From the perusal of the above statement, you will come to know that the receipts of the present year are not sufficient to meet the expenditure; and it will take a long time before the State will be in a position to make both ends meet. Still, however, the Darbar are of opinion that, after the payment of the Gwalior loan, the State will be able to pay this new loan. Moreover, if you kindly offer your advice, the Darbar are ready to act up according to your wishes.

Statement showing the debt now outstanding against the Thabua State up to the end of February, 1901.

Details.	Paid.			Unpaid.			Remarks.
	1898-99.	1899-1900.	1900-1901.	Total.	With Interest.	Without Interest.	Total.
At the time of late Dewan, 1898-99.	Rs. 2,719	Rs. 810	Rs. 3,064	Rs. 6,593	Rs. ..	Rs. 37,874	Rs. 37,874
His Highness the Maharaja Sindhia's loan—	..	..	..	..	1,00,000	..	1,00,000
Rs. 60,000 1899-1900.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
40,000 1900-1901.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1,00,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Sahukar's debt—	..	..	..	..	78,689	..	78,689
Rs. 57,361 1899-1900.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
21,328 1900-1901.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
78,689	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Grand total	2,719	810	3,064	6,593	1,78,689	37,874	2,16,563
	Rs. 44,467	Rs. 44,467	Rs. 44,467	Rs. 44,467	Rs. 1,00,000	Rs. 78,689	Rs. 16,443, the private debt of the late Chief. Rs. 21,431, the State debt.

No. 46.

Letter from Captain H. Daly, C.I.E., Deputy Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, to the Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, No. 1826-I.A., dated Simla, the 9th May, 1901.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 3663-G., dated the 15th April, 1901, regarding the financial position of the Jhabua and Jobat States.

2. In the circumstances explained, your proposal to report again on the subject a year hence is approved. There appear to be some errors in the statement of the financial position in Jobat, and corrected statement is enclosed.*

No. 47.

Letter from the Honourable Lieutenant-Colonel C. Herbert, Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign Department, No. 5665-G., dated Indore, the 31st May, 1901.

I have the honour to refer to paragraph 1 of Mr. Bayley's letter No. 19 G.C., dated the 7th December, 1900, reporting the likelihood of a recurrence of scarcity in parts of the Bhopawar Agency, and to submit, in original, for the information of the Government of India, letter No. 2128, dated the 16th-17th May, 1901, from the Political Agent in Bhopawar, forwarding diary (for the period from 8th to 11th May, 1901) of Lieutenant H. Stewart, recently deputed to Bhopawar as Famine Assistant to the Political Agent.

2. The Resident at Gwalior has been requested to draw the attention of the Gwalior Darbar to the Political Agent's recommendation for an additional grant of Rs. 10,000 for distribution as taccavi in the Subat of Amjhera.

Enclosure in No. 47.

Letter from Captain E. Barnes, Political Agent in Bhopawar, to the First Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, No. 2128, dated Jhabua, the 16th-17th May, 1901.

I have the honour to submit, in original, a diary from the 8th to 11th May, which I have received from Lieutenant Stewart, Famine Assistant in this Agency.

2. The Honourable the Agent to the Governor-General will observe the urgent need of the liberal grant of taccavi to the assamis of the Bagh and Tanda districts. I understand that the Subah of Amjhera has applied for Rs. 5,000 for the whole Subat, but it is evident that this sum is insufficient. I would strongly recommend, for the consideration of the Gwalior Darbar, that, as the whole allotment for famine works will not be required, an additional Rs. 10,000 might be placed at the disposal of the Subah for distribution as taccavi. Out of the allotment which I have received from the Famine Fund, nearly Rs. 8,000 have been set aside for these parganas.

3. It is very difficult to explain the reason why in this area the Bhils have not resorted more freely to the works which have been opened. In the neighbouring State of Jobat where conditions are precisely similar, 20 per cent. of the population were employed on works from February to the end of April, when the "mohwa" crop ripened. In Bagh there is practically no "mohwa,"

* Not printed.

and the most that the people can have is small stocks of grass seed. It is true that the Bhils of this part are less civilised and consequently more suspicious than their neighbours, and they have had no experience of relief works; this may in part explain the difference in numbers. But the same thing is to be observed in Ali Rajpur, where in the neighbourhood of Bhabra, 1,300 persons are at work daily, while on the Hatni-Nanpur road, under the same economic conditions only about 200 people are or have been employed daily.

4. I would add that I passed through Bagh at the end of last month, and it appeared to me that the local officials were doing their best to induce the people to take advantage of the employment which was being offered to them.

Annexure.

Diary of Lieutenant H. Stewart, Famine Assistant, Bhopawar Agency, from 8th to 11th May, 1901. Dated Camp Nanpur, the 12th May, 1901.

8th May, 1901, Sardarpur to Tanda.—On my arrival at Tanda, I found about 700 Bhils assembled there. No distribution from the Charitable Fund appears to have been made here last year. Panna Lall says that perhaps Rs. 700 were given by the Kamdar of Nimkhera. There seems to be a very great dearth of cattle. The Sayawal and local Seths estimate that, to completely restore agriculture in Tanda and Balwari Tappas, 600 bullocks would be required. Judging from numerous instances of villages from which nine or ten assamis appeared before me, all of whom stated they had no cattle, I should not think that this was an exaggerated estimate. These men had all been passed as fitting recipients of charity by a committee consisting of the Sayawal Seth Umed Mall, other local Seths and Panna Lall. The circumstances of each man were also enquired into by me in the presence of all the local officials. The help which I was able to give from the Charitable Fund was a mere drop in the ocean of what is required. The cost of the local estimate of 600 bullocks would exceed the demand submitted to the Gwalior Darbar by the Subah of Amjhera for his whole district. I distributed the 50 bullocks which had been allotted to Tanda; and on account of the great want of cattle, and also taking into consideration the fact that these people had had next to no help last year, I ventured to divert 20 bullocks from the Bagh allotment to Tanda and Balwari. I also arranged with Panna Lall that he should purchase Rs. 300 worth of bullocks from the sum of Rs. 3,000 which had been allotted to me. I gave tickets, redeemable in Sardarpur, for one bullock each to 15 Bhils of Balwari from this sum of Rs. 300. Panna Lall will arrange to supply them immediately on his return. I gave these tickets for bullocks instead of distributing cash, as it was the unanimous opinion of the local committee which I had called in that, if money were given, it would only be squandered. Besides which, as a proof of the high price of cattle, individual Bhils, when asked whether they would prefer Rs. 10 or a bullock, invariably chose the latter. Rs. 15 were the lowest sum at which they preferred money. I, therefore, gave none. 200 maunds of grain were also distributed. The number of villages to which partial help was thus given was 47.

I regret that I was unable to visit the works at Ambasoti in the afternoon as I had intended to do. The distribution from the Charitable Fund was not completed till very late in the evening. In the morning I saw about 20 Bhils, mostly women, at work there; and a sowar whom I sent in the afternoon to bring information reported that there were 80 people on the work, of whom 20 were Bhils. At Ringnod there were three or four men working, but nowhere else between this and Tanda.

The following villages appear to need much assistance from the Darbar. The description given of the state of each village is that furnished by the people themselves in the presence of the Sayawal and local authorities, who in all cases confirmed the Bhils' statements. In this connection it may be added that the Sayawal states that he has often represented the state of Tanda and Balwari, but ineffectually as regards results.

Hasalwar of Bori, Tanda.—Sixteen assamis in great need of cattle. They appear to have committed thefts during the famine and to be in the bad books of the authorities. Could not help so many from the fund. Gave what I could, and promised I would report on their condition.

Guraria.—Six tapris, all destitute. Gave two bullocks from the fund and some grain.

Garrawad.—Eleven tapris, very destitute. Could only help partially.

Jali.—Seventeen tapris, 11 need help.

Amongst other villages requiring help are Mirwali, Kaniamba, Bilda and Dari. Regarding the latter village I was told that before the famine there were always 60 pairs of agricultural bullocks available, while this year there are only five pairs.

9th May, Tanda to Bagh.—I found about 400 Bhils waiting at Bagh. Formed a local committee to eliminate the well-to-do. Process occupied the entire day. Physical

conditions good; but, as at Tanda, great want of cattle. The Supervisor of relief works in the Amjhera district, Saiyid Bashir Hussain, visited me in the evening. He told me that Rs. 30,000 has been sanctioned by the Darbar for relief works in Amjhera; but that, so long as the Bhils can get jungle produce, they will not come on works. He says he is trying his hardest to spend his allotment, but that he does not anticipate that he will be able to use more than Rs. 10,000 of it. He suggested that this money should be diverted from works and all expended on the purchase of cattle.

10th May, Bagh.—I distributed cattle and grain to selected recipients of 43 villages of the Bagh Pargana. 161 bullocks were given away, of which number 129 were distributed by me on the spot and tickets given for the remainder, redeemable at Sardarpur, through Panna Lall. Owing to the very great scarcity of bullocks, I set aside Rs. 500 from my allotment for the purchase of additional cattle. A saving of between Rs. 120 and Rs. 150 was made from the grain allotment, and this money also was devoted to the purchase of cattle. Tickets for 349 maunds of grain were distributed. I think that, owing to the great assistance rendered by Panna Lall, the Kamasdar of Bakaner, the Naib Kamasdar of Bagh and the local Seths, the persons who received help were those who most needed it. But, as at Tanda, the assistance thus given from the Charitable Fund represents a very infinitesimal fraction of that which is required. The local Seths and village patels appear willing to advance grain to almost all cultivators who are in possession of bullocks. The great and pressing need both here and at Tanda is for an adequate supply of bullocks. Should these not be forthcoming in sufficient numbers, the rehabilitation of the district must be disastrously retarded.

11th May, Bagh to Kuksi.—Before leaving Bagh, I completed the grain and cattle distribution there. I also divided Rs. 47 worth of grain between 150 Bhil women and children who appeared to be very destitute. The supervisor of relief works in Amjhera, Saidid Bashir Hussain, rode with me from Bagh to Kuksi. He tells me that he has the greatest difficulty in persuading the Bhils to come to work, and complains that labour could be much more readily obtained if the Kamasdar and other local officials would assist him, which, he says, they do not. I found about 250 people, mostly women, working on the road about a mile out of Bagh. Work on the Bagh-Kuksi road is also proceeding close to Kuksi. Accompanied by the Kamasdar of Kuksi, I visited this work in the evening, and found about 200 persons present. Diggers are paid 2 annas, and carriers by the cowrie system. The Supervisor told me that this work and also that close to Bagh are the only two which are considered and treated as purely famine works. I also inspected a short road about 1 mile in length, which the Kamasdar has lately commenced. Beginning on the outskirts of the town, it is to run to the new camping ground at Kuksi; 105 labourers were present, of whom a large number were Kolis. I also visited the Kuksi-Chikalda road, but no one was working on that part of it, though the Kamasdar told me that work was going on some miles away.

No. 48.

Letter from C. S. Bayley, Esq., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign Department, No. 3460-G., dated Indore, the 10th April, 1901.

I have the honour to refer to my letter No. 1059-G., dated the 9th February, 1901,* regarding loans to Native States in this Agency during the year 1901-1902.

2. In paragraph 3 of that letter, I reported that the Dewas States were in straitened circumstances, but that they would probably be able to do without a loan from Government, if the Government of India would consent to the postponement for one year of the contingent payment due from them on the 1st March, 1901, and of the payment of the instalment, with interest, on the Gwalior loan. Failing this concession, it was stated that the Senior Branch would require a loan of one lakh of rupees, and that the Junior Branch would have to dispose of some of its investments in Government paper.

3. Since that report was made, the financial position of both the Dewas States has become worse. Violent hailstorms fell in the beginning of March last, and caused great destruction to the standing crops with the result that all hope of recovering revenue from a large portion of the two States is gone.

4. In addition, therefore, to the assistance specified in paragraph 2 above, it is now certain that both the Senior and Junior Branches of the State will

* Not printed.

require cash to the extent of one lakh of rupees each. The Indore Darbar, I understand, are willing to lend the sums required on the same terms as those on which the Gwalior famine loans were granted.

See telegram from the Foreign Department, No. 3829-I.A., dated the 21st December, 1896.

Under the instructions conveyed to Mr. Henvey in your predecessor's letter No. 4360-I., dated the 14th November, 1889, it is permissible in certain circumstances for one State to assist another in a friendly way, provided that the sum which it is proposed to lend is trifling and can be easily repaid, and if the loan is made from friendly motives and as a temporary assistance to a neighbour, but the present case seems to me scarcely to come within this category. The Indore and Dewas States are on friendly terms, and the former would be glad to help the latter; but the amount of the proposed loans is considerable and the transaction is in the main a business one, enabling the borrowing States to tide over temporary difficulties, and Indore to invest money now lying idle. The present circumstances of Indore are of course peculiar, but as the loans would be made by the State and not by Maharaja Holkar personally, I do not see any objection to their being sanctioned, and I recommend, therefore, that sanction should be given.

5. The Junior Branch of the Dewas State has money invested in promissory notes to an amount more than sufficient to cover the loan, and would pay it off as soon as the price of Government paper rises to a point at which the securities could be sold without loss. In the case of the Junior Branch, a Government guarantee would not, therefore, be necessary. For the Senior Branch a guarantee would be required.

No. 49.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, to the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, Indore, No. 1712-I.A., dated the 1st May, 1901.

Your letter 3460-G., April 10th. Dewas loans. Please furnish clear account of present financial position of both States, and report whether agricultural position has changed.

No. 50.

Letter from the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign Department, No. 5112-G., dated Indore, the 15th May, 1901.

With reference to Foreign Department telegram No. 1712-I.A., dated the 1st instant, and in continuation of my letter No. 3460-G., dated the 10th ultimo, I have the honour to report on the present financial position of the Senior and Junior Branches of the Dewas State.

2. The unsatisfactory outlook reported in paragraph 3 of the letter cited above has in no way improved.

The standing crops which were reported to be damaged have since been gathered, and anticipations in regard to the non-realisation of revenue have been fulfilled.

3. The financial year in both the Dewas States ends on the 31st May, so the position of their finances can be given very approximately. I attach statements* showing actuals of receipts and expenditure for both States up to

* Not printed.

the 30th April, and estimates of realisations and charges for the last month of the year.

The statements for the Senior Branch are marked S, S1 and S2, and those for the Junior Branch, J, J1 and J2.

4. Dealing first with the Senior Branch, statement S shows an abstract of estimates and actuals for both receipts and expenditure.

Statement S1 gives detailed heads of receipts, both budgetted and actual.

Statement S2 gives detailed heads of expenditure, budgetted and actual.

It will be noticed that the total receipts for the year will fall short of the amount estimated by nearly two lakhs. The total expenditure* for the year is shown as Rs. 4,37,905. This sum is well within budget grants, but it exceeds total receipts and so leaves a deficit.

* Exclusive of contingent payment, Rs. 16,000, and instalment with interest on Sindhia's loan, Rs. 32,770.

After the close of the present financial year on the 31st instant, no instalment of land revenue will be realised until the Dassehra festival in the middle of October next, and it is to tide over the intervening period that the State requires the loan of one lakh that has been asked for.

5. Next as regards the Junior Branch. The statements (marked J, J1 and J2) for this State are similarly prepared to those of the Senior Branch, which are explained in the foregoing paragraph.

The circumstances of this State are very similar to those of the Senior Branch.

Expenditure (Rs. 4,28,322) has been kept well within budget allotments (Rs. 4,70,204), but it has exceeded receipts (Rs. 3,12,487), and there will be a deficit at the end of the present financial year. As with the Senior Branch, no land revenue will be collected in the interval between the 31st instant and the Dassehra festival in October next, and hence the necessity for some provision to meet administrative and other charges which, it is estimated, will amount to about Rs. 80,000.

No. 51.

Letter from Captain H. Daly, C.I.E., Deputy Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, to the Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, No. 2287-I.A., dated Simla, the 11th June, 1901.

WITH reference to the correspondence ending with Lieutenant-Colonel Herbert's letter No. 5112 G., dated the 15th May, 1901, I am directed to authorise your arranging with the Indore Darbar for the loan, at 4 per cent. interest, of one lakh of rupees each to the senior and junior branches of the Dewas State.

2. The terms of the Gwalior famine loans may, as Mr. Bayley suggested, be applied so far as they are applicable to these loans from Indore, and the guarantee of the Government of India may be given in respect to the loan to the senior branch.

3. The contingent payments,* which were due from the Dewas States on the 1st March, 1901, may be postponed for one year; and, subject to the acquiescence of the Maharaja Sindhia, the instalments,† with interest, which are due on the loans obtained from Gwalior last year, may be similarly postponed for one year.

* About Rs. 32,000 in all.
† About Rs. 68,000.

REGULATION OF RELIEF WAGES AND MEASURES AGAINST LAWLESSNESS.

No. 52.

From C. S. Bayley, Esq., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 8236-G., dated Indore, the 31st July, 1900.

A copy of your letter No. 1008 I.-A., dated the 26th February, 1900,* was forwarded to all Political Officers in Central India, their special attention being directed to the necessity for advising Darbars to see that daily payments on famine relief works did not exceed a fair subsistence wage, and that so far as possible a full day's work was exacted from each able-bodied labourer. The early and careful consideration of Political Officers was invited to the increase in dakaiti which had been noticed by the Government of India, and they were asked to suggest any measures which appeared to them necessary with a view to strengthening or supporting the police of the various Darbars, or any other steps which they could recommend for the check and prevention of lawlessness.

2. All replies have now been received, and I have the honour to submit the following brief abstract of them for the information of the Government of India, taking the subjects of famine relief and increase of crime separately. In regard to famine relief:—

I.—The Political Agent in Bhopawar reports that the question of wages on relief works is one that has received constant attention. The highest rates paid have been the equivalent of 19 and 17 chittacks as a maximum, and 14 and 13 as a minimum for men and women, respectively. These were paid on one work supported by Gwalior. In Barwani the rate for men has been 16 and that for women 12 chittacks. In both cases the outturn of work was satisfactory. Elsewhere in the Agency a wage of 12 chittacks for a man and 10 for a woman was given for a day's work of eight hours. This was given as a minimum wage in view of the impossibility of exacting a full task from the Bhils, who, like other jungle tribes elsewhere, had to be specially treated. On the whole, Mr. Bosanquet considers that the results have been very fairly satisfactory, though at first special leniency had to be shown in order to get the Bhils to come to the works at all.

II.—The Political Agent in Malwa circulated copies of the wages tables for famine relief issued by the Government of the North-Western Provinces to all Darbars. In consequence of variations in prices, the rate of the wage at each work has been controlled by the Central Famine Officer of each State under the orders of his Darbar. The wage table has not, however, been generally followed. Experience showed that, so long as a male worker received sufficient to enable him to purchase 12 chittacks daily, there were no complaints, and that the workers improved in health and condition on this as a minimum wage. In Jaora and Rutlam a maximum wage exceeding the minimum by two pice was allowed for those who got through the allotted task and a full day's work was generally exacted from all able-bodied persons. The Political Agent, however, did not lay too great stress on this point, as on one occasion an attempt in this direction led to the desertion of a number of workers, who being fined for short work, returned to their homes, preferring death there to being worked beyond their strength.

III.—In Bundelkhand there was no famine, merely slight scarcity and distress. Test works were opened and particular care was taken to advise the Darbars to exact piece work and pay the fair subsistence wage recommended by Captain Ewbank in grain instead of cash; and to ensure that the works should act effectively as a test of the real need for relief.

* See page 164 of Command Paper No. 206, presented in 1900.

IV.—In Baghelkhand the Famine Assistants have, the Political Agent reports, been most careful to ensure the wage given not being in excess of a fair subsistence wage and to increase the task wherever necessary.

V.—In the States of the Bhopal Agency the Political Agent asserts confidently from personal observation that the rates of wages given have not been excessively high, and that the task prescribed was adequate to ensure a full day's work.

VI.—In Indore the Resident reports that wages are not unnecessarily high, being only enough to enable the labourers to purchase a fair subsistence wage and that as much work as possible is exacted.

VII.—The portions of Gwalior comprised in the Resident's jurisdiction have been practically free from famine.

3. In regard to the increase of dakaiti :—

I.—The Political Agent in Bhopawar states that the 332 cases reported in 1899 were not the work of organised gangs and were for the most part due to the delay which took place in some States in affording relief to the Bhils, who thereupon helped themselves to the grain of their richer neighbours. They were accompanied by extraordinarily little violence or even interference with property other than grain. Since October everything possible has been done to strengthen the hands of the Darbars in maintaining order, and in addition to the extra police which they enlisted they have been assisted by patrolling parties of the Malwa Bhil Corps, in which every available man in the regiment has been employed. Dhar and Barwani have been supplied with arms by Government, and Jhabua has received a special loan of breech-loading weapons. During the present year there have been two outbreaks of dakaiti by organised gangs, but both these have been satisfactorily suppressed.

II.—In Malwa the Political Agent is of opinion that the dakaitis, which have been committed in Rutlam and Sailana, have been the work of Bhils from across the border in Banswara and Partabgarh, a view which is corroborated by the fact that the Bhils of the former States residing near the frontier have, in some instances, deserted their hamlets in fear of raids by their Rajputana kinsfolk. A system of patrols has been done much to prevent these incursions. The dakaitis in the States in the interior have been the work of all classes, but as a rule the cases have not been serious, and Captain Cubitt considers that the police forces of the States have been sufficient to prevent and suppress serious crime.

III.—In Bundelkhand no increase of dakaiti has taken place.

IV.—In Baghelkhand no dakaiti was reported in 1899 and only one case has occurred this year.

V.—The Political Agent in Bhopal reports that there was a marked increase in crime while relief measures were under consideration. Mr. Lang has not, however, noticed that crime has been prevalent since he took over charge, and sees no reason to differ from the Darbars, who report that adequate measures for its suppression are taken by enforcing upon jagirdars their responsibility for watch and ward by the use of *savars* and a proper system of patrols.

VI.—In Gwalior the Secretary to the Darbar reported to the Resident that many of the so-called dakaitis had been merely grain riots, and that, if these were deducted from the total number of cases, dakaiti would be seen not to have increased. One hundred and six cases (of which 28 were grain riots) had been reported in 1899—a figure which compared very favourably with that for 1897 (167) which also was a year of famine. The Resident has made further enquiries as to the necessity for strengthening the police force, but has not yet received a reply. The question of police reform is, I know, engaging the attention of the Darbar.

VII.—In Indore the Resident is of opinion that the only way of checking dakaiti in a year like this is to provide proper relief for the hungry. To meet

the special case of the Bhils, the reserved forests of the States have been thrown open for the free cutting of grass, wood and other jungle produce, and Bhils are employed on many of the relief works of the State.

4. A careful perusal of the replies received and of the other reports which have constantly come before me, and personal inspection have led me to the belief that, though relief works are unquestionably not managed with the same strictness as in British India, the results of famine administration have on the whole been decidedly satisfactory, and, while adequate relief has been provided, fair tasks have been exacted. As the Government of India are aware, the Native States, speaking generally, are not accustomed to arrange matters with the same precision and attention to rules as are observed in British districts, and, however desirous the Darbars might be to work on these principles, few of them have got the trained establishments necessary for the purpose. Some latitude must, therefore, be allowed, and it is very necessary in some cases to be cautious in giving advice which would only too readily be accepted as a hint to unduly curtail relief.

5. In regard to dakaiti there has undoubtedly been an increase of crime, but, as surmised by the Government of India, this increase has been largely the work of Bhils and other jungle tribes suffering from want, and there is not, I think, any reason to suppose that the Darbars require more assistance than has been given to them by the Malwa Bhil Corps and the Thagi and Dakaiti Department.

6. With the advent of good rain, the numbers on relief works have largely decreased, and once the harvest is ripe, it may fairly be anticipated that crime will resume its normal proportion.

AGRICULTURAL FORECASTS.

OCTOBER—NOVEMBER, 1901.

No. 53.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary to the Agent to the Governor-General, Indore, No. 3793 I.A., dated Simla, the 11th October, 1901.

Please furnish by letter a brief up-to-date report on the agricultural position and prospects in Central India.

If distress or serious scarcity is anticipated in any quarter, please let us have the earliest possible warning.

No. 54.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary to the Agent to the Governor-General, Indore, No. 3958 I.A., dated Simla, the 29th October, 1901.

The report called for in my telegram, No. 3793 I.A., October 11th, should show, if possible, to what extent situation has been improved by recent rain.

I presume you are keeping Rajputana informed of position in Malwa with a view to checking undesirable immigration.

No. 55.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel M. J. Meade, C.I.E., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to H. S. Barnes, Esq., C.S.I., I.C.S., Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 11651 G., dated Indore, the 29th October, 1901.

With reference to Foreign Department telegram, No. 3793 I.A., dated the 11th October, 1901, I have the honour to furnish below a summary of the reports received from Political Officers on the agricultural position and prospects in Central India.

Bhopawar Agency, Dhar.—The rainfall has been below the average and there is a deficiency of water-supply. Tanks are almost all dry, and the wells are for the most part low. The makka crop in the Ghat country has been fair to good, and the people have sufficient food-supply for three or four months. The jowar and til crops will yield about six annas in the rupee—the former is withering for want of rain, and the latter has been damaged by rats and insects. Wheat and gram, if not destroyed, are expected to yield a six to eight anna crop. Scarcity will not be felt till February or March next, when relief works will be needed in some places.

Barwani.—The rainfall was deficient except in the hilly districts. No distress is anticipated in the Jalgaon and Silawad districts of the State. In the Nerbudda pargana the crops have particularly failed. The bajra crop has been fairly good and will carry the people on for two or three months. Works will be needed in February or March, and the necessary steps are being taken.

Ali Rajpur.—The rainfall was slightly below the average. The early kharif crops are good and will support the people till the middle of March next. The later kharif crops have been partially damaged by the cessation of the rains in September. If the mohwa, mango and chironji crops in the spring are normal, the people will carry on well till the next rains. A few works may be necessary about April or May next, and this has already been provided for.

Jhabua.—The rainfall was generally sufficient and the makka crop was good. No scarcity is therefore anticipated.

Jobat.—The rainfall was deficient and has seriously affected the water-supply. The makka crop was good, and the food-supply is sufficient for the year.

Amjhera (Gwalior).—In the Bagh and Bikaner districts below the Ghats the rainfall was considerably deficient, and the works which were started last year will be maintained and should suffice.

Minor States.—Their condition is fairly good except the smaller ones, viz., Garhi, Bharudpura, Kotideh and Chiktiaba, where the rainfall was deficient, and only an eight-anna kharif crop is expected. The people in need of relief in these estates will be provided for on the works which will be started by the Dhar Darbar in the Dharampuri district.

General.—Fodder is plentiful everywhere and the effect of the unfavourable monsoon will be felt chiefly by the Darbars who will not be able to realise a full revenue.

Bhopal Agency.—The kharif crops, though partially damaged, are expected to yield eight annas in the rupee, and the prospects of the rabi are good. There is no cause to apprehend any marked distress or serious scarcity in any part of the Agency.

Malwa Agency.—The rainfall in this Agency varied. It was normal in the Shahjahanpur and Agar districts to the east of the Chambal and also in the Indore district of Mehidpur, while in the other parts of the Agency it was below normal. In the latter areas the wells are low and the tanks almost dry. The makka crop has averaged from four to eight annas, and more rain is wanted to save the jowari crop. Should the jowari crop be saved there is little or no

likelihood of general distress. Fodder is plentiful. At the worst relief will not be needed till next year. If the States abstain from insisting on the payment of full revenue, the people will, on the whole, be able to support themselves without further assistance in any case for some months.

Indore.—The parts chiefly affected are the districts of Rampura, Bhanpura, Pitlawad, and Chikalda. Although the rainfall was deficient, it was fairly well distributed, and the crops are better than might have been expected. The principal source of anxiety at present is the deficiency of tank water. Steps have been taken to preserve and improve the existing water-supply, and liberal grants have also been made for the purchase of seed grains. The Darbar are alive to their responsibilities and are prepared to take any further steps that may be necessary.

Dewas.—The prospects in this State (both branches) are fairly satisfactory and there is no immediate apprehension of scarcity or famine. The water-supply in parts of the State is deficient, and the makka and jowar crops have also suffered; but the prospects of the rabi are fair to good.

Baghelkhand and Bundelkhand Agencies.—The prospects in these Agencies are very good and there are no apprehensions of scarcity.

Generally there has been insufficient rain throughout the western portion of Central India. The rains commenced late, the first considerable falls taking place towards the end of July, and they ceased sooner than usual, there being practically no rain after the 1st September. The consequence is that the tanks have not filled, and there is certain, in the western parts of the Central India Agency, to be a want of water. Fodder is, however, plentiful everywhere, and there should be no loss of cattle.

2. Since the above reports were written the parts most affected have had some rain which has considerably improved the prospects, and there is no reason to anticipate much trouble except perhaps in the Indore and Gwalior Districts in the vicinity of Neemach, and even there the prospects are better than they were.

3. In conclusion I would add that by the middle of next month the position of affairs will be better known, and a further report will then be prepared and submitted for the information of the Government of India.

No. 56.

Letter from C. S. Bayley, Esq., I.C.S., Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 12911-G.A., dated Indore, the 29th November, 1901.

In continuation of Colonel Meade's letter No. 11651-G., dated the 29th October, 1901, I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Government of India, a summary of later and more detailed reports furnished by Political officers on the agricultural position and prospects in Central India.

BHOPAWAR AGENCY.

Dhar.—As previously reported the rainfall was below the average and water supply is deficient.

In the Malwa districts of the State the makka crop, the staple food of the country, is estimated at 8 annas, the cotton crop at 4 annas, and the jowar at 6 annas. In the Nimar districts the kharif has not been so good. In Dharampuri the makka and bajra crops are estimated at 4 annas, and the jowar at 6 annas. In Kukshi and Thikri the makka crop is estimated at only 1½ annas and the jowar and bajra at 2 annas.

The Political Agent, however, is not satisfied of the accuracy of the above estimates, and thinks that the kharif crop has actually been better than reported by the local officials. This point will be further investigated, if possible. As regards the rabi harvest there is practically no crop in Nimar. In Malwa 75 per cent. of the usual area has been sown, and wheat and gram have already germinated well, and if the winter rains are favourable, the crop should be satisfactory. Owing to the scarcity of water, little or no opium will be grown except in the Dhar Pargana.

Relief works may be required in Nimar by the middle of February. In the Malwa districts of the State they will not be necessary till the end of March or beginning of April, while timely winter rains may obviate the necessity altogether.

To meet the difficulty about the water-supply orders were issued early in October to all local authorities to take immediate steps to clean and deepen existing wells and springs, to construct *bands* in running streams, and to sink new wells and springs (*jhiras*) wherever practicable. This work will amply meet present requirements in the matter of relief. Opportunity will also be taken to continue work on roads which have not been completed.

Barwani.—In the Narbada valley districts, comprising the parganas of Barwani, Rajpur and Anjar, the rainfall was below the average, while in the hilly districts including the parganas of Pansemal, Khetia, Niwali, Silawad and Pati it was fairly satisfactory, and but for the plague of rats and insects the kharif crop would have been good. Late but partial rain in October benefited many parts of the State, but in the Narbada valley districts crops have failed to a great extent.

In the Rajpur, Anjar and Barwani parganas, the kharif is estimated at from 2 to 6 annas. In the hilly districts it is better, and one of the parganas, Silawad, has practically a bumper crop.

The prospects of the rabi are better than they were last year, though compared with a normal year they are very poor in the Narbada valley. In the Barwani, Rajpur and Anjar parganas wheat and gram are estimated at 2 to 3 annas. As regards the hilly districts no rabi worth mentioning is sown in the Pati pargana, while elsewhere the outturn is estimated at from 12 to 14 annas in the rupee.

It is believed that relief works will be necessary in the Barwani pargana in January, and later on in the parganas of Anjar, Rajpur and Pati, and an ample programme of roads and irrigation projects is ready.

Ali Rajpur.—The rainfall was deficient but the early kharif crops would have been normal but for the plague of rats. As it is the outturn of bajra and makka is estimated at 9 and 12 annas respectively.

The later kharif crops, jowar, tilli, urad, rice, &c., have been practically ruined by drought and locusts. The rabi prospects are bad, and the *dobakura* grass, which last year seeded so abundantly and afforded additional food to the people, has not flowered at all this year.

Some scarcity will, it is expected, be felt about February, and to meet it work on the Rajpur-Bhabra and Hatni-Nanpur roads will be continued. Two irrigation projects have also been prepared. These works, the Political Agent considers, will fully suffice to meet the necessities of the case.

Jobat.—The rainfall was below the average, and much damage was done to the early kharif crops by rats, while the later crops suffered from the early cessation of the rains. On the whole, the average of the kharif crop is estimated at 8 annas in the rupee.

Scarcity of water has already begun to be felt. The cleaning and deepening of existing wells is now going on, and new wells will be sunk where necessary.

It is not anticipated that any relief works need be started till March 1902, and it will then be sufficient if the people are employed in their villages on new wells and other small works.

Indore territory within the Bhopawar Agency.—In the Pitlawad pargana the rainfall was much below the average. The Darbar have sanctioned funds for the construction of a large *band* near Pitlawad, and also for the repair and construction of wells in 16 villages.

In the Khargon district (Nimar) the situation is better. No relief works will be needed before the end of February or the middle of March. The Darbar have sanctioned Rs. 15,000 for the construction of wells and tanks in this district.

Amjhera district (Gwalior).—Above the Ghats the conditions are much the same as in the Malwa parganas of Dhar, and below they resemble those in the Dharampuri and Kuksi parganas. The condition of this district has been brought to Maharaja Sindhia's notice, and the continuance of the works at present in progress has been sanctioned. These will, it is hoped, suffice to meet all demand for employment, but if more work is required it can easily be provided.

Minor Estates.—These estates may be divided into two classes—(1) Guaranteed Thakurats and (2) Guaranteed Bhumtiats—the latter being sub-divided into (1) Bhumtiats in Malwa, and (2) those in Nimar.

The Guaranteed Thakurats lie in the Badnawar pargana of Dhar. The rainfall in these estates was about half the normal. The average makka crop is estimated at 12 annas in the rupee, and the jowar at 6 annas. The tilli, tuar and cotton crops are estimated at from 2 to 4 annas in the rupee. Prospects of the rabi harvest are generally fair. Very little opium is likely to be grown owing to the scantiness of the water supply.

In the Bhil settlements the makka crop is an average one, and with a good mohwa crop and other jungle fruit the people should be able to subsist—till next rains.

The Bhumtiats of Jamnia, Nimkhera and Bara and Chota Barkhera are situated in Malwa above the Ghats. The makka crop is an average one in Nimkhera, and from about 12 to 14 annas in the other three estates. In the Bhumtiats below the Ghats the yield is estimated at from 4 to 8 annas in the rupee. The Bhils have enough food for the present, and no works will be needed till the end of March 1902. If necessary the Bhils of the poorer Bhumtiats will be drafted on to works opened by the Dhar Darbar in adjoining parganas.

Jhabua.—The rainfall was deficient and very unevenly distributed. Rats and insects damaged the kharif which would otherwise have been an average crop. The outturn is estimated at from 10 to 15 annas in the rupee. The prospects of the rabi are poor owing to the early cessation of the rains. The grass supply is ample for the year's requirements. The water-supply is short, and steps are being taken to deepen and repair existing wells. No relief works will be required until March, when it will be necessary to provide employment in order to prevent emigration. For this purpose a famine loan of Rs. 30,000 will be required. In the southern and centre portions of the State repairs to existing tanks and the construction of new wells will provide the necessary relief; while in the parganas to the north it is proposed to construct new wells, to complete the Thandla-Bajarangarh road, and to construct a feeder road from the Meghnagar Railway Station to Rambhapur, a distance of four miles.

GWALIOR RESIDENCY.

Gwalior.—The parts of the Gwalior State most affected are the Amjhera and Nimach districts which lie respectively within the Bhopawar and Malwa Agencies. The condition of these districts is noticed under the Agencies to which they belong. The Gwalior Darbar are alive to their responsibilities, and large sums of money have already been advanced for distribution to land-owners.

Kaniadhana.—The kharif crop was very poor and the prospects of the rabi are said to be gloomy. The people are impoverished and the State is not

in a position to continue relief works. It may, therefore, be necessary to assist the State with a loan, and the Resident has called for further particulars on this point.

Raghogarh, Garha and Parone.—There is no need for anxiety so far as these States are concerned.

Agra Barkhera.—The kharif is estimated to yield from six to eight annas, and the Kamdar has suggested opening relief works for about 600 people. The Resident is considering the question.

Bhadaura.—This is a small impoverished State, and out of 14 villages having cultivation four have suffered from locusts as well as insufficient rain. The outturn of the kharif harvest is estimated at three annas in the rupee. In the other ten villages it may realize six annas. It is hoped that the people will manage to subsist on their cattle and the sale of grass, which is plentiful, and of forest produce.

Dharnaoda, Umri and Khiaoda.—No famine is anticipated in these States.

No report has been received from the small State of Sirsi; but the condition of the people is believed to be fair.

MALWA AGENCY.

To the east of the Chambal river lie the Ujjain, Agar and Shahjahanpur districts of Gwalior; the Bhanpura and Mehidpur districts of Indore, with the outlying Tehsils of Tarana and Kayatha; and the Pirawa district of Tonk. In three of these districts, viz., Ujjain, Mehidpur and Bhanpura, the rainfall was nearly 50 per cent. below the normal, but in the two latter only is there any apprehension of scarcity. Here, however, the Indore Darbar are fully prepared to deal with any distress that may occur. The necessity for relief, it is expected, will not occur until April or May next, and this will be obviated if a good rabi harvest is obtained.

To the west of the Chambal lie the Rampura district of Indore; the Nimach and Mandasaur districts and a part of the Ujjain district of Gwalior; the four States of Jaora, Rutlam, Sailana and Sitamau; the estate of Piploda and the three Tehsils of the Dewas States.

There is no fear of real famine in any of these areas, though the situation in Nimach and Rampura is poor.

Small relief works will, the Political Agent considers, probably be necessary in December for a short time in some parts of the Agency, and again during May and June in Nimach, Rampura and Bhanpura and parts of Jaora.

BHOPAL, BUNDELKHAND AND BAGHELKHAND AGENCIES.

In these Agencies the prospects are good and there is no fear of any scarcity or famine.

2. The foregoing summary shows that, although some relief will probably be necessary later on in parts of the Bhopawar and Malwa Agencies, a general famine is not to be apprehended. The Darbars and Political officers concerned are alive to the situation, and necessary steps have been and are being taken to meet all present and future requirements. In one important respect the situation is more favourable than it was in 1899–1900. The Darbars have learnt by sad experience how to deal with famine when it occurs, and the people are alive to the fact that relief will be given when necessary. My winter tour, on which I start to-morrow, extends through the Bhopawar and Malwa Agencies, and I shall thus be enabled to see the tracts, where the crops have failed, and to discuss the situation with the Political Agents and local officials.

II.

REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

RELATING TO

THE BOMBAY NATIVE STATES.

No. 57.

Letter from J. Monteath, Esq., C.S.I., I.C.S., Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, Calcutta, No. 860, dated Bombay Castle, the 13th February, 1900.

With reference to your telegram No. 3844-I.A., dated 22nd December, 1899,* I am directed to forward for submission to the Government of India copies of the letters† No. 29, dated 11th January, 1900, from the Political Agent, Kathiawar, specified in the margin. It has not been possible to reply within the time prescribed as Colonel Hunter did not in the first instance furnish all the information required.

2. The Political Agent has in the first of his letters explained the manner in which he has disposed of the sum of 8½ lakhs placed at his credit before the receipt of your telegram of 22nd of December and in which he purposes making use of the further advances of 13 lakhs sanctioned in that telegram. The course which he has followed appears to the Governor in Council to be judicious.

3. In the second of his letters Colonel Hunter has submitted a revised estimate of the requirements of the several States and Thana Circles. The elimination of such as are willing to borrow from private sources under a guarantee of Government results in a reduction of ... Rs. 49,65,649 and he has curtailed his estimate of needs for administration by ... " 3,76,495 and of those for famine relief by ... " 1,89,989 making a total reduction of ... " 55,32,133 On the other hand he has asked for aid to other States to the amount of ... " 12,39,012 ... " 42,93,121

This would make a decrease of ... " 45,68,841 and by altering his estimate of incomes and available balances he reduces his original demand by ...

In round figures he now calculates the requirements from Government to be 37 lakhs instead of 82, and he considers the sum of 21½ lakhs already advanced to be sufficient for the current year.

4. But a condition of the main reduction is permission to this Government to guarantee the repayment of loans made to States by private persons or bodies.

* Not printed.

† See page 187 of Command Paper No. 206, presented in 1900.

The guarantee may take the form of an undertaking that in the event of the loan with interest not being discharged in accordance with the stipulations, Government will take the State under management and arrange for the repayment of the loan in priority to all other claims except tribute and other Government dues. As in the case of loans from Government the Chiefs will be asked to give formal consent to the exercise of this power by Government in the event of its being required. I am now to request that His Excellency the Governor General in Council will as soon as possible accord permission to this Government to give the guarantee, if this course is considered preferable to the advance of money by Government. It is probable that money will be lent under such a guarantee at moderate interest, perhaps about 5 per cent., and there is no reason why the States referred to should not subject to that guarantee and to the approval of the terms by the Political Agent make their own arrangements, if in the present emergency it is not convenient for the Government of India to provide the necessary funds. It will be observed that Colonel Hunter is calculating on the refund of sums by the States which purpose contracting such loans to enable him to make advances now required by other States, and the early grant of the permission solicited is very desirable.

5. The reduction in the estimate of requirements for administrative purposes has been made by the Political Agent in deference to the opinion of the Government of India. On this point and also in regard to the estimate of income in the current year and available balances the Governor in Council has no means of forming an independent judgment. In several cases there has been a considerable excess of income over expenditure in the past three years although no balance is shown as available, and it has presumably been transferred to the *Khasgi* Department. The figures furnished by the States must be taken for what they are worth, and time only will show which estimate is the more correct.

6. As regards the estimate of requirements for famine relief His Excellency in Council would have preferred to adhere to the method of calculation before adopted. In States in which the distress is classed as intense the proportion of the population in receipt of relief has varied from 1 to 25 per cent., and depends more on the character of the Chief and attitude of the Darbar than on other circumstances. The Political Agent mentions a case in which relief was curtailed to a dangerous extent, but there are on the other hand instances in which it is given lavishly, no effective tests at all being applied. The Political Agent and his Special Assistant spare no pains to remedy errors in both directions, and if they succeed, the principle on which the estimate of relief required is made should be the same in all States in which the conditions are the same, and the extent to which relief has been so far given is not a safe guide for the future. The Governor in Council therefore does not consider that there are sufficient grounds for the reduction by about one-third in the estimate of requirements for famine relief in certain States in which the distress is classed as intense, but as the aggregate amount of reduction on that account is not large, and the question is merely one of estimate, which in the circumstances is not much better than conjecture, the figures may be taken for what they are worth.

7. As regards the penultimate question in your telegram I am to say that the Governor in Council is of opinion that the payment of all tribute payable by the Native States in Kathiawar and all the Gujarat Agencies which is due up to the ensuing monsoon and has not yet been paid should be suspended. If this course is followed, there will be a further reduction in the estimate of requirements for administrative purposes.

8. With reference to the last question in your telegram I am to invite attention to Mr. Edgerley's letters Nos. 274,* dated 15th ultimo, and 365,* dated 16th idem, and to express a hope that the Government of India will at their earliest convenience determine whether inter-statal loans are to be permitted. Pending this decision it is impossible to make satisfactory arrangements for meeting the immediate requirements of the States.

* Not printed.

No. 58.

Letter from W. T. Morison, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government of Bombay, Political Department, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 2137, dated Bombay Castle, the 20th March, 1900.

I am directed to refer to Mr. Edgerley's letter, No. 7531, dated the 3rd November, 1899, and to forward herewith, for the orders of the Government of India, copy of a telegram, No. 73, dated the 3rd March, 1900,* from the Political Agent, Kathiawar, intimating that the Thakur Sahib of Wadhwan now desires to borrow seven lakhs of rupees, under a guarantee from Government, in gold from a London capitalist. I am at the same time to forward copy of the Political Agent's letter, No. 130, dated the 24th February, 1900,* intimating that other States in Kathiawar are desirous of borrowing in the English market to meet the expenses of administration and famine relief, and to state that if the present proposal from the Thakur Sahib of Wadhwan is entertained, it is probable that similar proposals will shortly be received from other States in Kathiawar.

2. In view of the orders of the Government of India on the subject of loans made by British capitalists to Native States, contained in confidential letter, No. 81-L, dated the 8th January, 1891, I am to state that the Governor in Council is not prepared to recommend that the Chief be permitted to borrow the full amount of seven lakhs in London. Of the total amount, two lakhs were required for liquidating old debts, and two lakhs for a railway investment which has since become impossible, owing to the decision that the metre-gauge railway from Wadhwan to Rajkot should be made by the Morvi State. But the remaining three lakhs are urgently required for the actual administration and famine relief expenses of the State during this year, and the Governor in Council is of opinion that, for the reasons set forth in Colonel Hunter's letter, No. 130, dated the 24th February, 1900, Native States might be permitted to borrow in England the funds legitimately required for such purposes, the previous sanction of Government being, of course, obtained in each case. The terms of the guarantees proposed in Colonel Hunter's telegram, dated the 3rd March, 1900, seem to the Governor in Council to be unobjectionable.

3. For the above reasons I am to state that the Governor in Council would recommend that the Chief of Wadhwan should be permitted to borrow three lakhs of rupees in London under a guarantee from Government. I am also to request that the orders of the Government of India may be communicated at an early date, by telegram, if possible, as the matter is urgent, and because it is desirable to advise the Secretary of State of the sanction as soon as it is given.

No. 59.

Letter from W. T. Morison, Esq., I.C.S., Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 2450 of 1900, dated Bombay Castle, 30th March, 1900.

I am directed to refer to paragraph 8 of Mr. Edgerley's letter No. 274* dated the 15th January, 1900, in which it was stated that the Akalkot State would be able to meet the expenses of administration and famine relief this year by drawing on a sum of Rs. 2,73,000 which had been put by for the marriage

* Not printed.

expenses of the late Raje Saheb's daughters. In this connection I am now directed to forward, for the information of Government of India, copies of the marginally noted letters* explaining the circumstances and conditions under which the late Raje Saheb established this fund for marriage expenses, and containing a request that Government will be pleased to let the fund remain intact and either grant a loan for famine expenditure or permit the State to raise the necessary amount in the open market.

2. Looking to the fact that two of the daughters of the late Raje Saheb are to be married within the next six months, the request is, I am to say, in the opinion of the Governor in Council, a reasonable one. As the financial condition of the State is sound and no difficulty is anticipated in borrowing the amount required, viz., Rs. 3,00,000 in the open Indian market, the Governor in Council does not press for a loan from Imperial revenues, but would recommend that permission be given to the State to borrow the amount in the open market in India.

3. I am directed in conclusion to ask that, as the matter is urgent, the orders of the Government of India may, if possible, be communicated by telegram.

No. 60.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Famine Department, No. 1499 I.A., dated the 6th April, 1900.

Your letters in the Political Department, numbers 2137 of 20th, 2270 of 24th,** and 2450 of 30th, and telegram 3 M. of 31st March† regarding famine loans, are under consideration, and orders will issue presently. Meanwhile, as at present advised, Government are not disposed to agree to the raising of private loans in London.

No. 61.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Famine Department, No. 1605 I.A., dated the 14th April, 1900.

No. 1605 I.A. My telegram 1499 I.A., April 6th. Government of India have now decided that the States cannot be permitted to borrow in England, but Government of India are prepared to permit them to borrow in Indian market sums absolutely required under a Government guarantee, the basis of which would be that, if any State failed to make the payments required under the terms of the loan, the Government of India would assume responsibility for these payments, and might at same time take the State under management. Please report what States the Governor in Council would permit to borrow on above basis, what sums each such State would require, and when the funds would be needed. In furnishing these estimates, please bear in mind instructions issued in my letter 1519 I.A., April 7th,† and orders as to suspension of tribute, &c., conveyed in my telegram 1 C., March 3rd.*

* Not printed.

** Giving details of proposed loans—not printed.

† Requesting reply to letter 2137, of 20th March.

‡ See page 198 of Command Paper No. 206, presented in 1900.

No. 62.

Letter from W. T. Morison, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 49 M., dated Bombay Castle, the 23rd April, 1900.

With reference to your letter No. 1009 I.A., dated the 26th February, 1900* regarding loans to Native States for famine relief purposes, I am directed to forward herewith, for the early consideration of the Government of India, copies of a letter† and telegram from the Political Agent, Kathiawar, asking for a further allotment of 14 lakhs for the purpose of making loans for the purpose of famine relief and administrative expenditure in Native States and Thanas in Kathiawar. The Political Agent reports that of this amount 5 lakhs will be required on the 1st May, 5 lakhs on 1st June, and 4 lakhs on 1st July.

2. I am directed to state that, after giving the subject his most careful attention, the Governor in Council is of opinion that the grants asked for are absolutely required, if serious loss of life from starvation is to be prevented. The explanation given by Colonel Hunter in paragraph 7 of his letter will, the Governor in Council trusts, induce the Government of India to modify to some extent their opinion that the famine operations in Kathiawar are being conducted on an extravagant scale. But besides this, Government have the assurance both of the Political Agent and his Special Famine Assistant, and also of the Honourable Mr. Monteath, Chief Secretary to Government, who visited Kathiawar and inspected some of the relief works in January last, that the tests for relief on those works, which are being financed by Government loans, are as severe as they can safely be made. The task-table of the Bombay Famine Relief Code has been entirely discarded, and tasks about 50 per cent. heavier are exacted. Fining is, where this can be done without danger to life, permitted without a limit, and the Chief Secretary to Government on the occasion of his visit found that some gangs were being fined 70 per cent. of the maximum pay. In fact, wherever the task system is in force, it approximates very closely to piece-work. On several large works where the piece-work system is being worked, the average daily wage earned by adults is not more than 1½ lbs. of grain. Whenever possible, the distance test is enforced and the necessity for the concentration of famine labour on large central works has been carefully kept in view. In short, I am to say that the tests for relief on works financed by Government loans in Kathiawar are so severe that no further stiffening would, in the opinion of the Governor in Council, be possible without incurring the risk of considerable mortality.

3. I am to state further that only in the case of three States—Junagadh, Wankanir and Lakhtar—have the Political Officers found it necessary to advise the Chiefs to be more liberal in their relief operations. It was found that, owing to the entirely inadequate arrangements in these States, a considerable number of people were dying of actual starvation, and the Governor in Council considers that the Political Officers would have failed in their duty had they not exerted themselves to stop this mortality. Elsewhere in the province, the efforts of Government have been from the first mainly directed to checking extravagance, and introducing a certain amount of uniformity in the mode of giving relief, so as to prevent the danger of large numbers of destitute people wandering from State to State about the province. The receipt of your letter No. 1519 I.A., dated 7th April, 1900† was made the occasion for again impressing on all Political Officers the necessity for limiting their interference with the relief arrangements of Native States to the amount actually required

* See page 192 of Command Paper No. 206 presented in 1900.

† See page 198 of ditto.

to prevent death from starvation, and the Governor in Council, I am to state, does not, on careful consideration, believe that that limit is being exceeded.

4. In conclusion I am to request that, in view of the urgency of the matter, as explained in the Political Agent's telegram of 21st instant, the orders of the Government of India may, if possible, be communicated before the end of this month.

Enclosure 1 in No. 62.

Letter from Colonel J. M. Hunter, C.S.I., Political Agent, Kathiawar, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, No. 245, dated Rajkot, the 9th April, 1900.

I have the honour to again address you on the subject of the additional loan that will be required to meet the famine requirements in this province during the current financial year, because the last five lakhs placed at my disposal by the Government of India is becoming rapidly exhausted, and an additional grant on the 1st May is absolutely necessary if the people on relief are to be kept alive.

2. I venture at the same time to offer an explanation on certain remarks in the letter from the Government of India, No. 1009 I.A., dated 26th February last.

3. After submitting my first estimate in November last, I endeavoured to reduce the amount which Government would have to advance by assisting some of the larger States to borrow in the open market under an Agency guarantee. In my revised estimate of monetary requirements, I calculated that if the States mentioned in paragraph 6 of my letter No. 79 of the 1st February, succeeded in effecting loans in the open market, the requirements of the province would be reduced from 82 lakhs (plus 10 for the Nawanagar State) to 37 lakhs for the whole period of the famine, including the loan of ten lakhs to Nawanagar.

4. I am glad to be able to report that of these States, all, but the four noted in the margin, have obtained loans privately, and Dhrangadhra and Wadhwan are sanguine of succeeding in doing the same. No. 3 has not applied for funds, and No. 4 will probably obtain the funds he wants in the market. These may, I think, be safely left out of my estimate.

5. The financial position is as under :—

Requirements in round numbers.

	Rs.
Revised estimate of 1st February	37,00,000
Additional 3 lakhs for Nawanagar, making total of 13 lakhs for that State	3,00,000
Received up to date from Government...	40,00,000
	26,25,000
Balance needed in round numbers	14,00,000

I shall require five lakhs during each of the months of May and June, and the remainder in July.

6. The remarks of the Government of India on my estimate contained in their letter No. 1009 I.A., dated 26th February last, lead me to fear that I have not made the situation and the system of relief in this province sufficiently clear.

I may, therefore, explain that this province is divided into a large number of separate tributary estates, whose political and financial position varies from a first class State with 40 lakhs of revenue to a shareholder in a village. For the purpose of this explanation, the States may be classed into—

(a) Jurisdictional States, and

(b) Non-jurisdictional petty estates grouped into the Thana circles, who contribute towards the cost of administration of justice by Agency officers.

All these States collect their own land revenue independently of the Agency, unless, for some reason, they are under temporary Agency management.

Many of the larger States have sufficient surplus balance to meet the demands of the famine without assistance; while the remainder of the former and those in the Tanna circles which are enumerated in the table which accompanied by letter No. 1008 of the 15th November, had not sufficient funds either to carry on the administration, to afford famine relief, or to assist their subordinate landowners and cultivators.

7. The whole province is affected by famine, but it is only for the impecunious States and petty Talukdars under Thanas that I have applied for help from Government. This explanation appears called for by a remark in the comparative statement of the percentages to population of people in receipt of relief in paragraph 3 of the letter from the Government of India above referred to. It is there stated as under :—

On the whole population 8·14

On Colonel Hunter's figure of 1,078 for thousands affected ... 20·77

My figure of 1,078,000 does not represent the number affected, but the population of the impecunious States which required monetary assistance from Government. The whole population of Kathiawar amounting to nearly 30 lakhs is affected by the famine, and the number of people in the whole of Kathiawar in receipt of relief is given on the 2nd December last as 224,000. The Government of India appear to have understood that this last figure represented the number on relief works in the impecunious States with a population of 1,078,000 and arrived at the 20·77 per cent. by a comparison of these figures, whereas the number on relief in the impecunious States in my table on the 2nd December 1899 was 74,919, giving a percentage of only 6·8 per cent. on 1,078,000, the total population of those States. On the 3rd February the number on relief works in these States to their aggregate population bore the proportion of 6·3 per cent., not 17. The percentage in these States in the last returns for the week ending 25th March was 8 per cent.

It is no doubt this misunderstanding that has led the Government of India to conclude that our famine relief system is too attractive and is being administered on an extravagant scale.

8. A comparison with the numbers in receipt of relief in the Deccan in 1896-97 will convince Government that our percentage in these borrowing States is remarkably low, for the percentage in Sholapur in April, a little later than our last return, was 17·7 per cent. When it is considered (a) that Kathiawar is facing a famine after two seasons of insufficient rain; (b) that in the Deccan there was enough rain to produce fodder, though no grain, whereas in many parts of Kathiawar, the rain was insufficient to sow the land even; (c) that the Native States calculate to a rupee what the cultivator can pay and levy in ordinary years a much heavier assessment than in British territory, making it almost impossible for the peasantry to lay by for famine years, and lastly (d) that the cultivator in Kathiawar is a tenant-at-will and has no right of occupancy on which he can raise money, the small number on relief is

calculated rather to arouse fears that we are keeping people off the works by exacting too heavy a task. In fact, the small number on the works, considering the severity of the famine, obliges me to require my assistants to move constantly about the districts to see that all the people who require relief get it, and that the relief workers do not get emaciated.

9. To show that famine relief is being administered in this province on the most economical manner, I may refer to what has been noticed by the Chief Secretary to Government in paragraph 7 of his memorandum of inspection of famine works, viz. (a) that the task exacted here is in some cases 60 per cent. heavier than that fixed in the Famine Relief Code, and (b) that there is no limit to the fining for short work. This fining reached for a week or two in some gangs more than 70 per cent. of the wage, when the people for a time idled under the impression that they would receive a minimum wage irrespective of the amount of work they did.

10. In order to check idling still more, Mr. Morison, the Special Famine Officer, introduced the piece work system on all works, where the condition of the people and other circumstances permitted it. Each of my assistants, besides the Special Famine Officer, visits the famine works and takes tests of the work done by a few gangs to see that fines are imposed wherever the task is not done.

11. In regard to the assistance the borrowing States require for administrative purposes, and for advances to their subordinate landholders and cultivators, the most careful scrutiny is exercised over their estimates as already reported; detailed figures are required in support of each head of estimate and the Chiefs are required to dispose of all realisable property.

12. I hope the Government of India will be satisfied from this explanation that every effort is being made to keep down the famine expenses in the States which are being assisted by Government and sanction the further loan of 14 lakhs which is absolutely the lowest sum with which I can hope to keep the people alive, and I hope Government will view with satisfaction that the measures I have taken have resulted in reducing the call on Government from 92 lakhs to 40.

Enclosure 2 to No. 62.

Telegram from the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, Mahableshwar, to the Political Agent, Kathiawar, Rajkot, No. 41 M., dated the 20th April, 1900.

Following telegram received from India:—Begins. 1605 I.A. My telegram 1499 L.A., April 6th. Government of India have now decided that the States cannot be permitted to borrow in England, but Government of India are prepared to permit them to borrow in Indian market sums absolutely required under a Government guarantee, the basis of which would be that, if any State failed to make the payments required under the terms of the loan, the Government of India would assume responsibility for these payments and might at the same time take the State under management. Please report what States the Governor in Council would permit to borrow on the above basis, what sums each such State would require and when the funds would be needed. In furnishing these estimates, please bear in mind instructions issued in my letter 1519 I.A., April 7th, and orders as to suspension of tribute, &c., conveyed in my telegram 1 C., March 3rd. Ends.

Please wire immediately what reduction can be made by arrangements now sanctioned in your estimate of 14 lakhs required from Government: see your letter 245 of 9th April and report by post on above telegram from Government of India.

Enclosure 3 in No. 62.

Telegram from the Political Agent, Kathiawar, Rajkot, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, Mahableshwar, No. 118, dated the 21st April, 1900.

Your wire 41 M. India orders will not reduce my estimate, 14 lakhs. On contrary, English market being closed if Dhrangadhra, Wadhwan, fail to obtain local loans my estimate will be doubled. High rate interest of local loans forced States to English market. Endeavours, however, will be made to find local accommodation. I have already under authority Government wire 132 P., 31st August, guaranteed local loans to 60 Talukdars aggregating over 5 lakhs in form given my wire, 73, 3rd March. Five lakhs on 1st proximo absolutely indispensable, as 14 lakhs is exclusive of those States borrowing in market.

No. 63.

Telegram from the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, Mahableshwar, to the Foreign Secretary, Simla, No. 68 M., dated the 2nd May, 1900.

Your telegram 1605 I.A. of the 14th April. Before receipt of above orders, Bhavnagar State had arranged loan of 30 lakhs in India on condition of guarantee to following effect from Political Agent, Kathiawar, being sanctioned: viz., on behalf of Government, Political Agent guarantees whole amount loan with interest shall be paid by Bhavnagar. In default Political Agent will compel compliance by diplomatic action, and will render help to mortgagees who will not be compelled to have recourse to law courts. Bombay Government hope Government of India will approve above guarantee in this case. Thirty lakhs required entirely for famine and administration.

No. 64.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, No. 1976 I.A., dated the 5th May, 1900.

Your letter 49 M., April 23rd. Immediate loan of five lakhs for Native States and Thanas in Kathiawar sanctioned. Please explain why remaining nine lakhs required cannot be raised in open market—see my telegram 1605 I.A., April 14th.

No. 65.

Telegram from the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, Mahableshwar, to the Foreign Secretary, Simla, No. 77 M., dated the 5th May, 1900.

Your telegram 1605 I.A., of 14th April. Governor in Council proposes to permit following States to borrow under Government guarantee, viz., Cambay 3 lakhs, Akalkot one and half lakhs; in both cases money required immediately for famine relief and administrative charges. As regards Akalkot, please see my letter 2450 of 30th March, 1900. Please wire whether Government of India approve.

No. 66.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, Mahabaleshwar, No. 2004 I.A., dated the 7th May, 1900.

Your telegram 77 M., May 5th. No objection to Cambay borrowing three lakhs and Akalkot one and-a-half lakhs under Government guarantee.

No. 67.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, Mahabaleshwar, No. 2045 I.A., dated the 9th May, 1900.

Your telegram 68 M., May 2nd. Bhavnagar loan. No objection. In future similar cases, please follow form of guarantee indicated in my telegram 1605 I.A., April 14th.

No. 68.

Telegram from the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, Mahabaleshwar, to the Foreign Secretary, Simla, No. 95 M., dated the 14th May, 1900.

Please see last sentence* of Mr. Monteath's letter 860 of 13th February, 1900, regarding famine loans in Kathiawar. When States which have received temporary loans from Government effect guaranteed loans in open market and repay amounts of temporary loans, Government presume there is no objection to Political Agent utilising the refunded amount for loans to other States, whether the original grant was made by the Government of India before or after 1st April, 1900.

No. 69.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, Mahabaleshwar, No. 2200 I.A., dated the 20th May, 1900.

Your telegram 95 M., May 14th. The proposal to utilise directly amounts received in repayment of loans for purpose of making new loans is inadmissible. If additional loans are absolutely necessary and cannot be arranged for in Indian market, specific demands should be made on the Government of India.

* Inquiring with reference to Government of India's telegram No. 3844 I.A., of 22nd December, 1899 (see page 187 of Command Paper No. 209, presented in 1900) "whether inter-statal loans are to be permitted."

No. 70.

Letter from W. T. Morison, Esq., I.C.S., Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 3,943, dated Bombay Castle, 30th May, 1900.

With reference to your telegrams marginally noted, I am directed to forward, for the information of the Government of India, copy of a letter No. 346, dated the 23rd May, 1900,* from the Political Agent Kathiawar, showing how the grants already made by the Government of India for loans to Native States in

Kathiawar have been utilised up to date.

2. Of a total of Rs. 30,06,069-12-11 actually lent to States, Colonel Hunter has already recovered Rs. 2,98,750-4-0 and expects to recover within the next two months Rs. 18,74,797-8-0 more, or Rs. 21,73,547-12-0 in all. These recoveries are being made by inducing States with good credit, which have already borrowed from Government, to raise loans in the open market, thus enabling them both to repay the Government loan at once and carry on their relief works to the end without further assistance from Government. The Governor in Council has also sanctioned loans aggregating over 8 lakhs of rupees from the Kathiawar Agency Local Funds.

3. There are, however, a number of petty estates in the Thana Circles, and a few small States, which cannot borrow in the open market. As shown in Statement D accompanying the Political Agent's letter, Rs. 7,75,292 have been already lent by Government to these States and estates, and a further sum of 14 lakhs will be required before the end of the famine. The Political Agent has still in hand one lakh of the amount sanctioned by the Government of India, and asks for 13 lakhs more (five in June, five in July, and three in August), explaining that the recoveries expected to be made during the next two months will provide more than this amount, and that therefore there will be no fresh drain on Government.

4. I am directed to say that the Governor in Council considers that everything that is possible has been done to reduce the demand for further Government loans to a minimum, and trusts that the Government of India will now sanction the allotment asked for.

No. 71.

Telegram from the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, to the Foreign Secretary, Simla, No. 4,128, dated the 6th June, 1900.

Please see my letter 3,943, dated 30th May, 1900. Political Agent, Kathiawar, wires on first:—*Begins.* Government loan nearly exhausted. Please place five lakhs at my disposal for June. Funds required for relief works in Thanas, advances for seed and bullocks in Thanas and States which cannot borrow in market. *Ends.*

No. 72.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, No. 2,523 I.A., dated the 9th June, 1900.

Your letter 3,943, May 30th, and telegram 4,128, June 6th. Orders are issuing for five lakhs to be placed at disposal of Political Agent, Kathiawar, for

* Not printed.

advances to petty States and estates in Thana Circles. The further eight lakhs asked for will be given if this is absolutely necessary, but Hunter should report by end of this month whether the estimate is capable of reduction.

No. 73.

Telegram from the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, to the Foreign Secretary, Simla, No. 169 P., dated the 12th June, 1900.

Bombay Government has just received reports from Political Superintendent, Palanpur, stating that in order to carry on famine relief operations in Palanpur State till middle July further loan to State of one lakh is necessary, and to carry on operations in Thana Circles and petty estates of Agency till beginning July further advance of Rs. 75,000 is necessary. Relief operations in both Palanpur State and petty States and Thana Circles of Agency have been throughout financed by Government loans, and Bombay Government recommend that the further sum asked for, aggregating Rs. 1,75,000, be now made available. As funds are urgently needed, Governor in Council makes this recommendation by telegram, and solicits immediate orders. But letter with Political Superintendent's reports will follow.

No. 74.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, Poona, No. 2652 I.-A., dated the 19th June, 1900.

Your telegram 169 P., June 12th. Immediate further advance of Rs. 1,75,000 for famine operations in Palanpur and Thana Circles and petty estates in that Agency is sanctioned. Please refer to your telegram No. 64, dated 30th April. Had the 10 lakhs there referred to been actually distributed by that date, or does telegram merely mean that Local Government regarded that sum as hypothecated for States outside Kathiawar? If the former, please state distribution. If the latter, presumably the sum now sanctioned will come from the 10 lakhs. Please support any future demands with details, as in cases of Kathiawar States, and give basis of calculation.

No. 75.

Telegram from the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, Poona, to the Foreign Secretary, Simla, No. 223 P., dated the 24th June, 1900.

Your telegram 2652 I.-A of 19th June. 9½ lakhs had been actually assigned for distribution to specified States by 12th April, 1900, leaving balance of ½ lakh at disposal of Commissioner, Northern Division, for urgent unforeseen demands. This balance has since been similarly assigned. Distribution list is being sent by post.

No. 76.

Letter from W. T. Morison, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 228 P., dated Bombay, the 25th June, 1900.

In continuation of my telegram No. 223 P., dated the 24th instant, I am directed to forward herewith, for the information of the Government of India,

a statement showing how the sum of 10 lakhs sanctioned in the Foreign Department letter No. 1009 I.-A., dated the 26th February, 1900, for loans to the Native States in this Presidency other than the States in Kathiawar for the current financial year has been distributed.

Statement.

Agency.	States.	Sums distributed.
		Rs.
Kholapur and S. M. Country ...	Jath	1,00,000
Rewa Kantha	Rajpipla	1,50,000
Ditto	Balasinor	70,000
Mahi Kantha	Small States, Talukas and Thana Circles in the Mahi Kantha Agency—	
		Rs.
	Ilol	2,320
	Pethapur	1,000
	Ghdasar... ..	5,230
	Katosan (State)	4,710
	Amliyara	5,200
	Ramas	280
	Gabat	400
	Wasna	3,270
	Magodi	1,260
	Katosan (Thana)	5,830
	Gadhwada	6,000
	Sabar Kantha	3,000
	Vatrak Kantha... ..	16,500
	Bavisi	20,000
	Total	75,000
Ditto	Further allotment to Mahi Kantha	30,000
Palanpur	Palanpur State	2,00,000
Ditto	Thana Circles in Palanpur Superintendency	1,00,000
Ditto	Tharad and Vav	25,000
Ditto	Radhanpur State... ..	1,50,000
Surat	Dharampur	1,00,000
	Total	10,00,000

(Sd.) W. T. MORISON

No. 77.

Letter from W. T. Morison, Esq., I.C.S., Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 4537, dated Bombay Castle, 19th June 1900.

I am directed to forward, in continuation of my telegram No. 169 P., dated the 12th instant, copies of the marginally-noted letters* from the Political Superintendent, Palanpur, asking for further Government loans to enable him to continue the famine relief operations in the Palanpur State and the Thana Circles and petty States respectively.

2. As regards the Palanpur State, the Political Superintendent reports that His Highness the Divan is unwilling to ask for more than Rs. 92,139 (bringing the total loan from Government up to 6 lakhs) at present. As this amount is stated to be sufficient to carry on relief operations till the middle of July, the Governor in Council has thought it advisable to ask the Government of India for this sum only (one lakh in round figures) for the present, and is directing the Political Superintendent to report again early in July.

3. Similarly for the Thana Circles and petty States a further sum of Rs. 75,000 is reported to be sufficient to carry on operations till the beginning of July, and the Governor in Council proposes to again consider the position then, so as to keep the requests for loans, so far as possible, within actual requirements.

No. 78.

Telegram from the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, Poona, to the Foreign Secretary, Simla, No. 263 P., dated the 3rd July, 1900.

Please see my letter No. 4537 of 19th ultimo, and paragraph 7 of letter 4895 of 30th May, 1900, from Political Superintendent, Palanpur. No rain is yet reported to have fallen in Palanpur, and number on relief continues high. Bombay Government recommend further immediate provision of one lakh for relief operations in Thana Circles and petty estates of Palanpur Agency. This will suffice for July and August if present number on relief continues, and longer if reduction of number takes place. Bombay Government think Mr. Fitzgerald's estimate is trustworthy.

No. 79.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, Poona, No. 2949 I.A., dated the 7th July, 1900.

Your telegram 263 P., July 3rd. Further immediate loan of one lakh for relief operations in Thana Circles and petty estates of Palanpur Agency is sanctioned.

* Not printed.

No. 80.

Telegram from the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, Poona, to the Foreign Secretary, Simla, No. 304-P., dated the 12th July, 1900.

Please see my letter, 4537, of 19th ultimo. Dewan of Palanpur has now applied urgently for further loan from Government of two lakhs for relief operations and half-a-lakh for taccavi. For details of estimates, please see Political Superintendent's letter, 4893, of 30th May, 1900. Following is present situation: Funds in hand will last only few days longer. Average daily number on relief last week was 45,019. No rain fallen yet in Palanpur and numbers on relief tend to rise. Calculating at rate of Rs. 90 per thousand units relieved, cost of relieving present number will be one lakh twenty thousand per mensem. Bombay Government, therefore, consider loan of two lakhs asked for is absolutely necessary, and also strongly recommend half-lakh for taccavi—total 2½ lakhs. Early orders solicited by wire.

No. 81.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, Poona, No. 3124 I.A., dated the 18th July, 1900.

Your telegram 304-P., July 12th. Further immediate famine loan of 2½ lakhs for Palanpur State sanctioned. I understand State is unable to borrow in open market. To enable Government of India to review ways and means estimate, please furnish early a complete statement showing in separate columns against each State all Government loans actually made during last and current financial years, whether temporary or otherwise; also remaining demands, if any, and the actual and probable recoveries during current financial year only.

No. 82.

Letter from W. T. Morison, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 346 P., dated Bombay, the 19th July, 1900.

I am directed to forward, for the information of the Government of India, copy of a Memorandum, dated the 9th instant, from the Political Agent, Mahi Kantha, explaining the present position of famine relief operations in that Agency, and the necessity which exists for further advances from Government at an early date, if relief works are to be continued.

2. As the recent rains may, it is hoped, have improved the position somewhat, the following telegram has been sent to the Political Agent:—

“Your letter 4852 F. of 10th instant. Please wire urgent on 25th instant, whether recent rains have altered position and how much further loan you desire for Idar, other States and Thanass, respectively.”

The Bombay Government, I am to say, propose, on receipt of the Political Agent's reply to this telegram, to communicate to the Government of India by telegram their recommendations for further advances to the States and Thanass of the Agency. The detailed report of the Political Agent is now sent in advance, in order that the Government of India may be in possession of full information for dealing immediately with those recommendations.

3. I am to add, with reference to paragraphs 18 and 22 of the Political Agent's Memorandum, that, though the security offered in many cases is bad, and though in some cases there appear no chance of even recovering the money

lent, the Governor in Council presumes that advances found to be absolutely necessary to prevent deaths from starvation will continue to be made by Government.

Enclosure in No. 82.

Memorandum by Lieutenant-Colonel W. B. Ferris, Political Agent, Mahi Kantha, dated Sadra, the 9th July, 1900.

Rain has not fallen yet ; there are no local signs of a coming monsoon, and the meteorological reports are not hopeful. Under these circumstances, it is necessary to consider the condition of the Mahi Kantha and its people.

2. The soil of the Mahi Kantha is largely a sandy loam and normally contains water comparatively near the surface, the country is well wooded and the people derive a substantial portion of their revenue from fruit trees such as mango and mhowra. The province is watered by eight rivers which run from north-east to south-west.

3. Owing to the drought which has now lasted since October, 1898, the water in the soil has greatly diminished, the springs are giving out and the wells are at a very low level ; in a short time it may be anticipated that a goodly proportion will run dry.

4. With the exception of the Hathmati and the Sabarmati below the junction, the rivers have ceased to run ; there are pools and small stretches where water more or less stagnant is still to be found, but the connected flow of the rivers has ceased.

5. An enormous number of trees have been cut down or barked, the sale of the wood having formed the sole means of support of a large number of people since the commencement of the scarcity in July, 1899. The fruit trees have been mutilated and stripped of their leaves as fast as they sprouted to afford food for cattle that have largely subsisted on this alone. This mutilation added to the exhaustion of the moisture in the soil is causing the remaining trees to wither and die. Copious rain soon would save many, a continuance of the drought will have the effect of denuding the country side and turning it into an arid waste.

6. The exhaustion of the water-supply is the most serious consideration for the present, as it will inevitably involve the abandonment of villages and the depopulation of tracts of country.

7. The condition of the people has during the last month much deteriorated. They have come to the end of their resources, and they have lost heart. Certain sources of livelihood exploited to the end now yield nothing or very little, e.g., the cultivation of the river-beds : this gave employment and food to many, and the Kadab stalks sold well in the bazaar to those who still had cattle to keep alive ; a small flood came down the rivers in May washing away the existing crops, none have been sown since ; the same rain that caused the floods caused the soil wherever there was a depression to bring forth small shoots of grass, the collection of this for sale as fodder afforded a livelihood to numbers of women and children from every village ; this temporary alleviation has come to an end, and there is little or no grass to be found ; the cutting down and sale of trees has kept numbers alive and away from relief works, but the market is swamped and the demand almost died out ; head loads that formerly fetched 2 annas are now sold for 6 pies, and the quantity of food obtainable is reduced in the same proportion. Under these and similar circumstances, the condition of the people has much deteriorated, larger numbers are daily coming on relief works and to poor-houses, and they are more emaciated than they ever were before.

8. The loss of cattle at the commencement of the famine was great, it is not possible yet to gauge the proportion that have died, but it is probably two-thirds of the whole. The remainder have been kept alive on the leaves of

trees, prickly-pear, and in the jungle parts on bamboos, and it was hoped that they would be saved by an early monsoon ; these are now dying off rapidly as the food-supply is ended, and Kadab that could be purchased three weeks ago for Rs. 15 per 1,000 lbs. is now not obtainable for Rs. 30. Where irrigation has been carried on throughout the year, there are certain stores of Kadab, but in view of the threatening second year of drought, the owners will not part, as they say that their wells will not stand the strain of further irrigation.

9. The population of the Mahi Kantha is, roughly speaking, about 600,000 ; of this number approximately 300,000 are Idar subjects, 110,000 under Thana circles, and 190,000 the subjects of the remaining 27 jurisdictional Native States. As the whole province is equally affected, the people poor and without credit and a large majority of Bhils and Thakardas, it would be no exaggeration to say that 15 per cent. or 90,000 require relief. Idar, however, is helping only 13,000 or 2.17 per cent. and the Thanas 8,700 or 8 per cent. As regards Thana circles the balance have hitherto supported themselves by wood cutting and cultivating river-beds, and many have gone away not to return. As regards Idar large numbers are being supported elsewhere, principally on British works and poor-houses.

10. The total number in receipt of relief on 23rd of June was 28,382, since then the numbers have increased, and if the rain holds off it cannot be doubted that a very large increase may be expected for reasons already given. It remains, therefore, to consider what means are available for affording the necessary relief.

11. At the commencement of the famine it was reported to Government that the Chiefs and Talukdars of the Mahi Kantha had no money and no credit, and that any system of relief, however meagre, could only be carried out with money lent by Government.

12. Government were pleased to grant a loan of Rs. 2,00,000 to Idar, and a further sum of Rs. 2,00,000 (in three items of Rs. 95,000, Rs. 75,000 and Rs. 30,000) to the Political Agent for distribution among the Thana circles and the jurisdictional Talukdars who wished to borrow on the Government terms.

13. Of this last sum, Rs. 30,000 is still unallotted, but the Political Agent has ear-marked it for the use of the Thana circles, as the States that have taken loans have reached the limit at which they can reasonably expect to repay within ten years.

14. The following statement shows the allotment of Rs. 1,70,000, the amounts already drawn and the balance available :—

States and Thanas.	Amount Allotted.	Amount Paid.	Balance.
	Rs.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Pethapur	2,000	2,000 0 0	—
Ghodasar	9,500	3,000 0 0	6,500 0 0
Katosan	7,300	3,564 0 0	3,736 0 0
Ilol	4,250	4,250 0 0	—
Amliara	7,720	2,000 0 0	5,720 0 0
Wasna	6,000	4,657 5 8	1,342 10 4
Magodi	2,400	500 0 0	1,900 0 0
Ramas	500	500 0 0	—
Gabat	900	900 0 0	—
Pol	2,000	2,000 0 0	—

States and Thanas.	Amount Allotted.	Amount Paid.	Balance.
Gadhawada	Rs. 20,530	Rs. a. p. 17,710 3 0	Rs. a. p. 2,819 13 0
Katosan Thana	18,900	6,337 9 3	12,562 6 9
Bavisi	56,000	46,322 15 0	9,677 1 0
Sabar Kantha	13,000	7,680 0 0	5,320 0 0
Vatrak Kantha	19,000	13,000 0 0	6,000 0 0
Total	1,70,000	1,14,422 0 11	55,577 15 1

From this it will be seen that Pethapur, Ilol, Ramas, Gabat and Pol have come to an end of their money, and therefore their works and poor-houses must be closed, as they have no other means; Wasna can hold out to the end of July and the remainder have for the present sufficient funds in hand.

15. As regards the Thana circles, the sum allotted was Rs. 1,27,430; of this there was expended up to end of June Rs. 91,050, leaving a balance of Rs. 36,380; this sum, together with the Rs. 30,000 still in hand, gives a total of Rs. 66,380, and, if the number in receipt of relief (8,700) does not increase, it will be possible to carry on till the end of August.

16. The case of Idar is not so good; of the Rs. 2,00,000 there had been spent up to end of June Rs. 64,400, and as there present monthly expenditure is Rs. 46,000, they can carry on till the middle of August.

17. But it has already been stated that there is every probability of the numbers seeking relief greatly increasing if the monsoon continues to hold off, and, therefore, it is possible that the end of July will see us at the end of our resources.

18. The main question for decision now is whether Government are prepared to make further advances to enable the Chiefs, Talukdars and Thanas of the Mahi Kantha to provide the means of keeping the people alive. On the one hand, the stoppage of relief when funds are at an end will involve the casting out some 30,000 people to die, and the denial of all relief to the starving for the future; on the other, the grant of further loans by Government is to place a burden on the States and Talukas that it will be utterly impossible for them to pay off in 10 years or in some cases at all.

19. Idar has a net revenue of under 4 lakhs, and could bear, with difficulty, to effect a further loan of Rs. 1,00,000 to be paid off in 20 years.

20. The position of the Thana circles is given below, and it will be seen that three have liabilities exceeding a year's gross income. None of these Thanas, except Katosan, have appreciable surpluses even in a good year, and now they are working without an income, so that the repayment of the existing loan will even be a matter of many years:—

Thanas.	Gross Revenue.	Loans Received.	Present Monthly Expenditure.
Bavisi	Rs. 46,033	Rs. 56,000	Rs. 10,092
Gadhawada	19,715	20,530	5,973
Sabar Kantha	39,277	13,000	1,473
Vatrak Kantha	17,548	19,000	4,857
Katosan	41,894	18,900	4,368

Vatrak Kantha is not a Thana proper; it consists principally of the estates of Jher and Nirmali owned by the Gaekwad and the Mia of Mandwa, to whom the surplus revenue is paid after deduction of all costs of administration.

21. There is no obligation on Government to go on lending money to these estates that it may be most difficult to recover, and the Gaekwad on being addressed refused any assistance; there are 1,485 on relief now, and it is quite possible that failing early rain, the numbers may increase to 6,000.

22. This then is the condition of affairs, and it is necessary that the Political Agent should be informed as early as possible whether Government are disposed to offer any further assistance or not, the security is bad; but without a further loan the works and poor-houses will have to be closed and the people turned out to starve.

23. It has been said that the credit of the Talukdars is bad, the few marginally noted have with difficulty raised loans with an Agency guarantee; nearly all the rest, however, have endeavoured and failed.

24. Finally, it seems probable that many Talukdars who have not asked Government for a loan will be driven to do so if there is a continued failure of rain, as they have, for the most part, quite come to the end of their resources.

No. 83.

Telegram from the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, Poona, to the Foreign Secretary, Simla, No. 399 P., dated the 1st August, 1900.

Please see my letter 346 P., July 19th. Political Agent, Mahi Kantha, reports rain has fallen and lands being brought under cultivation, but no decrease in numbers on relief yet. He estimates that Idar will require further loan of Rs. 1,20,000, and Petty States and Thanas Rs. 80,000 to carry on relief operations till October, and asks, besides, for Rs. 50,000 for taccavi advances in petty States and Thanas. Bombay Government recommended further loan of one lakh to Idar and one lakh to petty States and Thanas, total two lakhs. Present balances will last till 15th August only.

No. 84.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, Poona, No. 3488 I.A., dated the 7th August, 1900.

Your telegram 399 P., August 1st. Further loan not exceeding one lakh for petty States and Thanas in Mahi Kantha is sanctioned, but please give strict caution to Political Agent to advance only such sums as may from time to time be actually necessary. For Idar a further loan of half-a-lakh is sanctioned. According to paragraph 16, Political Agent's memorandum, out of two-lakh loan Idar had spent up to the end of June Rs. 64,400, and monthly expenditure of State is Rs. 46,000. Balance should, therefore, enable relief operations to be continued till end of September. Again, your letter 5616, July 24th, reported that Idar had drawn up to Rs. 1,26,590 out of two lakhs, but precise date was not given. Balance would apparently carry State at same rate up to some time in September. Please explain these variations. Question of conditions of repayment may wait till present pressure is over.

No. 85.

Telegram from the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, Poona, to the Foreign Secretary, Simla, No. 451 P., dated the 15th August, 1900.

Bombay Government presume all Government loans to Native States for famine expenditure are intended to be at 4 per cent. interest. Kindly wire if this is correct.

No. 86.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, Poona, No. 3669 I.A., dated the 17th August, 1900.

Your telegram 451 P., August 15th. All Government famine loans will bear 4 per cent. interest—see enclosure in my letter 3036 I.-A., 19th October, 1899.*

No. 87.

Telegram from the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, Poona, to the Foreign Secretary, Simla, No. 457 P., dated the 16th August, 1900.

Please see statement accompanying my letter 5949, August 7th. Political Agent, Kathiawar, wires that balance at his disposal for loans is nearly exhausted, and requests further allotment of three lakhs for loans to petty Talukdars under Thanas according to statement. Bombay Government consider further allotments asked for absolutely necessary, and request favour of early orders.

No. 88.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, Poona, No. 3701 I.-A., dated the 19th August, 1900.

Your telegram 457 P., August 16th. Further allotment of three lakhs for loans to petty Talukdars and Thanas in Kathiawar is sanctioned.

No. 89.

Letter from W. T. Morison, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 5883, dated Bombay, the 3rd August, 1900.

With reference to Captain Daly's letter No. 460 I.-A., dated the 24th January, 1900,† I am directed to submit, for the Government of India's approval, the proposal contained in the appended copy of a letter from the Political Agent, Kathiawar, No. 563, dated the 26th July, 1900, to the effect

* See pages 172 and 221 of Command Paper No. 206, presented in 1900.
† See page 187 of Command Paper No. 206, presented in 1900.

that no formal agreements in connection with loans granted by Government for famine expenditure should be taken

- (a) from those States which are repaying within the current financial year temporary loans advanced to them; and
- (b) from the numerous petty Talukdars in Thana Circles, the estates of most of whom have been placed under Agency attachment for the recovery of the long loans given to them.

The Governor in Council thinks that, with the undisputed evidence of the loans which the Government records afford, it is unnecessary to insist on the execution of formal agreements in the above cases.

2. I am also to ask that the Bombay Government may be given discretion to dispense with agreements on similar grounds in other Agencies of the Presidency.

Enclosure in No. 89.

Letter from the Political Agent, Kathiawar, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, No. 563, dated the 26th July, 1900.

With reference to Government resolution No. 1600 of 26th February last, I have the honour to refer you to my letter No. 554 of 21st instant and the statements which accompanied it. It will be seen that temporary loans made to States therein named amount to Rs. 22,10,547-12-0, of which sums of the aggregate amount of Rs. 10,91,670-4-0 have been recovered, and the balance of Rs. 11,18,877-8-0 will, it is expected, be recovered during the current financial year from private loans which the States concerned are negotiating. Consequently there is, in my opinion, no need to obtain formal agreements from them.

2. The estimated aggregate of long loans is Rs. 16,76,878-8-0, of which Rs. 10,82,987-12-11 had been paid up to 20th instant, and Rs. 10,548-12-5 have been paid since then, making a total expenditure of Rs. 10,93,536-9-4. The long loans have been made to the talukas under Agency management and Thana Circles and to the Bajana State, which is, however, endeavouring to borrow in the market to repay the loan. It is impossible to say, at present, the exact amount that will be lent to each of the numerous petty Talukdars, Bhagdars, &c., under Thana Circles up to the end of the famine. There does not appear to be any need to obtain formal agreements from these numerous Talukdars, Bhagdars, &c., for the loans made to them, as the estates of most of them have been taken under Agency attachment for the recovery of these loans.

An agreement will, of course, be taken from the Bajana State hereafter, if it does not succeed in negotiating a loan in the market to repay the Government advances.

No. 90.

Letter from Captain H. Daly, C.I.E., Deputy Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, No. 3770 I.A., dated Simla, the 24th August, 1900.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 5883, dated the 3rd August, 1900, suggesting that formal agreements may be dispensed with in respect of famine loans granted to certain States and Talukdars.

2. Subject to the proviso that the terms of each loan are clearly recorded in a single document and are distinctly explained to the grantee, who, as well as

the Government of India, should receive a copy of this document, the Government of India are quite content to leave the details of the arrangements to the Government of Bombay.

No. 91.

Letter from W. T. Morison, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 548 P., dated Bombay, the 17th September, 1900.

I am directed to forward, for the information of the Government of India, copy of a letter* from the Political Agent, Mahi Kantha, with an endorsement by the Commissioner, Northern Division, reporting the circumstances in which 13 loans to petty Talukdars of the Mahi Kantha for famine expenses, aggregating Rs. 35,803-6-0, have been guaranteed by the Political Agent on behalf of Government without obtaining previous sanction. Of the 13 loans, 12 aggregating Rs. 32,926 bear interest at rates over 5 per cent.

2. I am to say that the Governor in Council would recommend, if funds are available, the allotment of a sum of Rs. 32,926 to enable the Political Agent to immediately pay off these 12 loans, or as many of them as he can and so convert them into Government loans.

3. I am at the same time to request attention to paragraph 9 of the Political Agent's letter, and to ask that a further sum of Rs. 10,000 may be placed at the disposal of the Bombay Government for the purpose of Government loans to other petty Talukdars and Bhagdars of the Mahi Kantha.

4. As the Political Agent reports that the money is required immediately for the subsistence of the borrowers, I am to request that, if there is no objection, the orders of the Government of India may be communicated by telegram.

No. 92.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, No. 4285 I.A., dated the 28th September, 1900.

Your letter 548-P., September 17th. An allotment of Rs. 32,926 is sanctioned for conversion of the 12 private loans bearing interest at more than 5 per cent. into Government loans. You are also authorised to make advances up to Rs. 10,000, if necessary, to other Talukdars of Mahi Kantha.

No. 93.

Telegram from Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, to the Foreign Secretary, Calcutta, No. 1443, dated the 21st February, 1901.

Political Agent, Mahi Kantha, has made urgent request for further famine loan of three and a half lakhs to Idar. Government have already advanced two and a half lakhs, vide correspondence ending with my letter 6429, August 27th.* Darbar subsequently delayed asking for further loan, because they were trying to borrow locally, but this having failed application is made to Government. Colonel Ferris reports that entire administration of State is paralysed by want of

* Not printed.

funds. Most of State servants are in arrears of pay for more than a year, and complaints have been received from Ahmedabad District Officers that Idar Police are committing or conniving at robberies on the frontier, because they receive no pay. Bombay Government were considering proposals for retrenchment of State expenditure which they had called for before recommending request for loan. Meanwhile sudden death of Maharaja has altered position, and makes it probable that Government will have to take over direct administration of State. Pending submission of full report, Governor in Council would ask for immediate sanction to further famine loan of one lakh as instalment of larger loan, the request for which will be supported by full details of present position of State. Early orders are solicited.

No. 94.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Calcutta, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, No. 932 I.A., dated the 27th February, 1901.

Your telegram, 1443, February 21st. Immediate further loan of one lakh is sanctioned for Idar.

No. 95.

Letter from W. T. Morison, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 801, dated Bombay Castle, the 31st January, 1901.

I am directed to forward herewith, for the orders of the Government of India, a request from the Daphlapur State (one of the Satara jagirs), supported by the Political Agent, Kolhapur and Southern Maratha Country, for a loan of Rs. 15,000 for famine relief and general administration expenses.

2. The State, which adjoins Jath, suffered severely from famine in 1899-1900, and at one time applied for a loan of Rs. 10,000; but, as it was afterwards found possible to collect a larger portion of the land revenue than at first anticipated, the request for a loan was withdrawn. This year the famine is almost as severe as last, and the State cannot expect to collect more than half the ordinary land revenue, besides having to incur considerable expenditure in famine relief and assistance to cultivators.

3. For information as to the financial condition of the State, I am to refer to the annual report forwarded with my letter No. 8740, dated the 8th December, 1900. The Governor in Council considers that the Rs. 2,000, which the State Karbhari proposes to repay to Jath for road construction (paragraph 3 of the Karbhari's letter), should not be provided by Government, and recommends that a loan of Rs. 12,000 only be granted, to be paid to the State in three instalments of Rs. 4,000 each on such dates as the State may require them.

No. 96.

Letter from Captain H. Daly, C.I.E., Deputy Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, No. 1441 I.A., dated Simla, the 12th April, 1901.

With reference to your letter No. 801, dated the 31st January, 1901, I am directed to convey sanction to the grant to the Daphlapur State of a loan of Rs. 12,000 for famine relief and general administration expenses.

2. The loan will bear interest at 4 per cent. per annum, and will be repayable by instalments which may be spread over a period of six years.

No. 97.

Letter from J. L. Jenkins, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 126 M., dated Bombay Castle, the 30th April, 1901.

With reference to my telegram No. 124 M., dated the 29th instant,* asking for the sanction of a grant of Rs. 50,000 for the Rewa Kantha Agency, I am directed to forward herewith, for the information of the Government of India, a copy of a letter from the Political Agent, Rewa Kantha, explaining the circumstances under which the loan is required.

Enclosure in No. 97.

Letter from A. Wood, Esq., Political Agent, Rewa Kantha, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, No. 764, dated Camp Nandod, the 24th April, 1901.

With reference to Government Memorandum No. 238 of 12th January last, and my reply No. 203 of the 30th idem, I have now the honour to request that the sum of Rs. 50,000 therein estimated as the probable requirement of this Agency for loans to Native States may be placed at my disposal as early as possible.

2. In the letter under advertence, I mentioned that Rs. 40,000 would probably be required for Balasinor and Rs. 10,000 for others, but I find, from a closer examination of the needs of Balasinor, especially in respect of taccavi in the shape of bullocks to cultivators, that it would be advisable to have the whole of the half lakh for Balasinor, in order that the State may be enabled to equip its cultivators with the means of cultivation as largely as possible.

3. It is just possible I may have to ask for further funds to be lent to other States for the purpose of similar taccavi advances to cultivators, and I may, therefore, have to address Government further on the subject in the course of a fortnight or so. In the meantime, however, I beg to solicit the favour of early sanction to the above sum of Rs. 50,000 being placed at my disposal, as the season for purchasing bullocks has arrived.

No. 98.

Telegram from the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, Mahableshwar, to the Foreign Secretary, Simla, No. 134 M., dated the 6th May, 1901.

My telegram No. 947 of February 7th. Political Agent, Kathiawar, represents that loan of Rs. 60,000 urgently required by Bajana State, mainly for famine purposes and for payment of a decretal loan of Rs. 10,000 to its Bhayad, who is also in great difficulties. Bombay Government hopes to receive by telegram early sanction to grant loan of two lakhs for Kathiawar as forecasted in my above-quoted telegram.

* Not printed.

No. 99.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, Mahableshwar, No. 1825 I.A., dated the 9th May, 1901.

Your letter 126 M., April 30th. The application on behalf of Balasinor cannot be sanctioned unless full information as to agricultural prospects and financial condition of the State is supplied. Your telegram 134 M., May (th. Any loans recommended for Kathiawar, or any other Agency, must be supported by up-to-date information and figures. Compare my telegram 4110 I.A., September 17th, 1900.

No. 100.

Telegram from the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, Mahableshwar, to the Foreign Secretary, Simla, No. 178 M., dated the 12th May, 1901.

Your telegram 1825 I.A., May 9th. Balasinor is under administration. Revenue in ordinary years about one and half lakh. Has already received loan of Rs. 85,000, first instalment of which, Rs. 12,500, will be repaid in July. Agricultural prospects entirely depend on nature of coming season which cannot be foretold, but best hope lies in enabling people to resume cultivation, for which loan of half lakh is required. From normal conditions liabilities can easily be met.

No. 101.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, Mahableshwar, No. 1961 I.A., dated the 17th May, 1901.

Your telegram 178 M., May 12th. In deference to renewed application of Bombay Government, an advance of Rs. 50,000 to Balasinor, for purchase of bullocks and seed-grain, is sanctioned. Please report by letter when and in what instalments repayment may be expected.

No. 102.

Telegram from the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, Mahableshwar, to the Foreign Secretary, Simla, No. 213, dated the 20th May, 1901.

My telegram 134 M., 6th instant. Kathiawar famine loans. Loan of two lakhs distributed as follows:—For Bajana, half lakh; for Wanod, 6,200; for Malia, 38,000; remainder for Thana Circles. Repayment assured, except in case of Malia which is deeply involved. Agricultural prospects entirely dependent on coming season, and no forecast possible at present. Demand is very lowest to meet situation, and early sanction is required.

No. 103.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, Mahableshwar, No. 2,054 I.A., dated the 26th May, 1901.

Your telegram 213 M., May 20th. You have not furnished the information and figures called for in my telegram 1,825 I.A., May 9th. Please do

this by letter without delay. Meanwhile any sums actually and urgently required for famine relief works in Kathiawar, up to limit of two lakhs, may be issued on condition that the money is not utilised for other objects without further sanction.

No. 104.

Letter from J. L. Jenkins, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, to the Secretary to the Government of India, in the Foreign Department, No. 3,952, dated Bombay Castle, the 1st June, 1901.

With reference to correspondence ending with your telegram No. 2,054 I.-A., dated the 26th ultimo, on the subject of famine loans for Kathiawar, I am directed to forward, for the information of the Government of India, copy of a letter, No. 84, dated the 29th January last,* from the Political Agent, Kathiawar, which explains the circumstances which render the further loans, for which application has been made, necessary. It was upon this letter that the estimate furnished in Mr. Morison's telegram No. 947, dated the 7th February, was based; and there has since been no material alteration in the situation. Nor can any forecast, which would be of the least value, be made until the nature of the coming season is known. All that is possible at present is to make what provision is necessary for the most pressing needs of the petty States and Estates, for the administration of which the British Government are more or less directly responsible, and to wait upon results.

2. From the statement appended to the Political Agent's letter, it will be seen that the position of the three petty States for which loans are now required is as follows:—

State.	Ordinary income.	Ordinary surplus.	Amount already borrowed.	Loan now recommended.	Total.
Bajana	Rs. 88,000	Rs. 28,000	Rs. 90,000	Rs. 50,000	Rs. 1,40,000
Vanod	40,000	10,000	34,405 (from Local Funds).	6,200	40,605
Malia	95,000	10,500	2,30,916	38,000	2,68,916

In the case of Bajana the debt will only amount to five years' surplus, and provision has been made for paying Rs. 9,000 of the principal during the year. The indebtedness of Vanod to the Local Fund and to Government will be equivalent to the surplus revenue of four years. But the surplus revenue of Malia will hardly suffice to cover the interest of the debt incurred. This State is under British administration. It has the most unruly population in Kathiawar, and the cost of the administration is necessarily high. When normal conditions are restored, a determined effort must be made to effect a reduction; but in the meanwhile means must be provided to carry on the administration of the State.

3. The Thana Circles are under the direct administration of the Political Agent and his Assistants; and Government are as much responsible for proper arrangements for the relief of distress as they are in the case of British territory.

4. As regards the directions contained in your telegram No. 2,054 I.A. that money is not to be utilised for other objects than famine relief works without further sanction, I am to observe that the loans are required not only for the actual relief of famine but for general administrative purposes, including

* Not printed.

advances to cultivators and the payment of interest on loans. Unless these tracts are to be permitted to lapse into anarchy, provision must be made for the carrying on of the administration; and as these petty States have exhausted their own resources and have no credit, the necessary funds must be provided by Government. The Governor in Council, therefore, earnestly trusts that sanction may be accorded to the money being utilised in the manner indicated.

No. 105.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, No. 2437 I.-A., dated the 25th June, 1901.

Your letter 3952 of 1st June. Sums asked for are sanctioned as follows:—Bajana, Rs. 38,000, the payment of instalment Government loan with interest being suspended for a year; Wanod, Rs. 6,200; Malia, Rs. 38,000; completion of Sudamda Tank and unforeseen charges, Rs. 25,500—total one lakh seven thousand and seven hundred rupees. Further information required about superintendence charges for tank works. It is not understood why these charges should be paid to Consolidated Fund by the States.

No. 106.

Letter from J. L. Jenkins, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, to the Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign Department, No. 177 M., dated Bombay Castle, the 13th May, 1901.

With reference to my telegram No. 174 M. of 12th instant* I am directed to forward a copy of a letter No. 2089, dated the 6th April, from the Political Agent, Mahi Kantha, reporting the circumstances which render a further loan of Rs. 50,000 to the States and Thana Circles of the Agency necessary.

2. Both the States and the Thana Circles are absolutely without resources of their own, and are entirely dependent on the assistance of Government for the relief of distress and for advances to the cultivators, without which agricultural operations cannot be resumed during the coming season. The sums already advanced are larger in comparison with the revenues of the States, and the Governor in Council is reluctant to add to the burden already imposed upon them. But it is absolutely necessary that the Political Agent should have sufficient funds at his disposal to keep the remainder of the population in good condition, and to place them in a position to cultivate the land when the time comes.

3. As regards paragraph 8 of the Political Agent's letter, I am to say that, of the loans placed at the disposal of the Political Agent last year for the petty States and Thana Circles, Rs. 54,851 remained unexpended on the 31st March when the grants lapsed. With the addition of the loans now applied for, the indebtedness of the States and Thana Circles will be somewhat less than the amount sanctioned last year.

4. I am to add that a report will shortly be submitted showing in detail all the loans made to States in this Presidency for famine purposes.

* Not printed.

Enclosure in No. 106.

From Lieutenant-Colonel W. B. Ferris, Political Agent, Mahi Kantha, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, No. 2089, dated Camp Nagel, the 6th April, 1901.

I have the honour to submit the report called for in paragraph 1 of Government Resolution No. 1145, dated 13th February, 1901.

2. I do not think that there exists now any necessity for relief measures, but I fear the necessity will arise after the commencement of the month of May, and will continue until the setting in of the monsoon.

3. There will not be serious distress in the Bhil country because—

(a) only the fittest have survived, and they have mostly irrigated maize and other crops to keep them going;

(b) there has been a phenomenal crop of wild grain called "kuri," "manki," &c., which can be had for the gathering and even now litters the ground everywhere.

4. Idar will have to establish works in its eastern and southern districts. What the numbers may be that we shall have to expect to relieve, it is as yet impossible to say with accuracy; 44 per cent. of the whole population died during and after the famine, and it is probable that, in some of the eastern districts, the mortality was over 60 per cent.; as the survivors are mostly traders, village artisans and those who have lands, wells and bullocks, it is possible that there may be no great demand for relief work. Information under my instructions is being collected, and I believe that about Rs. 50,000 will be required for relief and taccavi. This will be included in the balance of the 3½ lakhs asked in loan from Government in my letter No. 139-4, dated 8th January 1901.

5. All the talukas that had relief works last year, except those in the extreme north, should open them again; this, however, they cannot do, as they have no money. All their relief operations were carried on by means of Government loans; these have been exhausted, and I cannot recommend any further grants, as repayment would be practically impossible. The few surviving relief workers of last year must seek relief elsewhere, but in some instances they can be preserved by taccavi advances, which will be added to the Government loan of their respective talukas, and made recoverable in two years.

6. There remain the Thana Circles concerning which I have consulted my Assistants. The Assistant Political Agent reports that he believes in Bavisi the advances given as taccavi for seeds, bullocks, &c., will remove all need for further relief, and no works will be necessary; this, of course, depends to some extent on the present promise of the mango and mahowra crops being fulfilled. Bavisi lost 29 per cent. of its population, and the Assistant Political Agent thinks that, if works are opened, there would not be more than 500 persons who would be legitimately entitled to relief. It is certain that, if works are opened, large numbers from the surrounding villages, for whom relief is not absolutely necessary, will flock to it, and the Thana funds are already too deeply pledged.

The Assistant Political Agent thinks relief works in Vatrak Kantha will be unnecessary, but we shall probably have to open a poor-house; I imagine we shall have to do the same in Dabhoda under Bavisi. Vatrak Kantha lost 27 per cent. of its population.

7. The Personal Assistant is of opinion that works will have to be opened in the marginally noted Thana Circles for about 2½ months, i.e., from 1st May till the burst of the monsoon. He has no very reliable data to go upon, and is not altogether in accord with the local Thanadars in his views,

State.	No.	Months.	Rs.
Katosan	400	2½ at Rs. 3 each ...	3,000
Sabar Kantha	200	2½ " 3 " ...	1,500
Gadhawada	400	2½ " 3 " ...	3,000

which are more liberal. The losses by the famine were:—

State.	Per cent.
Katosan	32
Sabar Kantha	40
Gadhawada	24

The latter of the three is in my opinion the least likely to require relief works for the same reasons as apply to the Bhil country, but there should be a poor-house in each Circle.

8. All the funds at my disposal lapsed on 1st April. I think a certain amount of relief will be necessary from the commencement of May, of which the above is a fair outline. There will be great demands for taccavi for purchase of bullocks and later for purchase of sowing grain, which it will be advisable to meet. I would respectfully request that Rs. 25,000 for Thana Circles and Rs. 25,000 for Native States be placed at my disposal with which to deal with requirements, and that any advances made from these sums be added to existing loans.

Idar's requirements are not included.

No. 107.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, No. 1945 I.-A., dated the 16th May, 1901.

Your telegram 174 M., May 12th. Loan of half lakh is sanctioned for Thana Circles and States in Mahi Kantha, for specific purpose of carrying on famine relief works, and on condition that money is not to be otherwise utilised without further sanction.

No. 108.

Telegram from the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, Mahableshwar, to the Foreign Secretary, Simla, No. 252 M., dated the 28th May, 1901.

Your telegram No. 1945 I.-A., sixteenth instant. Please see my letter No. 177 M., thirteenth. In circumstances reported, Governor in Council trusts sanction will be accorded to loan of half lakh for Mahi Kantha being utilised for advances to cultivators as well as direct famine relief. This is more economical course.

No. 109.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, Mahableshwar, No. 2190 I.-A., dated the 4th June, 1901.

Your telegram 252 M., May 28th. Loan of half lakh sanctioned for Mahi Kantha may be utilised for advances to cultivators as well as direct famine relief, on understanding that this will not lead to application for additional loan.

No. 110.

Telegram from the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, Mahableshwar, to the Foreign Secretary, Simla, No. 188 M., dated the 16th May, 1901.

My telegram, 2nd February.* Famine loans to Native States. Political Superintendent, Palanpur, now asks for one lakh for relief in Thanas which are absolutely without resources and probably insolvent. Political Superintendent must, however, have funds to preserve people from starvation. Sanction requested to advances not exceeding one lakh as required from time to time. Expenditure will be limited to actual necessities, and whole amount will not be required if season is favourable.

No. 111.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, Mahableshwar, No. 1980 I.-A., dated the 20th May, 1901.

Your telegram 188 M., May 16th. Famine loan of one lakh is sanctioned for Thana Circles, Palanpur, on condition that expenditure will be limited to actual necessity.

No. 112.

Telegram from the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, Mahableshwar, to the Foreign Secretary, Simla, No. 208 M. dated the 19th May, 1901.

Your letter No. 1438 I.-A., 12th April.* Jath State loan. The State is still suffering severely from famine, and numbers on relief tend to increase. Political Agent and Administrator asks for further loan of two and half lakhs to carry on until December. Governor in Council does not recommend this loan, pending further enquiry, result of which will be reported, but as treasury will be empty by middle of June, sanction is requested to loan of half lakh in that month.

* Not printed.

No. 113.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, Mahableshwar, No. 2039 I.-A., dated the 24th May, 1901.

Your telegram 208 M., May 19th. Jath loan. Before considering propriety of granting further loan, Government of India would prefer to await clear account of present position in State, but cash advance not exceeding half lakh may be made, if absolutely necessary, for purposes of actual famine relief.

No. 114.

Letter from J. L. Jenkins, Esq., Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, to H. S. Barnes, Esq., C.S.I., Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 351 P., dated Bombay Castle, the 30th June, 1901.

With reference to your telegram No. 2039 I.-A., dated the 24th ultimo,

Letter from the Administrator, Jath State, No. 463, dated the 26th April, 1901.

Letter from the Political Agent, Kolhapur and Southern Mahratta Country, No. 332, dated the 8th May, 1901.

on the subject of the grant of a further loan of two and a half lakhs to the Jath State for famine purposes, I am directed to forward, for the information of the Government of India, copies of the marginally-noted communications* from the Administrator of the Jath State and the Political Agent, Kolhapur, in which the necessity for the fresh loan is explained.

2. As to the existence of intense famine in Jath, there never has been the smallest doubt. The State is situated in the middle of the area of precarious rainfall. It has not enjoyed a good season since 1895, and in three years there was an almost complete failure of crops. The situation, as it was in October and November, 1900, was fully explained in the correspondence which accompanied Mr. Morison's letter No. 8321, dated the 20th November, 1900, to which I am to invite a reference. Since that time, owing to the failure of the rabi crops from which much was expected, the position has only changed for the worse, and the greater part of the population of the State, which is almost entirely agricultural, is now in a state of destitution.

3. The financial position of the State was carefully considered in November, 1900, and the results were stated in the papers which accompanied Mr. Morison's letter to which reference has been made above. It will appear that in ordinary times, with good management, the revenue may be expected to yield an annual surplus of Rs. 45,000 over the expenditure. The present debt of the State is as under :—

	Rs.
Balance of Government loan of 2½ lakhs of 1896-97.	2,21,645
Loan of 1900	1,40,000
New Loan of 1900	2,00,000
Due to Government	5,61,645
Loan from Jamkhandi	1,00,000
	6,61,645

* Not printed.

Against this debt may be set the following assets :—

	Rs.
Advances of taccavi recoverable	1,17,878
Arrears of revenue, &c., recoverable	1,89,553
	3,07,431

Of this amount a sum of Rs. 2,69,000 is reported to be recoverable within the next three years, the present value of which may be taken as Rs. 2,40,000. The net indebtedness of the State would thus stand at Rs. 4,21,645, which will be raised to Rs. 6,61,645, if the loan of two and a half lakhs, for which application has now been made is granted and fully taken up. It is also stated that there are State lands the sale of the occupancy rights in which should realise Rs. 1,50,000; but it may be doubted whether a good market could be found for the land after so many bad years. The only sum which can really be depended on for the repayment of the debt is the excess of revenue over expenditure. And as this is not likely to exceed Rs. 45,000 per annum, it is evident that the repayment of the loans must be spread over a long series of years.

4. I am to say that careful enquiries have recently been instituted under the direction of the Governor in Council into the working of the famine administration in the Jath State. The result has been to show that, while one of the principal ends of famine relief has been fully attained in that the people have been kept in good condition, there have been serious irregularities arising mainly out of the giving out of relief works to contractors, which have caused considerable waste of money. It is, perhaps, hardly necessary to trouble the Government of India at present with the details of the matter which is now engaging the attention of the Governor in Council. It may be sufficient to say that the contract system, to which the waste was for the most part due, has already been abandoned, and arrangements are being made to place the administration of the State on a more satisfactory footing, and when these arrangements are complete, the whole case will be placed before the Government of India.

5. I am to observe, however, that, whatever economies may be effected in the famine administration, the necessity for pecuniary assistance from Government will remain. Even in the most favourable circumstances relief on a large scale will have to be given for three or four months to come, and the revenue of the State is insufficient to cover ordinary expenditure. I am to request, therefore, that sanction may be accorded to a further loan of 2½ lakhs, inclusive of the half lakh already advanced; and that the remaining two lakhs may be placed at the disposal of this Government in the following instalments :—

1st ... 5th July.	3rd ... 5th October.
2nd ... 5th September.	4th ... 5th December.

If the season should prove favourable, it is hoped that the whole amount will not be required, but it is necessary to provide for eventualities. I am also to request that sanction to the payment of July instalment may be communicated by telegram, as the State will shortly be in urgent need of money.

No. 115.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, No. 2621 I.-A., dated the 9th July, 1901.

Your letter 351 P., June 30th. Further famine loan not exceeding two lakhs, including the half lakh already advanced, is sanctioned for Jath. Loan should be advanced in instalments as actually required.

Government await report promised in paragraph 4 of your letter, from which it appears that the additional half-lakh may not be necessary.

No. 116.

Telegram from the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, Poona, to the Foreign Secretary, Simla, No. 476 P., dated the 14th September, 1901.

Political Agent, Kathiawar, reports condition of greater part of Sorath and Talhar Divisions had owing to scanty rainfall, and asks authority to guarantee loan to estate-holders for administrative and famine purposes. Bombay Government proposes to grant authority under same conditions as last year—see your telegram 3324 I.-A., dated 29th July, 1900. Loans so made to be reported to Government. Please say whether Government of India consent to this arrangement. Political Agent also reports that some States will require aid from Government, but report as to this will be furnished hereafter.

No. 117.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, Poona, No. 3499 I.-A., dated the 17th September, 1901.

Your telegram 476 P., September 14th. Can you give even rough estimate of aggregate loans likely to be required?

No. 118.

Telegram from the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, Poona, to the Foreign Secretary, Simla, No. 488 P., dated the 20th, September, 1901.

Regret no estimate of amount of guaranteed or direct loans likely to be required by Kathiawar States is at present possible. A few heavy showers may improve situation over wide tracts, or continued absence of rain may increase area of distress. What is now required is to place Political Agent in a position to meet emergencies by guaranteeing loans to smaller impoverished States as necessity arises. No guarantee will be given except in cases where money is urgently required for administrative or famine purposes.

No. 119.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, Poona, No. 3598 I.-A., dated the 26th September, 1901.

Your telegram 488 P., September 20th. Provided the amount required is not large, Government would prefer to lend money required for Kathiawar rather than to guarantee loans. Please support applications by clear statement of financial and agricultural condition of State concerned.

No. 120.

Telegram from the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, Poona, to the Foreign Secretary, Simla, No. 504 P., dated the 1st October, 1901.

Loans in Kathiawar. Political Agent reports seventeen lakhs will be required before 1st April, and seventeen and half lakhs during 1902-1903. Estimate is based on supposition that there will be no more rain and no improvement in present conditions, and represents maximum amount likely to be required. Detailed statements will follow: but this information is given to enable Government of India to decide whether to advance money required or to guarantee loans, as to which early intimation is requested.

No. 121.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, Poona, No. 3795 I.-A., dated the 11th October, 1901.

Your telegram 504 P., October 1st. Government of India are prepared to grant famine loans up to limit of 17 lakhs, if necessary, before 1st April, 1902, but it must of course be understood that no loans are actually to be issued without specific sanction of Government of India to individual applications. Demand for coming financial year should be entered in Ways and Means Estimate, and Government will endeavour to provide the money.

No. 122.

Letter from J. L. Jenkins, Esq., I.C.S., Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 548 M., dated Bombay Castle, the 26th October, 1901.

With reference to your telegram No. 3795 I.-A., dated the 11th October, 1901, on the subject of famine loans in Kathiawar, I am directed to forward, for the consideration of the Government of India, a letter, No. 850, dated the 16th October, 1901, from the Political Agent, Kathiawar, and the accompanying statement, which shows in detail the present financial condition of the States and Talukas which require assistance, and the amount of the loans which will probably be required in each case during the current year and in 1902-03.

2. As the loans will not be advanced all at once, but in instalments as occasion may arise, I am to suggest that the entries in column 22 of the statement may be accepted as the individual applications which the Government of India require should be submitted for their sanction before any loans are actually issued. The immediate advance of whole amounts estimated to be required would not tend to economy, and references to the Government of India for sanction to the disbursement of each and every instalment would involve much delay and inconvenience.

3. On an examination of the figures of income and expenditure given in columns 4 and 5 of the statement, it will appear that in some cases the grant of the loans would hardly be warranted as a commercial transaction. Thus Dhrangadra, with an ordinary surplus balance of Rs. 7,200, already owes Rs. 8,08,038 and now requires Rs. 2,10,250 for the current year and as much more for 1902-03; while in the case of Vankaner the expenditure has exceeded the income. These figures, however, show the results of past management, not what may be expected in future with the exercise of due care and economy. In order to secure the repayment of the loans, it will be necessary for Government to lay down a scale of expenditure to which the States must adhere under pain of being taken under management until the loans are repaid.

4. The total requirements for the present year, as estimated by the Political Agent, are Rs. 16,81,300, of which ten lakhs are urgently needed to meet immediate demands. I am to request that the Government of India may be moved to place this sum at the disposal of the Political Agent by telegram.

5. I am also to request that sanction may be accorded to the proposals of the Political Agent (1) that the recovery of instalments of Government and guaranteed loans already made to these States may be deferred to 1903; and (2) that the repayment of Government and guaranteed loans may be made *pari passu* in proportion to the amounts due under each head.

Enclosure in No. 122.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel W. P. Kennedy, Political Agent, Kathiawar, to J. L. Jenkins, Esq., I.C.S., Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, No. 850, dated Camp, the 16th October, 1901.

In confirming my telegram, No. 185, of 30th ultimo, I have the honour to forward herewith a detailed statement showing the requirements of the several States who have applied for loans to carry on their administration, and to support their needy people during the current year which is again proving a bad year as regards crop out-turn.

2. It will be seen that the total amount comes to Rs. 34,26,400, as under:—

No.		Rs.
1	The total requirements of the States	30,24,540
2	Approximate cost of Central Relief Works in the Thana Circles about	2,00,000
3	Probable demands from other States	1,50,000
	Unforeseen charges	51,860
		34,26,400

Of the above amount a sum of Rs. 16,81,300 will be required from October, 1901, to March, 1902, while the balance of Rs. 17,45,100 will be required for the period between April and November, 1902.

3. I have calculated generally the administrative charges at 65 per cent. Advances to cultivators at 5 per cent., and advances to Bhayats and Grassias at 5 per cent. of the income of the States in an ordinary year; but in cases of some of the States it has not been possible to restrict the expenses to those percentages, the exercise of economy notwithstanding. One of the reasons for this is that the present is the fourth in an unbroken series of bad years, and so the condition of the labouring classes and cultivators has reached a very low ebb, and, as they have no means of their own, they will have to be supported by the States concerned. My estimate will be found to err in the direction of under estimation. I have estimated 5 per cent. of population to be in need of relief, and have made provision for them for ten months, calculating their wages all round at 1½ anna per head per diem, but this standard must be exceeded in some of the States who will have to maintain their needy labourers and cultivators to a greater extent. I have thus kept my estimate to the lowest possible figure, and no reduction can be made therein.

4. The prospects in the greater part of Sorath and Halar are gloomy. The crops in Dhrangadhra, Bajana, Dasada, Vanod, Patdi, and Jhinjhawada,

never this year very good, have been attacked by locusts and materially damaged. In other parts of Jhalavad the crops at one time promised well, but now, in the most favoured parts, the out-turn may be estimated at only 8 annas, as the want of late rain has materially and injuriously affected the prospects, and the locusts have done some damage here also. The States in Jhalavad who have applied for loans are very badly off in consequence of successive bad years (for this Prant was the worst off in the famine year and also last year), and are in real need of the money which they have asked for. In Gohilvad several Japti Estates have asked for loans to carry on their administration, and their requirements have been scrutinised by the Japti Superintendent, and in my office, where the Japti Superintendent's figures were materially cut down.

5. Some of the States have applied for money to meet their immediate wants, but not having any funds I have not been able to comply with their requests. Some relief works will have to be opened in the Thana Circles in the Sorath and Halar Prants as soon as possible, and the necessary funds will be required to start the works. I shall, therefore, feel obliged if Government will be pleased to obtain the sanction of the Government of India by wire to lend a sum of Rs. 10 lakhs at once to meet the immediate demands of this Province.

6. The amount will not be paid to the several States all at once, but will be paid on receipt of requisitions from them at an interval of two months after proper scrutiny.

7. Under the above circumstances, Government loan instalments, as also guaranteed loan instalments due by the States mentioned in the accompanying statement for St. 1958/A.D. 1902 must remain unpaid, and interest alone can be realised. In this connection I beg to bring to the notice of Government that some of the States have borrowed money from Government and private persons under the guarantee of the Agency. These loans should, in my opinion, be proportionately paid to them from St. 1959 if the financial condition of the States concerned permits this being done.

No. 123.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, No. 4123 I.-A., dated the 8th November, 1901.

Your letter 548 M., October 26th. Immediate advance up to six lakhs is sanctioned for famine expenditure in Kathiawar Native States. Additional assistance will be granted if shown to be necessary. Question of postponement of instalments of Government and guaranteed loans already made to the States will be decided on examination of individual cases. Letter follows.

No. 124.

Letter from the Deputy Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign Department, to J. L. Jenkins, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, No. 4270 I.-A., dated Simla, the 20th November, 1901.

I am directed to refer to the correspondence ending with the telegram from the Government of India in the Foreign Department, No. 4123 I.-A., dated the 8th November, 1901, which sanctioned an immediate advance up to Rs. 6 lakhs for expenditure on famine relief in the Native States in Kathiawar.

2. According to the figures in the statement which accompanied Lieutenant-Colonel Kennedy's letter No. 850, dated the 16th October, 1901, the requirements of the several States, for the four months from October, 1901, to

January, 1902, inclusive, may be placed roughly at Rs. 8½ lakhs. The Government of India observe, however,—

(i) that the ordinary administrative charges of the States are calculated at 65 per cent., and in some cases at even a higher percentage, of the income in an ordinary year. These allotments* appear to be excessive, and should be capable of reduction in a famine year ;

(ii) that the States will receive a certain amount of revenue. The total receipts for the year are estimated at over Rs. 20½ lakhs ;

(iii) That the numbers in receipt of relief are not at present very high. In these circumstances, the advance of six lakhs should apparently suffice to meet all urgent calls up to the end of January, before which time a more detailed review of the situation should be furnished, accompanied, if necessary, by revised estimates of the requirements of the States.

3. As already explained, the Government of India would prefer that the question of the postponement of instalments of Government and guaranteed loans which have already been taken by the States should be decided on an examination of individual cases. In regard to the guaranteed loans, it will be necessary to consider in each instance whether the terms admit of the postponement contemplated. I am to request that a separate report may be furnished upon this point.

No. 125.

Letter from J. L. Jenkins, Esq., M.A., I.C.S., Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 5178, dated Bombay Castle, 22nd July, 1901.

With reference to the correspondence ending with your letter No. 3770 I.-A., dated the 24th August, 1900, I am directed to

(1) Copy of Bombay Government Resolution, No. 837, dated the 4th February, 1901, and accompaniment. forward herewith, for the information of the Government of India, the papers* noted in the margin relative to the famine loans

made to certain States and Talukas in the Kathiawar Agency.

2. It will be observed that of loans amounting to Rs. 50,29,122, outstanding on the 18th December, 1900, sums aggregating Rs. 13,122, have been repaid, leaving Rs. 50,16,000 to be recovered. The Political Agent's proposals relate only to Rs. 35,57,265, of this amount, the remainder, Rs. 14,58,735, being on account of four petty estates (Nos. 29, 32, 33 and 35 on the list), ballast work at Wadhwan (No. 34), and twelve Thanas (Nos. 37 to 48), the accounts for which have not yet been adjusted. The loans for the repayment of which proposals have yet to be submitted may therefore be classified as follows :—

	Rs.
4 Petty Estates	29,016
Ballast work at Wadhwan	13,276
12 Thanas	14,16,443
	14,58,735

* Not printed.

The due apportionment of the loans among the great number of petty estates which compose the Thanas is a very intricate and difficult business, but the Political Agent will be asked to have it settled with as little delay as possible, and the agreements and proposals for repayment will then be submitted to the Government of India.

3. As regards the sum of Rs. 35,57,265 included in the proposals now submitted, I am to remark that in the case of five States, Dhrangadra, Vankaner, Wadhwan, Bajana and Kotda Sengani, which owe in the aggregate Rs. 17,81,278, it is proposed that repayment should extend over a period of 12 years during the first three of which interest only will be paid. The arrangement is not satisfactory, but in the impoverished condition of the States it is the best possible. The loan of Rs. 15,00,000, due from Navanagar will be repaid by 1904; and in all other cases, except the petty estate of Kotila Naja Raning of Dedan whose period runs to 1911, the loans will be repaid in six years or less. I am to request that the Government of India may be moved to accord their sanction to these proposals.

No. 126.

Letter from Captain H. Daly, C.I.E., Deputy Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, to J. L. Jenkins, Esq., I.C.S., Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay, No. 3553-I.A., dated Simla, the 23rd September, 1901.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 5178, dated the 22nd July, 1901, regarding the recovery of famine loans made to certain States and Talukas in the Kathiawar Agency.

2. It is observed that of the loans amounting to Rs. 50,29,122, which were outstanding on the 18th December, 1900, sums aggregating Rs. 13,122 have been repaid, leaving a balance of Rs. 50,16,000 to be recovered. The proposals contained in paragraph 3 of your letter under reply as to the repayment of Rs. 35,57,265 of this balance are sanctioned. Proposals for the repayment of the remaining Rs. 14,58,735 should be submitted to the Government of India as early as possible.

3. I am to request that, if any variation of the sanctioned dates of repayment of the loans is contemplated, the Accountant-General, Bombay, should be given timely notice to enable him to take account of them in submitting his estimates of ways and means with the Budget estimates of each year. The debtors should, therefore, be requested to give due notice whenever they intend to avail themselves of the permission to make payment earlier.

No. 127.

Telegram from the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, to the Foreign Secretary, Simla, No. 544-M., dated Mahabaleshwar, the 24th October, 1901.

Political Superintendent, Palanpur, requests immediate advance of half lakh rupees for seed and cattle to enable cultivators to grow *rabi* crops under wells in suitable localities. Advances will save expenditure on famine relief and Governor in Council strongly recommends they should be granted. Letter explaining situation follows.

No. 128.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, No. 3970-I.A., dated Simla, the 29th October, 1901.

Your telegram 544-M., October 24th. Immediate advance of half lakh is sanctioned for purchase of seed and cattle for cultivators in Palanpur.

No. 129.

Letter from J. L. Jenkins, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 7481, dated Bombay Castle, the 26th October, 1901.

In continuation of my telegram No. 544 M., dated 24th October, 1901, requesting sanction to a loan of Rs. 50,000 required by the Political Superintendent, Palanpur, for advances to cultivators to enable them to grow *rabi* crops under wells, I am directed to forward, for the information of the Government of India, copies of Major Ashby's letter No. 8023, dated the 18th October, 1901, and the Honourable Mr. Lely's Memorandum No. 155 F., dated the 20th idem, in which the circumstances which render the grant of the loan necessary are fully explained.

Enclosure in No. 129.

Letter from Major J. S. Ashby, Acting Political Superintendent, Palanpur, to J. L. Jenkins, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department (through the Commissioner, Northern Division), No. 8023, dated Palanpur, the 18th October, 1901.

With reference to my letter No. 7698 of the 5th instant, I have the honour to state that, as already reported, I have been obliged, owing to prevailing distress, to open relief works. I am, therefore, precluded from making any further advances from the one lakh rupees placed at my disposal—*vide* Government Resolution No. 4371, dated 19th June, 1901, Political Department—to cultivators or petty landholders, who have wells and bullocks, for seed to enable them to raise cold weather crops by irrigation. I would earnestly impress upon Government the advisability of sanctioning advances actually required for sowing such amount of land as can be irrigated. In making this suggestion, I believe that in the end it will be a saving to Government, for these persons and their families will not have to seek relief on the work. Probably the daily cost of each family would amount to at least 8 to 10 annas. This would come to a total amount of about Rs. 120 to 150 up to the commencement of the ensuing rainy season per family. The recoveries on account of the money advanced for seed would, in most cases, be made from the produce of this year's crop, and any balance would be recoverable with 4 per cent. interest, as desired by Government in their No. 5120, dated 19th July, 1901, and the families each containing on an average about eight persons (three men, three women and two children) will be in a position to maintain themselves until the next *rabi* crops.

2. I would, therefore, request that Government may be pleased to place at my disposal Rs. 50,000 (I would request that Government may be pleased to authorise me by wire to draw Rs. 10,000 from Rs. 66,000 set apart for relief work expenses for distribution of seed as the time for sowing wheat is passing, and this amount will be refunded when the above sum of Rs. 50,000 is sanctioned by Government) for advancing to the cultivators and Girasias under

the Thana Circle and managed estates and petty jurisdictional talukas for winter crop seed.

3. There is a balance of about Rs. 66,000 out of the rupees one lakh sanctioned in Government Resolution No. 4371, dated 19th June, 1901, Political Department, which has been set apart entirely for relief works in this Superintendency, which have been opened under the circumstances mentioned above.

4. As already remarked in my letter, those petty landholders who have no wells and who are reduced to the position of cultivators should not be advanced money for their maintenance, but they should be required to earn their maintenance on relief works. As regards the larger petty non-jurisdictional landholders, I am collecting full information, and, in any exceptional cases where it may be deemed advisable to advance any sums for maintenance of the families, I will submit proposals to Government at as early a date as possible.

5. There are—jagirs under the Agency management which, owing to the failure of crops, will require loans from Government to meet the calls on them on account of administrative and other charges, and I will do myself the honour of addressing Government hereafter on receipt of the necessary information from the District Deputy Assistant Political Superintendent.

6. Since writing the above I have received a letter from the Kamdar of Tharad making very similar suggestions to me for the Tharad State, and I beg to forward the same to Government for favour of perusal and consideration. The points raised by Mr. Mohanlal are, in my opinion, sound. The future agricultural prosperity of this Superintendency depends entirely on the possession of cattle fit for agricultural purposes, and any reasonable steps that can be taken to prevent cattle leaving the Superintendency should, in my opinion, be adopted.

7. The number of cattle were reduced enormously during the past famine (and while I have arranged that no cattle given to cultivators from the Bombay Charitable Relief Fund or on advance from Government shall be disposed of), it is impossible to prevent other cattle being sold which will certainly be done if their owners cannot obtain advances for seed for winter-irrigated crops.

8. The system of grouping families for winter cultivation is a commendable one and has already been adopted in the issue of bullocks from the Charitable Relief Fund.

Endorsed by Commissioner, Northern Division, No. 155 F., dated Viramgam, the 20th October, 1901.

Forwarded.

It is hoped Government may be pleased to accede to the requests in Major Ashby's paragraph 2. Also the Rs. 23,000 asked for rabi cultivation by the Kamdar of Tharad would do great good. It is not so certain about the construction of wells he proposes.

No. 130.

Telegram from the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, to the Foreign Secretary, Simla, No. 522 M., dated Mahableshwar, the 15th October, 1901.

Regret to report almost complete failure of crops in Palanpore Superintendency, and situation is aggravated by threatened water famine. Political Superintendent estimates loans amounting to six lakhs to end of March and nine lakhs next year will be required. Detailed estimates will follow, but this intimation is given to facilitate provision of means.

No. 131.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, to the Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, Abu, No. 3945 I. A., dated the 28th October, 1901.

Do you anticipate that any Native States will require famine loans during present and coming financial year? If so, please furnish particulars at earliest possible date.

No. 132.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, No. 3947 I.A., dated the 28th October, 1901.

Your telegram No. 522 M., October 15th. Famine loans for Palanpore. Detailed estimates will be awaited. It is most desirable that Government should be in possession of very early and complete information regarding such demands in order to facilitate provision of funds.

No. 133.

Letter from J. L. Jenkins, Esq., I.C.S., Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 5797, dated Bombay Castle, the 17th August, 1901.

I am directed to forward, for the consideration of the Government of India, copies of a letter No. 5627, dated the 25th ultimo, from the Political Superintendent, Palanpur, and of a Memorandum No. 8126, dated the 3rd instant, from the Commissioner, Northern Division, containing proposals for the repayment of advances made for the relief of famine in the Thana Circles of the Palanpur Superintendency.

2. I am to explain that these Thana Circles consist of numerous petty Estates, many of which are minutely subdivided; and the persons from whom the sovereignty, which is delegated to the British Government, is supposed to be derived, retain no vestige of their position as rulers beyond the proprietorship of a few fields. Their resources are less than those of well-to-do cultivators in a prosperous district. The circles are under the direct administration of the Political Superintendent; and the expenditure on account of famine relief was directed by the Political Superintendent just as it would be by the Collector in a British District. It is therefore debitable, except in the few instances noted by the Political Superintendent, not against separate Estates or particular individuals, but against the population of the Thana Circles as a whole.

3. The whole expenditure incurred on account of the Thana Circles has amounted to Rs. 3,73,804. It is proposed to provide for the repayment of this amount by the levy of a cess of one anna per *bigha* on all cultivated land, which on the lowest estimated area of 600,000 cultivated *bighas* will yield a revenue of Rs. 37,500 per annum. It is also proposed to impose a non-agricultural tax in the shape of a house tax which is estimated to yield Rs. 5,000 per annum, sufficient to cover the cost of the establishment required for the collection of the cess. Under this arrangement the debt will be liquidated in 14 years; but as the area of cultivation may be expected to increase, as the effects of famine pass away, the time will probably be shorter.

4. The proposed cess on cultivated land will, approximately, be equal to the Local Fund Cess of one anna in the rupee levied in British Districts on the

assessment of all occupied land whether cultivated or fallow ; and it should not prove too heavy a burden. The assessment of the non-agricultural tax will require careful consideration ; and I am to say that the Political Superintendent will be asked to submit definite proposals for the approval of the Governor in Council before the tax is actually introduced.

5. I am to request that the Government of India may be moved to accord their sanction to this scheme of repayment, which, I am to say, appears to the Governor in Council to be the best which can be devised in the circumstances described by the Political Superintendent.

No. 134.

Telegram from Foreign Secretary, Simla, to Bombay Political, Bombay, No. 3558 I.A., dated the 23rd September, 1901.

Your letter 5797, August 17th. Please report by letter what land revenue is assessed on the Thana Circles, and the incidence of the assessment compared with British districts, or the method and period of their land revenue settlement.

No. 135.

Letter from J. L. Jenkins, Esq., I.C.S., Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 6781, dated Bombay Castle, the 30th September, 1901.

With reference to your telegram No. 3558 I.A., dated 23rd instant, asking for certain information regarding the land revenue in the Thana Circles of the Palanpur Superintendency, I am directed to explain that there is no land revenue in these circles in the sense of revenue which is collected for the use of a State. What would, in an organised State, be land revenue, goes into the pockets of the shareholders in the estates, and is employed by them for their own personal uses. Much of the land is also alienated and pays no rent, or only a reduced rent to the shareholders. When the land is cultivated by the shareholders or the alienees themselves, the proposed cess of 1 anna per bigha on all cultivated land will come out of, and not be an addition to, the rent. Where it is held by occupancy tenants, the payment of the cess will be a matter of bargain between them and the landlords, and as the population has greatly decreased and cultivators are scarce, it is probable that the cess will be thrown upon the landlords. Thus the cess will be paid out of that portion of the produce which would form part of the resources of a homogeneous State, but, in the Thana Circles, is dissipated among a great number of petty landlords, who make small contributions under the title of "Thana Varad," towards the expenses of the administration.

2. Where rent is levied, and does not form part of the income derived by the landlords from land held and cultivated by themselves, it is generally taken in kind, the share varying from one-third to one-half of the produce. There are no regular land revenue settlements. For a comparison of the incidence of the rent received by the landlords with the incidence of the assessment in British districts, a special inquiry would be necessary, and it is doubtful whether any useful or trustworthy results would be obtained.

No. 136.

Letter from J. L. Jenkins, Esq., I.C.S., Acting Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 8306, dated Bombay Castle, the 29th November, 1901.

With reference to the correspondence ending with my letter No. 6781, dated the 30th September, 1901, regarding proposals for the recovery of the advances made for famine relief in the Thana Circles of the Palanpur Superintendency, I am directed to state, for the information of the Government of India, that owing to the failure of the recent monsoon in the Superintendency, there is no possibility of local cess being recovered from the people this year, and I am accordingly to recommend that the proposals referred to above, if approved by the Government of India, may be held in abeyance for one year.

No. 137.

Letter from the Assistant Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department, No. 4410 I.A., dated Fort William, the 10th December, 1901.

I am directed to refer to the correspondence ending with your letter No. 6781, dated the 30th September, 1901, containing proposals for the recovery of the advances, amounting to Rs. 3,73,804, which have been made for the relief of famine in the Thana Circles of the Palanpur Superintendency.

2. The proposals are that a cess of 1 anna per *bigha* shall be levied on all cultivated land, which, it is calculated, will yield a revenue of Rs. 37,500 per annum, and that a non-agricultural tax, in the shape of a house tax, which is estimated to yield Rs. 5,000 per annum, shall also be levied, to cover the cost of the establishment required for the collection of the cess. Under this arrangement, it is anticipated that the debt would be liquidated in about 14 years.

3. In justification of the impost it is pointed out—

- (a) that the proprietors pay no land revenue or cesses ;
- (b) that a cess of 1 anna per *bigha* will approximate in incidence to the local rate of 1 anna per rupee of revenue which is paid in British districts ; and
- (c) that a similar cess is actually levied in the Mahi Kantha Agency.

4. In the circumstances described in Major Ashby's letter of the 25th July, 1901, the Governor-General in Council entertains grave doubts as to the propriety of levying the tax in a tract which has suffered so severely. In

* Your letter No. 8306, dated the 29th November, 1901, which recommends that the proposals should be held in abeyance for one year, was received when the present orders were on the point of issuing.

any case, having regard to the impoverished condition of the people, the Governor-General in Council is of opinion that the tax should certainly be postponed* for at least two years. If, at the expiry of that period, the Bombay Government consider that the levy may fairly be made, fresh proposals to that end may be furnished. But the Government of India would not like to say anything at the present date that may imply the probability of consent at a later period. They would prefer to retain a complete discretion.

III.

REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

RELATING TO

BARODA.

No. 138.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel C. W. Ravenshaw, Officiating Resident at Baroda, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 8126, dated Baroda, the 9th May, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 6336, dated the 10th ultimo, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, a statement* giving information regarding the number of persons to whom relief was afforded by the Baroda Darbar during the month of April last, in consequence of the distress at present prevailing in their territory owing to failure of crops.

Enclosure in No. 138.

Remarks for April, 1900.

The record shows an increase of 11,588 labourers during the month, the total on the last day of April being 82,104 including those on gratuitous relief against 70,516 of the previous month.

The works in progress consist chiefly of tank excavation, road-making and metal-breaking. Earth-work of the Bardarpur-Songhir Railway sanctioned by the Government of India has recently been taken in hand in addition to the following railway lines:—

- (1) Baroda-Godhra Chord Railway.
- (2) Petlad-Cambay Extension.
- (3) Miyagam-Sinore Railway.
- (4) Kalol-Vijapur Railway.

The work of constructing two large reservoirs for irrigational purposes—one in the Kadi and the other in Baroda districts—have also been commenced.

Gratuitous relief was afforded to children under seven years of age. Poor-houses have been opened at certain places where those unable to work are maintained.

The physical condition of the people continues to be fair except in Okhamandal. Cases of cholera are reported to have occurred in parts of Baroda, Kadi and Naosari Divisions.

The condition of the agricultural stock continues unsatisfactory for want of fodder and water and many have died. Those surviving are in an emaciated state.

Maps† indicating the affected tracts as required by the rules accompany.

* Not printed.

† Maps not reproduced.

No. 139.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel C. W. Ravenshaw, Officiating Resident at Baroda, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 10136, dated Baroda, the 9th June, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 8126, dated the 9th ultimo, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, a statement* giving information regarding the number of persons to whom relief was afforded by the Baroda Darbar during the month of May last, in consequence of the distress at present prevailing in their territory owing to failure of crops.

Enclosure in No. 139.

Remarks for May, 1900.

The records show an increase of 12,994 labourers during the month, the total on the last day of May being 95,098, including those on gratuitous relief, against 82,104 of the previous month.

The works in progress consist chiefly of constructing two large reservoirs, one in Kadi and the other in Baroda districts, for irrigational purposes, road-making, metal breaking and earthwork of some of the railway lines sanctioned by the Government of India.

Gratuitous relief was afforded to children under 7 years of age. Poor-houses have also been opened at convenient places where those unable to work are maintained.

The physical condition of the people continues to be fair, except in Okhamandal. Cholera prevails in the Baroda, Kadi, Naosari and Amreli districts.

The condition of the agricultural stock continues unsatisfactory for want of sufficient fodder and water, and many have died. The Darbar have recently sanctioned 8 lakhs of rupees for taccavi advances to cultivators for the purchase of bullocks, seed and implements.

Maps† indicating the affected tracts as required by the rules accompany.

No. 140.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel C. W. Ravenshaw, Officiating Resident at Baroda, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 12430, dated Baroda, the 11th July, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 10136, dated the 9th ultimo, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, a statement* giving information regarding the number of persons to whom relief was afforded by the Baroda Darbar during the month of June last, in consequence of the distress at present prevailing in their territory owing to failure of crops.

Enclosure in No. 140.

Remarks for June, 1900.

The statement shows an increase of 23,168 labourers during the month, the total on the last day of June being 118,266 including those on gratuitous relief against 95,098 of the previous month.

The works in progress consist chiefly of constructing reservoirs for irrigational purposes, road making, metal breaking and earthworks of some of the railway lines sanctioned by the Government of India.

* Not printed.

† Maps not reproduced.

Gratuitous relief was afforded to children under seven years of age and to those unable to work by feeding them in poor-houses.

The physical condition of the people continues to be fair except in Okhamundal. Cholera continues in the four divisions of the Baroda territory.

Rain is immediately needed for agricultural purposes. Its absence causes considerable anxiety to the people as well as the authorities. Land has been prepared for monsoon cultivation, but owing to the absence of rain sowing operations have not commenced.

The condition of agricultural stock continues unsatisfactory for want of fodder and water. The work of distributing money as taccavi advances to cultivators for the purchase of bullock, seed and implements, sanctioned by the Darbar, still continues. The prices of food-grains have lately risen.

Maps* indicating the affected tracts as required by the rules accompany.

No. 141.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, to the Resident at Baroda, No. 3272 I.-A., dated 27th July, 1900.

The percentage of the population of Baroda under relief is only about one-fifth of the percentage under relief in the neighbouring districts of British India. Are you satisfied that relief in Baroda is really sufficient? Have the numbers in receipt of relief recently declined? If so, what is the explanation of this? Have you received any recent complaints of migration of Baroda subjects into British territory, or from other sources of information have you reason to believe it is taking place?

No. 142.

Telegram from the Resident at Baroda, Camp, to the Foreign Secretary, Simla, No. 13996, dated the 30th July, 1900.

Your 3272 I.-A. Okhamundal and Amreli districts famine relief continually reported on by Assistant Residents, and is no doubt sufficient. Baroda, Kadi and Naosari districts interlaced with British Districts, and no complaints of insufficiency of relief works or recent complaints of migration to British works. Hence relief appears sufficient in Baroda State, and migration is unappreciable and reciprocal. Number in receipt of relief slightly declined after week ending 19th May, owing to hopes of agricultural operations. Number again rose slightly for week ending 14th instant; will probably now decline owing to good rainfall. Ratio on relief in Baroda has always been less than in neighbouring British districts due to cultivation of large areas by irrigation.

No. 143.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel C. W. Ravenshaw, Officiating Resident at Baroda, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 14787, dated Baroda, the 9th August, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 12430, dated the 11th ultimo, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, a statement† giving information regarding the number of persons to whom relief was afforded by the Baroda Darbar, during the month of July last, in consequence of the distress at present prevailing in their territory owing to failure of crops.

* Maps not reproduced.

† Not printed.

Enclosure in No. 143.

Remarks for July, 1900.

This statement shows a decrease of 17,302 persons on relief works and in receipt of gratuitous relief, the total on the last day of July being 100,964 including those on gratuitous relief against 118,266 of the previous month.

The decrease in the number of persons seeking relief is chiefly due to the fall of rain throughout Baroda territory in the last week of the month and prospects have considerably improved. Sowing operations have been started.

The works in progress consist chiefly of constructing reservoirs for irrigational purposes, road repairing, metal breaking and earthworks of some of the railway lines. The earthwork of the Petlad-Cambay Railway extension is now nearly finished.

Gratuitous relief was afforded to children under 7 years of age and to those unable to work by feeding them in poor-houses.

The public health is far from satisfactory, as cholera has been raging throughout the Baroda territory, but it is hoped the epidemic will soon die out as good rain has now fallen.

The condition of the agricultural stock continued to be unsatisfactory during the month for want of fodder and water.

Maps* indicating the affected tracts as required by the rules accompany.

No. 144.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel C. W. Ravenshaw, Officiating Resident at Baroda, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 17107, dated Baroda, the 12th September, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 14787, dated the 9th ultimo, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, a statement† giving information regarding the number of persons to whom relief was afforded by the Baroda Darbar during the month of August last, in consequence of the distress at present prevailing in their territory owing to failure of crops.

Enclosure in No. 144.

Remarks for August, 1900.

This statement shows a decrease of 52,954 persons on relief works and in receipt of gratuitous relief, the total on the last day of August being 48,010 against 100,964 of the previous month.

The decrease in the number of persons seeking relief is chiefly due to the fall of rain throughout Baroda territory during the month, and prospects have now considerably improved. Sowing operations have been completed.

The works in progress consist chiefly of road repairing, constructing reservoirs for irrigational purposes and earthworks of some of the railway lines.

Gratuitous relief was afforded to children under 7 years of age and to those unable to work by feeding them in the poor-houses.

Public health has much improved, though cholera is prevailing in a mild form.

The condition of the agricultural stock shows much improvement, as sufficient green grass has grown.

Maps* indicating the affected tracts as required by the rules accompany.

* Maps not reproduced.

† Not printed.

No. 145.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel C. W. Ravenshaw, Officiating Resident at Baroda, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 18767, dated Baroda, the 10th October, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 17107, dated the 12th ultimo, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, a statement* giving information regarding the number of persons to whom relief was afforded by the Baroda Darbar, during the month of September last, in consequence of the distress at present prevailing in their territory owing to failure of crops.

Enclosure in No. 145.

Remarks for September, 1900.

This statement shows a decrease of 4,209 persons on relief works and in receipt of gratuitous relief, the total on the last day of September being 43,801 against 48,010 of the previous month.

The works in progress consist chiefly of road making and repairing, construction of reservoirs for irrigational purposes and earthworks of some of the railway lines.

Gratuitous relief was as usual afforded to children under 7 years of age and to those unable to work.

Want of little late rain is felt, although standing crops are at present in fair condition. Land is under preparation for rabi sowing.

Public health has much improved, and cholera has now completely disappeared. The physical condition of the people on the whole is good.

The condition of the agricultural stock is now satisfactory.

Maps† indicating the affected tracts accompany.

No. 146.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel C. W. Ravenshaw, Officiating Resident at Baroda, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 20498, dated Baroda, the 10th November, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 18767, dated the 10th ultimo, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, a statement* giving information regarding the number of persons to whom relief was afforded by the Baroda Darbar during the month of October, 1900, in consequence of the distress at present prevailing in their territory owing to failure of crops.

Enclosure in No. 146.

Remarks for October, 1900.

This statement shows a decrease of 20,258 persons on relief works and in receipt of gratuitous relief, the total on the last day of October being 23,543 against 43,801 of the previous month.

Gratuitous relief was afforded to children under seven years of age and to those unable to work.

There was no rain during the month. Harvesting of kharif and sowing of rabi crops have been completed. The germinated rabi crops are withering for want of rain. In Okhamandal the outturn of crops is estimated at three to four annas in the rupee.

The condition of agricultural stock is satisfactory.

* Not printed.

† Maps not reproduced.

Public health has considerably improved of late, though fever is prevailing in some parts. The physical condition of the people on the whole is fair.

Maps* indicating the affected tracts accompany.

No. 147.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel C. W. Ravenshaw, Officiating Resident at Baroda, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 22270, dated Baroda, the 10th December, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 20498, dated the 10th ultimo, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, a statement† giving information regarding the number of persons to whom relief was afforded by the Baroda Darbar, during the month of November 1900, in consequence of the distress prevailing in their territory owing to failure of crops.

Enclosure in No. 147.

Remarks for November, 1900.

This statement shows a decrease of 12,608 persons on relief works and in receipt of gratuitous relief; the total on the last day of November being 10,935 against 23,543 of the previous month.

Gratuitous relief was afforded to children under 7 years of age and to those unable to work.

There was no rain during the month. Owing to failure of late rains, the germinated rabi crops are withering.

The condition of the agricultural stock is satisfactory and the physical condition of the people on the whole is fair.

Maps indicating the affected tracts accompany.

No. 148.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel C. W. Ravenshaw, Officiating Resident at Baroda, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 708, dated Baroda, the 10th January, 1901.

In continuation of my letter No. 22270, dated the 10th December, 1900, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, a statement† giving information regarding the number of persons to whom relief was afforded by the Baroda Darbar, during the month of December 1900, in consequence of the distress prevailing owing to failure of crops.

Enclosure in No. 148.

Remarks for December, 1900.

This statement shows an increase of 3,995 persons on relief works and in receipt of gratuitous relief, the total on the last day of December being 14,930 against 10,935 of the previous month. The increase is due to harvesting of kharif crops being over.

* Maps not reproduced.

† Not printed.

Gratuitous relief was afforded to children under 7 years of age and to those unable to work.

The standing rabi crops are in fair condition.

The condition of the agricultural stock is satisfactory, and the physical condition of the people on the whole is fair.

Maps* indicating the affected tracts accompany.

No. 149.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel C. W. Ravenshaw, Officiating Resident at Baroda, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 2728, dated Baroda, the 11th February, 1901.

In continuation of my letter, No. 708, dated the 10th January, 1901, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, a statement† giving information regarding the number of persons to whom relief was afforded by the Baroda Darbar, during the month of January last, in consequence of the distress prevailing owing to partial failure of crops.

Enclosure in No. 149.

Remarks for January, 1901.

This statement shows an increase of 1,716 persons on relief works and in receipt of gratuitous relief, the total on the last day of January being 16,646 against 14,930 of the previous month.

Gratuitous relief was afforded to children under 7 years of age and to those unable to work.

The physical condition of the people on the whole is fair.

As there is no famine at present, but merely scarcity owing to the partial failure of last monsoon, maps indicating the affected parts have not been sent.

No. 150.

Letter from Major W. H. M. Stewart, Officiating Resident at Baroda, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 4672, dated Baroda, the 15th March, 1901.

In continuation of this office letter, No. 2728, dated the 11th February, 1901, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, a statement† giving information regarding the number of persons to whom relief was afforded by the Baroda Darbar during the month of February last, in consequence of the distress prevailing owing to partial failure of crops.

Enclosure in No. 150.

Remarks for February, 1901.

This statement shows an increase of 1,476 persons on relief works and in receipt of gratuitous relief, the total on the last day, February, being 18,122 against 16,646 of the previous month.

* Maps not reproduced.

† Not printed.

Gratuitous relief was afforded to children under 7 years of age and to those unable to work.

The out-turn of the rabi crop is estimated to be below normal owing to the partial failure of last monsoon.

The physical condition of the people is, on the whole, fair.

No. 151.

Letter from Major W. H. M. Stewart, Officiating Resident at Baroda, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 6145, dated Baroda, the 11th April, 1901.

In continuation of this office letter No. 4672, dated the 15th March last, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, a statement* giving information regarding the number of persons to whom relief was afforded by the Baroda Darbar during the month of March, 1901.

Enclosure in No. 151.

Remarks for March, 1901.

This statement shows a decrease of 1,944 persons on relief works and in receipt of gratuitous relief, the total on the last day of March being 16,178 against 18,122 of the previous month.

Gratuitous relief was afforded to children under 7 years of age and to those unable to work.

The physical condition of the people is, on the whole, fair.

No. 152.

Letter from Major W. H. M. Stewart, Officiating Resident at Baroda, to the Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign Department, No. 8225, dated Baroda, the 13th May, 1901.

In continuation of this office letter No. 6145, dated the 11th ultimo, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, a statement* giving information regarding the number of persons to whom relief was afforded by the Baroda Darbar during the month of April, 1901.

Enclosure in No. 152.

Remarks for April, 1901.

This statement shows an increase of 3,346 persons on relief works and in receipt of gratuitous relief, the total on the last day of April being 19,254 against 16,178 of the previous month.

Gratuitous relief was afforded to children under 7 years of age and to those unable to work.

The physical condition of the people is, on the whole, fair.

* Not printed.

No. 153.

Letter from Major W. H. M. Stewart, Officiating Resident at Baroda, to the Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign Department, No. 9818, dated Baroda, the 10th June, 1901.

In continuation of this office letter No. 8225, dated the 13th ultimo, I have the honour to forward herewith, for the information of the Government of India, a statement* giving information regarding the number of persons to whom relief was afforded by the Baroda Darbar during the month of May, 1901.

Enclosure in No. 153.

Remarks for May, 1901.

This statement shows an increase of 9,061 persons on relief works and in receipt of gratuitous relief, the total on the last day of May being 29,585 against 19,524 of the previous month.

Gratuitous relief was afforded to children under 7 years of age and to those unable to work.

Taccavi advances for maintenance and for the purchase of bullocks are being made in some districts.

The physical condition of the people is, on the whole, fair.

No. 154.

Letter from Major W. H. M. Stewart, Officiating Resident at Baroda, to the Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign Department, No. 11936, dated Baroda, the 13th July, 1901.

In continuation of this office letter No. 9818, dated the 10th ultimo, I have the honour to forward herewith, for the information of the Government of India, a statement* giving information regarding the number of persons to whom relief was afforded by the Darbar during the month of June, 1901.

Enclosure in No. 154.

Remarks for June, 1901.

This statement shows an increase of 2,459 persons on relief works and in receipt of gratuitous relief, the total on the last day of June being 31,044 against 28,585.

Gratuitous relief was afforded to children under seven years of age and to those unable to work.

Taccavi advances for maintenance and for the purchase of bullocks are being made to cultivators in some districts.

Rain fell in the latter part of the month in some parts of Baroda and Naosari Divisions, where sowing operations have commenced.

The physical condition of the people is, on the whole, fair.

* Not printed.

No. 155.

Letter from Major W. H. M. Stewart, Officiating Resident at Baroda, to the Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign Department, dated Baroda, the 12th August, 1901.

In continuation of this office letter No. 11936, dated the 13th ultimo, I have the honour to forward herewith, for the information of the Government of India, a statement* giving information regarding the number of persons to whom relief was afforded by the Baroda Darbar during the month of July, 1901.

Enclosure in No. 155.

Remarks for July, 1901.

This statement shows a decrease of 2,693 persons on relief works and in receipt of gratuitous relief, the total on the last day of July being 28,351 against 31,044 in June.

Gratuitous relief was afforded to children under seven years of age, and to those unable to work owing to old age or infirmity.

Taccavi advances for maintenance and for the purchase of bullocks are being made to cultivators who apply for it.

Sufficient rain fell during the month in most parts of the Baroda territory. It was deficient in four talukas of the Amreli district including Okhamandal.

Standing crops are doing well, and, in place where they were damaged by rats and caterpillars, they are being resown. The physical condition of the people continues satisfactory.

No. 156.

Letter from Major W. H. M. Stewart, Officiating Resident at Baroda, to the Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign Department, No. 15964, dated Baroda, the 12th September, 1901.

In continuation of this office letter No. 13852, dated the 12th ultimo, I have the honour to forward herewith, for the information of the Government of India, a statement* giving information regarding the number of persons to whom relief was afforded by the Baroda Darbar during the month of August, 1901.

Enclosure in No. 156.

Remarks for August, 1901.

This statement shows a decrease of 993 persons on relief works and in receipt of gratuitous relief, the total on the last day of August being 27,358 against 28,351 in July.

Gratuitous relief was afforded to children under seven years of age and to those unable to work owing to old age or infirmity.

Taccavi advances for the purchase of bullocks are made where required.

Rain is still deficient in four talukas of the Amreli district, including Okhamandal.

The physical condition of the people continues satisfactory.

* Not printed.

No. 157.

Letter from Captain H. B. Peacock, Officiating First Assistant to the Resident at Baroda, to the Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign Department, No. 17703, dated Baroda, the 12th October 1901.

In continuation of this office letter No. 15964, dated the 12th ultimo, I have the honour to forward herewith, for the information of the Government of India, a statement* giving information regarding the number of persons to whom relief was afforded by the Baroda Darbar during the Month of September, 1901.

Enclosure in No. 157.

Remarks for September, 1901.

This statement shows a decrease of 1,346 persons on relief works and in receipt of gratuitous relief, the total on the last day of September being 26,012 against 27,358 in August.

Gratuitous relief was afforded to children under 7 years of age and to those unable to work owing to old age or infirmity.

Taccavi advances for the purchase of bullocks are made where required.

Rain is still deficient in four talukas of the Amreli district, including Okhamandal and in certain portions of the Baroda, Kadi and Nowsari divisions.

Prices of food-grains are advancing.

The physical condition of the people continues satisfactory.

No. 158.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel M. J. Meade, C.I.E., Resident at Baroda, to the Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign Department, No. 19667, dated Baroda, the 15th November, 1901.

In continuation of this office letter No. 17703, dated the 12th ultimo, I have the honour to forward herewith, for the information of the Government of India, a statement* giving information regarding the number of persons to whom relief was afforded by the Baroda Darbar during the month of October, 1901.

Enclosure in No. 158.

Remarks for October, 1901.

This statement shows a decrease of 2,092 persons on relief works and in receipt of gratuitous relief, the total on the last day of October being 23,920 against 26,012 in September. The decrease is temporary, due probably to the harvesting of kharif crops.

Gratuitous relief was afforded to children under 7 years of age and to those unable to work owing to old age or infirmity.

Taccavi advances for the purchase of bullocks are made by the State where required.

Standing crops which have escaped ravages of rats, locust and caterpillars are still in a fair condition, but in many places they are withering for want of sufficient rain. Rabi sowing is in progress, but prospects are gloomy, as there is want of sufficient moisture.

The physical condition of the people continues satisfactory.

* Not printed.

No. 159.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel M. J. Meade, C.I.E., Resident at Baroda, to the Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign Department, No. 21451, dated Baroda, the 13th December, 1901.

In continuation of this office letter, No. 19667, dated the 15th ultimo, I have the honour to forward herewith, for the information of the Government of India, a statement* giving information regarding the number of persons to whom relief was afforded by the Baroda Darbar during the month of November, 1901.

Enclosure in No. 159.

Remarks for November, 1901.

This statement shows an increase of 4,898 persons on relief works and in receipt of gratuitous relief, the total on the last day of November being 28,818 against 23,920 in October.

Gratuitous relief was afforded to children under seven years of age and to those unable to work owing to old age or infirmity.

Taccavi advances for the purchase of bullocks, digging new wells, are made by the State where required.

Harvesting of kharif crops is almost over. The outturn of bajri crop is normal, and of the other staple food-grains it is from 2 to 6 annas. Standing rabi crops are in fair condition, but outturn will be poor, owing to ravages of rats and other insects, and want of sufficient moisture.

The physical condition of the people continues satisfactory.

No. 160.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel M. J. Meade, C.I.E., Resident at Baroda, to the Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign Department, No. 807, dated Baroda, the 11th January, 1902.

In continuation of this office letter, No. 21451, dated the 13th December, 1901, I have the honour to forward herewith, for the information of the Government of India, a statement* giving information regarding the number of persons to whom relief was afforded by the Baroda Darbar during the month of December, 1901.

Enclosure in No. 160.

Remarks for December, 1901.

This statement shows an increase of 5,766 persons on relief works and in receipt of gratuitous relief, the total on the last day of December, 1901, being 34,584 against 28,818 in November.

Gratuitous relief was afforded to children under seven years of age and to those unable to work owing to old age or infirmity.

Taccavi advances for the purchase of bullocks and digging of new wells are made by the State where required.

Standing rabi crops are in fair condition at present, but outturn will be poor, owing to absence of late rains and ravages of rats and insects. It is difficult to irrigate rabi crops from wells, as water in wells and tanks is decreasing.

The condition of agricultural stock is satisfactory.

The physical condition of the people continues satisfactory.

* Not printed.

No. 161.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel C. W. Ravenshaw, Officiating Resident at Baroda, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 3002, dated Baroda, the 15th—16th February, 1901.

I have the honour to submit a summary of the diary of my tour in the Kadi Division of the Baroda State in connection with the late famine and to submit the following report :—

2. Kadi is the northern and most important Division of the Baroda State. On the north it marches with the boundary of States and talukas under Palanpur Superintendency; on the east with the Mahi Kantha States and Ahmedabad district; on the south and south-west it borders on and is interlaced with the Ahmedabad and Kaira districts, while on the west it is touched by outlying districts of the Ahmedabad Collectorate and of the Mahi Kantha and Kathiawar States, with an area of 3,146 square miles, it has a population of 1,098,583, and is divided into ten talukas containing 1,199 villages. The average rainfall is 32 inches, and the rainfall in 1898, 1899, and 1900, respectively, was 22·27 inches, 3·75 inches and 25·5 inches. The total revenue demand for 1898–1899 and 1899–1900 was respectively Rs. 36,35,118 and Rs. 34,36,453, while the amount collected respectively was Rs. 34,71,127 and Rs. 14,39,766. The Division is intersected by the Rajputana-Malwa Railway, portion of the Bombay, Baroda and Central India, north and south—the eastern portion being as fertile as the western portion is unproductive, due chiefly to brackish water and saline deposit in the soil.

3. The fact that this Division is bordered by British districts and States under the Bombay Government has brought its famine administration under close observation, more especially during the early part of the famine, when numbers of Gaekwari villagers of this Division resorted to the relief works in the adjacent British villages. The comparative adequacy of relief works provided by the Baroda State has, moreover, been criticised in the Press. It was, therefore, with a view to ascertain its condition and see the relief works provided that I decided to visit this Division.

4. One hundred and one relief works were taken up in this Division, including the earth-work of three Branch Railways,* 49·60 miles in length, and two large irrigation projects,† estimated to cost 7½ lakhs, and Rs. 7,90,294 out of a sanctioned grant of Rs. 17,04,693 has been expended. Takavi advances for different purposes to the extent of Rs. 7,06,256 has been distributed out of a sanctioned grant of Rs. 8,46,376; the balance will be expended for the winter crop. It is estimated that the encouragement given in the shape of takavi advances has resulted in relieving some 600,000 persons, because the amount of land cultivated in 50,000 bighas, there being about 50,000

	Miles.
* Kalol-Kadi Railway...	12
Kalol-Vijapur Railway ...	29·60
Ranuj-Chansama Railway ...	8
Total ...	49·60
	Rs.
† Kadarpur Project ...	4,64,557
Anawada do. ...	3,00,000
Total ...	7,64,557

Samwat 1956 (1899-1900) was over 5,00,000 bighas, there being about 50,000 wells in the Division.

5. These advances were of two kinds; those issued during the famine and those subsequent to it—in the first, instalments begin after second year; in the second, after first year's repayment, and sums up to Rs. 100 are realised in 10 instalments; repayment of larger sums are carried on over 20 years; applications were disposed of on their merits.

6. Poor-houses were opened and maintained at the head-quarters of each taluka and returns show an expenditure under this head of Rs. 1,35,182, and that they afforded relief to about 46,866 persons; apart from this, a further sum of Rs. 82,599 from subscription and other sources was contributed and expended on charity, and Rs. 42,543 were expended on special objects up to the end of November from the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund.

7. The percentage of persons on relief works and charitable relief to the population was about 3·75, and the percentage of deaths was 42 per thousand in this Division during 1899–1900, and is the lowest of all the Divisions of the Baroda State. Baroda, Naosari and Amreli being respectively 62, 65 and 63.

8. The small percentage on works is chiefly attributable to the existence of old and sinking of new wells. Returns show that during 1899–1900, 12,457 new wells were dug in this Division, which is estimated to have given employment to not less than 56,000 persons. It is to the existence of its wells that the Division owes much of its comparative prosperity, for, whereas previous to the famine, Baroda, Naosari and Amreli Divisions are recorded to have 7,910, 7,416, 5,519 wells, the Kadi Division possessed 38,045, to which 12,457 have now been added. I attach a statement showing the area of land under cultivation during 1899–1900, which shows that while about 7,193 bighas were relinquished, 16,856 bighas were taken up for cultivation, and that a total area of about 17,13,784 was in possession of cultivators in 1899–1900 as against about 17,04,122 in 1898–1899. Mortality among cattle may be taken at about 50 per cent., returns examined show that out of 206,305 head in 1898–1899, 103,269 survived during 1898 and 1900.

9. Referring to the summary of my diary, it will be seen that I left Baroda on 20th November and returned on the 9th December; during this period of 19 days I travelled 185 miles by rail and rode 303 miles, and visited portions of each of the ten talukas and personally inspected 95 villages of this Division. The enclosed tracing will show the route taken. The method adopted was to visit a certain number of villages within a radius of 10–20 miles each day. At each village the Patel, Talati and Mukhi were questioned as to the condition of the villages. Information for the whole taluka was obtained at the head-quarters of each taluka visited, and that for the whole Division was supplied through the courtesy of the Suba, who, as well as all local officials, afforded me every assistance. An official of the Settlement Department, with special knowledge of this Division and who formed one of a Committee to grant takavi advances, was deputed to accompany me throughout the tour and afforded me all assistance and information I required. The information obtained may, therefore, be accepted as fairly accurate and the figures given as approximately correct up to the end of October.

10. After personal inspection of most of the relief works provided and enquiry into the condition of this Division, I am able to record as follows :—

(I) Sufficient and suitable relief works have been provided and have been accessible to all willing to resort to them.

(II) Kunbis or cultivating class, though they have as a class not availed themselves of relief works, have obtained employment and subsistence from the numerous wells in the Division.

(III) Takavi advances in different forms have been given as far as was consistent.

(IV) There has been no culpable immigration of Baroda subjects to outside relief works, while some have certainly resorted to outside relief works. Outsiders have also been accommodated on State relief works.

(V) Although approximately half the revenue demand has been realised from cultivators for 1899–1900 under some pressure, and although there may have been some individual cases of hardship, the amount collected appears to have been within the capacity of the cultivators; but as this has been realised in the majority of cases

from reserve, such as saving in cash and jewellery, etc., in spite of an average harvest in half the Division, it will probably be impossible to obtain more than half the revenue demand for 1900-1901. In some of the districts of this Division relief works will have to be opened after February, 1901.

(VI) Poor-houses have been maintained at the head-quarters of each taluka, and charitable funds collected and distributed. Although there must have been some deaths from starvation, the majority is due to cholera and a very severe and fatal type of fever, which has been prevalent throughout the State after the rains.

(VII) The State has acted up to its responsibilities as regards this Division, and its famine administration has been well and intelligently carried out by the Suba, Mr. Vanikar, and local officials.

11. I trust the Government of India will approve my action and be able to accept these conclusions.

Enclosure in No. 161.

SUMMARY OF THE DIARY OF THE RESIDENT AT BARODA, OF THE TOUR IN THE KADI DIVISION OF HIS HIGHNESS THE GAEKWAR'S TERRITORY.

DEHGAM TALUKA.

20th November, 1900.—I left Baroda on the 20th, and reached Naroda, a station on the Ahmedabad-Prantij Railway, where I left the train and visited the villages of Bilasia and Kathwada which have been the subject of correspondence with the Government of India (see this office letter No. 19959, dated 1st November, 1900, to the Foreign Secretary). I closely examined the village officials and went over both villages, found the condition as explained to the Government of India in the letter above referred to. Owing to the proximity of these villages to Ahmedabad, the villagers go to work there as well as take their wares and produce for sale to the market. The death-rate was much the same and due, as in other villages in the Kadi Division, chiefly to cholera and fever. A large proportion of the land in both villages is usually under rice cultivation and from this crop is paid the revenue demand. Rice again failed entirely owing to want of rain in September and October, the *bajri* crop had been fair, a quarter of the revenue demand was realised for last year and not more is expected this year. There is a large tract of grass land round these villages annually let for grazing to an Ahmedabad contractor. Wasna, a village six miles off, was the nearest relief work in Baroda territory; few, however, appear to have resorted there, preferring the relief work at Naroda (Ahmedabad District) which is close. Excepting from one man, a Thakarda by caste, who could have obtained work if he had chosen, I received no complaints. Takavi advances had been given as far as was consistent with the circumstances of the applicants. Although no notice was given of my visit, I found the village Talatis with their books written up, and information was readily given. The wells had an ample supply of water. The price of *bajri*, the staple food, was reduced, and the condition of the two villages seemed as good as could be expected.

In addition to a fair *bajri* crop, this village, which is on the bank of the Khari river, had especially good standing crop of

Jhank.

castor oil and an 8-anna revenue expected to be paid; the villagers had resorted to Ahmedabad and Wasna relief-works, had lost about 50 per cent. of their cattle.

The head-quarters of the Taluka had three (tank) relief works which were well resorted to, also a poor-house. This was

Dehgam.

opened on 30th March, 1900, on which up to date Rs. 3,082 had been spent and some Rs. 3,900 had been taken in. It was still open, and on the day of my visit contained

87 inmates, the highest number during the famine had been 497; the arrangements seem to be suitable.

21st November, 1900.—These are border villages on Mahi Kantha. A small relief work (tank) was provided at Sampa Falia, Hematpura, Sampa. which lasted for about 2½ months and was resorted to almost entirely by the villagers. The largest number employed was 300, Ahmedabad and the Dehgam relief works being resorted to by the villagers of Palia and Hemetpura. Takavi advances had been given in all these villages.

22nd November, 1900.—The condition of these villages was much the same; they had reaped an excellent *bajri* crop. Nandoli, Halisa, Giod, Chhala. Tank work had been provided at Chhala which lasted for about three months. The numbers were about 400 daily, which included people from Mahi Kantha villages.

The Dehgam Taluka has a population of 69,253 and which comprises 89 *khalsa* and 7 alienated villages. Out of a revenue demand of Rs. 2,20,982 Rs. 47,197 were only realised in 1899 and 1900. Eleven village works, out of 14 sanctioned, were taken up on which, up to date, Rs. 20,796 had been expended and Rs. 60,689 given in takavi advances.

KALOL TALUKA.

A small village belonging to a Thakur, who had provided doles or food, as far as possible, for his village. This village had apparently not received any assistance from the Darbar.

Alwa.

23rd November, 1900.—In these villages the crops of *bajri*, *toor*, and tobacco were especially good. Wells were plentiful in these villages and had been worked. I learnt from villagers that no large proportion of them had resorted to the Kalol-Vijapur Railway or minor village relief works. The Kunbies or agricultural class, who formed the majority of the population of these villages, had worked at the wells. The mortality in these villages was more due to fever and cholera than famine. The villages of Chandisan and Amja are held by a Thakur on a quit-rent of Rs. 700. Enquiry showed that the Thakur had provided food and work for his villagers; a few had resorted to the relief works. Takavi advances had been granted to all the *khalsa* villages. Balwa, a small village containing a large number of *girassias*, whose women are kept in purdah, having received Rs. 400.

During my halt at Alwa, I visited Sadra, which is the head-quarters of the Mahi Kantha Agency and on the opposite bank of the Sabarmati river, and was able to estimate the advantages to be obtained from the proposed railway station at Limbodra on the Kalol-Vijapur Railway, and the comparative necessity of metalling the road from Sadra to the Railway at Dabhoda—vide correspondence ending with this office letter No. 258, dated 4th January, 1901, to the Government of India, Foreign Department. There is no doubt that numbers from the neighbouring Gaekwari villages resorted to Sadra during the famine for charitable relief. These, for the most part, had to be sent back to Dehgam, as, owing to the state of the roads to Sadra, the difficulties of import of grain was greatly increased.

24th November, 1900.—Of these Galathra, Pudhra and Ranasan are *khalsa* villages. The Kalol-Vijapur railway embankment was twice crossed in the visit to these villages. This work afforded relief to all these villages, and at Pudhra tank relief-work had been provided; the *bajri*, *toor* and castor oil were at least 8-anna crop. The land seems particularly fertile, and a plentiful supply of wells and takavi advances had been given freely in the *khalsa* villages of Galathra, Pudhra, and Ranasan. The general expression of the villagers was that they had had a bad time and would be

all right now but for the loss of cattle, which, as elsewhere, had been about 50 per cent. Cholera and fever had claimed more victims than famine.

VIJAPUR TALUKA.

Head-quarters of taluka of the same name and the proposed terminus of the Kalol-Vijapur Railway, the earthwork of which has been completed as a famine relief work. Eight relief works were provided for this taluka, six of which (five tank works at Vijapur, Pandhara, Gawada, Aglod and the railway embankment) were taken up and Rs. 5,500 approximately were expended on and Rs. 2,54,678 were realised during 1899-1900 out of a revenue demand of Rs. 3,52,427, and out of a total sanction of Rs. 38,000 on account of takavi Rs. 27,416 had been given up to date. A poor-house was kept up here by private subscription till August, 1900, when it was taken over by the Darbar; as many as 400 inmates had been accommodated at one time, and there were 67 when I visited it on 24th November. Arrangements seemed sufficient.

25th November, 1900.—The condition of all these villages was good owing to the abundance of wells. The small wells are easily dug, water being obtained within 10 or 20 feet of the surface at a cost of Rs. 6. These are worked by hand or one bullock. Gawada being a *girassia* village, had received exceptional good treatment. A tank had been deepened and repaired at the village providing labour for three months in addition to takavi advances of Rs. 400.

The villages on the east of the Vijapur Taluka, i.e., between the latter place and the Sabarmati river, are all held by Thakurs, some on nominal rents, some free; during the early part of the famine, the villagers were supported by the Thakurs. Crops were sown in the bed of the river and others irrigated from wells. Subsequently, those who sought work were accommodated at tank-work at Vijapur and ramp cutting work at Aglod.

26th November, 1900.—The first was a very prosperous village and marks the limit of the fertile track; it possessed about 1,000 wells, and during the famine had been able to grow fodder and sell it at very high rates.

Jantral had benefited to the extent of Rs. 14,000 from a charitable grant from Messrs. Harichand Mancharam & Co., Bombay, a rich shop-keeper and former resident and native of this village. All these villages had received suitable takavi advances and a 12-anna revenue collection was anticipated.

26th November, 1900.—This village was at one time the head-quarters of a taluka of the same name, but since the opening of the Mehsana-Kheralu Railway, is included in the Kheralu Taluka and is a station on that line. A poor-house had been opened here; 400 being the largest number of inmates. On the day of my visit there were 28, all orphan children. The Kheralu Taluka comprises 107 villages with a population of 98,682. Rs. 1,27,827 had been realised for 1899-1900 out of a revenue demand of Rs. 3,37,169. Out of Rs. 79,322 sanctioned as takavi advances Rs. 53,032 had been paid up to date and Rs. 75,000 had been advanced during the past year from the Visnagar Agricultural Bank. Seven relief-works were sanctioned for this taluka and all taken up; 6 of these are tank works in villages, the 7th, a very large irrigation work, known as the Kadarpur project.

27th November, 1900.—Leaving Vadnagar on the morning of the 27th and passing the two small hamlets of Lundi and Sidikpur, I visited this project which takes its name from the village of Kadarpur and is $3\frac{1}{4}$ miles from Kheralu. The object of the project is to collect the water of a catchment area of 20 square miles by bunding up the two branches of the Rupan river by a high embankment $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles long, extending with natural features to a length of 4 miles, the actual spread of water will cover an area of $4\frac{1}{2}$ square miles with an average depth of 19 feet,

the deepest part being 30 feet. The scheme provides for the irrigation of lands of Sundhia and Umta by a small canal. As a famine relief work it has provided for numbers of people from 145 villages of the Kadi Division, the highest number recorded for one day being 30,000 and the highest daily average being 10,306; work was commenced on 19th February, 1900, and being all earth work, was eminently suited for famine relief. Excellent arrangements for hutting and hospitals were made. The death-rate varied from 12·88 to 62·30 per 1,000 between 19th February and 22nd November, 1900; the highest death-rate being 33·88, 42·38, 62·30 per 1,000 in June, August and November; few, if any, were due to starvation, but chiefly cholera and fever, the latter being most prevalent and fatal in November. Out of an approximate expenditure of Rs. 1,30,520 Babashai, Rs. 67,585 was famine expenditure. The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 4,64,537 Babashai, and if funds are available, it is anticipated it will be completed in $2\frac{1}{2}$ years and will give a return on the outlay of 6 per cent. In order to obtain metal for the railway and stone for this project, it is proposed to extend the Mehsana-Kheralu Railway to Dabhoda, 6 miles and close to stone quarries in the Idar hills.

These villages, though sparsely cultivated, appear to have paid 75 per cent. of revenue in 1899 and 1900 and admitted their ability to pay 8-anna revenue this year. Opium is grown in all these villages. Neither the *bajri* nor *toor* crops were as good as in the villages already visited, as the soil was more sandy.

29th November, 1900.—Chacharia, Hirwani Moti, Hirwani Nani, Vithoda, Panchha, Mandali, Machawa.

30th November, 1900.—Merwada, Kohoda, Sidhpur.

The soil of these villages become more sandy and less productive as they near Sidhpur, the condition was much the same as the villages visited on 28th. *Bajri* crops had been fair, *toor* worse, but there was a plentiful supply of wells, chiefly "*katcha*" which had kept up a supply of fodder for the cattle. The large number of buffaloes was particularly striking in these villages, half the revenue demand had been realised from most of these villages, apparently with some squeezing, as there were many complaints of imprisonment and harsh treatment. The majority of inhabitants were of the Kunbi or agricultural class. The working class had found work on the Kadarpur project. Merwada, Kohoda, seem the poorest of these villages; the water in many of the wells being brackish and much land lying waste. Takavi had been given in small quantities to each village. The land, however, was being prepared for wheat, some of which was above ground, the brackish water suiting its cultivation.

Sidhpur is a large town and head-quarters of the taluka and is fully described at page 615 of the Baroda Gazetteer.*

* Bombay Gazetteer (Baroda). Volume VII. A poor-house had been opened and maintained here. There were only 50 inmates when I visited on 30th, chiefly children. During the worst part of the famine 1,500 were accommodated and fed in the poor-house. The Bohoras of the town had subscribed Rs. 25,000 for charitable relief. The Sidhpur Taluka comprises a total of 80 villages and a population of 107,470. Six out of nine relief works sanctioned were taken up at an approximate cost of Rs. 16,735, and Rs. 41,064 out of Rs. 58,824 sanctioned had been expended on takavi and a total of Rs. 2,23,619 was realised during 1899 and 1900 out of a revenue demand of Rs. 4,59,500. Most of the opium is grown in this taluka and the Darbar had given permission to cultivate 10,000 bighas during the present year. There is apparently no special rate for opium cultivation, the land being assessed according to the soil between a maximum and minimum of 3 rupees and 12 annas per bigha; as Rs. 3 per lb. is obtainable for opium, the cultivators ought to do well.

SIDHPUR TALUKA.

1st December, 1900.—In all these villages the crops had been and were poor; half assessment had generally been collected and there were many complaints of pressure to extort the amount demanded. Takavi had been given in most of these villages and ample work was provided. An union had,

however, been started by the Unjha villagers to resist payment of any assessment last year and the Darbar had to resort to strong measures to assert its authority.

2nd December, 1900.—All these villages are along the banks of the Saraswati river, three being *inami* in which the *bhagwati* or payment-in-kind system prevails. Dethli had paid half and Wanasan no assessment last year. The condition of the village, however, was worse than those previously visited. Works had, however, been resorted to at Patan and Sidhpur; a scheme to bring in water to Patan from Panasan where wells had been dug had failed, but the wells were worked by famine labour and utilised to grow fodder.

Patan, a city of much historical interest and fully described at page 596 of the *Gazetteer*, is the head-quarters of the taluka of the same name, with the sub-taluka of Harij, comprises 195 villages and a population of 165,217. Out of a revenue demand of Rs. 5,66,183, Rs. 2,58,020 were realised during the past year, and out of Rs. 1,58,400 sanctioned for takavi advances, Rs. 1,39,831 had been spent. Out of 24 relief works sanctioned, 22 had been taken up at a cost of Rs. 1,25,685, exclusive of the Ranuj-Chansama Railway earthwork. Of these relief works, the Anawada irrigation scheme and the Ranuj-Chansama Railway are the largest, the Anawada project is to dam the Saraswati river

The Anawada project. at its narrowest part about four miles from Patan, and divert the water by a canal almost as far as Harij (16 miles). The estimated cost was three lakhs. Rs. 18,000 (of which Rs. 8,083 was under famine expenditure) had been spent. The work was started in April, 1900, and provided relief work to 46 villages, the largest number on the works in one day being 11,418 (in June, 1900), and the highest daily average being 483. The Ranuj-Chansama Railway, a distance of eight miles, was begun in April, 1900, and the earthwork is still in progress. It is proposed to extend this line from Chansama south to Beohraji, a place of pilgrimage, 11 miles further west towards Harij. Three large tank relief works were opened at Patan, the largest Goga tank work was still incomplete; as many as 5,000 were employed on this in one day. Its estimated cost was Rs. 58,000. It is purely a famine relief work, and no return was expected from it.

The poor-house was quite a pattern in method and efficiency during the worst of the famine: as many as 3,000 had been accommodated, and on the day of my visit there were 557. The kitchen and hospital in which there were 81 sick were all that could be desired. The books, which were kept most accurately gave every particular as to inmates and expenses.

PATAN TALUKA.

3rd December, 1900.—These were all villages on the north of Patan, Wagdod being a typical border village, relief tank work had been opened at Aghar and Wagdod lasting from two to three months, after which labour was found on large tank works at Patan. Wells were scarce, there being only one in Wagdod, and the water brackish. Tank water was sweet. The *bajri* and *jowari* crops had been very poor in the border villages, and there had been much suffering during the past year. Large takavi advances had been given, as also grain and clothes from Indian Charitable Relief Fund. Enquiry pointed to many deaths from cholera and fever, and few, if any, from actual starvation.

4th December, 1900.—These are all villages on the east towards Harij. Dharnoj being the most easterly, and like the rest, along the eastern border of Kadi, have suffered the most severely from famine. Many of these villages are inhabited by Rabaris, a class who keep and live on their flocks. The country is unproductive for crops, but the large plains, which yield good grass, are suitable for cattle and goats. Want of water and food has killed off all their flocks and herds, and it has only been by large

charitable grants that the people have been kept alive. No rent was realised for 1899-1900.

6th December, 1900.—These are villages on the south of Patan, their condition was better than those on the west. Most had paid one-fourth revenue demand for 1899-1900, and had received suitable takavi advances; ample work was provided on the embankment of the Chansama-Ranuj Railway already referred to, and on the Pinchal tank work, although 50 per cent. of the milch cattle had died, about 50 per cent. of plough cattle had been preserved. Where the wells were sweet the crops were fair, but the difference in the crop, in fields side by side, one having brackish water, the other sweet water wells, was most marked.

Vasai and Phincal are in the Chansama Taluka, the most westerly of the Kadi Division, which comprises 111 villages and has a population of 98,347. The border villages of this taluka have been the worst affected by the famine. Out of a revenue demand of Rs. 4,20,983, Rs. 99,643 were only collected in 1899-1900. Fifteen relief works, exclusively of the railway, were taken up at an approximate expenditure of Rs. 35,536, and Rs. 81,389 had been paid away out of a sanctioned grant of Rs. 97,150 for takavi.

I took the train at Manund road and reached Mehsana on the forenoon of the 6th December. This is the headquarters of the Mehsana Taluka. When the public offices, now under construction, at an estimated cost of six lakhs of rupees, are completed, it will be the headquarters of the Kadi Division. It comprises 85 villages and a total population of 92,778. Rupees 1,29,757 were collected in this taluka out of a revenue demand of Rs. 3,48,463. Seven relief works were sanctioned and taken up at an approximate cost of Rs. 15,626, and Rs. 46,003 were expended in takavi advance out of Rs. 52,410.

7th December, 1900. These are all villages on the west and have suffered under the same disadvantages in the villages of Chansama District. The land was unproductive, wells few, and water in them brackish.

8th December, 1900.—Proceeding by train to Dangerwa from Mehsana I visited Chandreda, Rajpur, Kundal, on my way to Kadi, the present headquarters of the Division and of the taluka of the same name. The crops had been fair in these villages, and good wheat crops are usually grown in the "bols," or depressions, when the water is absorbed. Both in these villages as also in those of Borisna Chhatral, which I visited between Kadi and Kalol, the *bairi* crop had been good, the *toor* crop in most villages being irrigated as a summer crop like wheat as a winter crop. These villages had lost 75 per cent. of the milch cattle and 50 per cent. of plough cattle. The Kadi Taluka comprises 122 villages and has a population of 96,782; the usual revenue demand is Rs. 3,81,791, of which only Rs. 1,23,659 had been collected during 1899-1900. Six relief works had been sanctioned and taken up in this taluka. Exclusive of Kadi-Kalol Railway, earthwork at a cost of Rs. 17,000, and Rs. 69,956 had been expended out of Rs. 77,890 sanctioned for takavi advances. The Kalol-Kadi Railway embankment was begun on 25th May, 1900. The whole length of the line will be 12 miles, for nine of which the embankment had been completed. It had afforded relief to all the villages round, but at the time of my visit on 8th December, there were about 700 on the works; work being easily obtained at this time of year in the fields. The maximum number of labourers in one day (24th July, 1900) was 4,167. I visited the poor-house which was opened during the famine at Kadi; there were only 35 inmates at the time of my visit, but as many as 1,000 had been accommodated in one day during the worst part of the famine; the building and arrangements seemed sufficient.

Kalol is the headquarters of the taluka comprising 90 villages and a total population of 97,089. Rupees 1,50,629 had been realised in 1899-1900 out of a revenue demand of Rs. 4,20,098. Fourteen relief works, excluding the two branches of Railway, Kalol-Kadi and Kalol-Vijapur, had been taken up at a total cost of Rs. 20,509, and Rs. 47,602 had been given out of Rs. 56,052 sanctioned as takavi advance.

This taluka on the south and south-west borders on Ahmedabad District and Kathiawar States. Rice is the staple crop of the villages in the south of this taluka, and as this had entirely failed the condition of these villages was bad. Many of the villages on the south-west are inhabited by Mewassis, a sort of cognate tribe who supply many inmates to the Ahmedabad Jail. In former times they were most turbulent and strong and obtained concession of land under peculiar tenure which is respected even now; they pay assessment only for what they cultivate; they have so far resented and resisted any attempt of the Darbar to inquire into or survey their lands. As a class they are lazy and thieves and cannot be trusted with takavi advances. The large proportion of minor works in the taluka has been specially provided to give them subsistence of which they have not taken proper advantage; they have paid none of the revenue demand on these villages in 1899-1900.

9th December, 1900.—Two of these were half Mewassi, half Khalsa villages; the Khalsa villages seemed fairly prosperous, having realised fair crops and paid about half revenue demand; prosperity seemed due to good wells, Sertha having as many as 139. They had received takavi advances during last year. The railway embankment had provided ample relief.

9th December, 1900.—Returned to Baroda.

No. 162.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel C. W. Ravenshaw, Officiating Resident at Baroda, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 3364, dated Baroda, the 21st February, 1901.

I have the honour to forward a brief diary of my tour in the Amreli Division of the Baroda State, in connection with famine operations carried out during the year 1899-1900, and to submit the following report.

2. The Amreli Division comprises His Highness the Gaekwar's possessions in Kathiawar, it covers an area of about 1,189 square miles and is divided into nine talukas with 302 villages and a population of 176,687. The approximate revenue demand in ordinary years is Rs. 8,79,716, while that realised during the past two years, St. 1955/1898-99, St. 1956/1899-1900, has been respectively Rs. 8,48,287 and Rs. 1,88,764.

3. Of the nine talukas, I visited three, viz., Dhari, Kodinar and Okhamandal, which have been the worst affected by famine, and inspected 65 villages between 7th and 25th January.

4. So far this Division may be treated as a whole, but, as the circumstances and condition of the Okhamandal Taluka are widely different from the others in this Division, it will be more convenient to refer to it separately, and the remarks and figures that now follow allude to the Amreli Division exclusive of Okhamandal.

5. For the Amreli Division 98 relief works were sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs. 12,18,780, of which 63 have been taken up at an approximate expenditure of Rs. 8,69,466, and the percentage of the population on relief works has been approximately 14.12. The amount sanctioned for takavi advances was Rs. 3,59,178, of which Rs. 3,00,392 have been expended. No poor-houses were opened, but gratuitous and charitable relief was afforded on the works, and Rs. 54,000 as a grant from the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund has been distributed through suitable agencies.

Road-making and repairs have found the majority of relief works: the country is generally unsuitable for tank-making; where possible, some have been excavated and old tanks deepened. Masonry wells have been sunk at State expense for irrigation and metal has been dug and laid on roads and stacked for future use.

6. The average rainfall in this Division is 23.50 inches, and 7.21 fell in 1899 and 29.63 in 1900; the latter fell during July and August at one time and was not followed by the usual autumn rain in September and October with the result that, although an average *bajri* crop was generally obtained, jowar and cotton failed, wells, however, filled, and where cultivators had bullocks, have been used. Mortality, however, among cattle was not less than 60 per cent.; in a number of the villages none were saved. As regards the people, practically none died from starvation. Cholera in April and May, followed by a very severe type of fever, has been the cause of all the deaths; fever commenced just after the rains and continues now. None of the villages had escaped it.

7. Judging from personal inspection and information placed at my disposal, I am of opinion that the Amreli division has been well provided with relief works and that the State famine administration and organisation has been judiciously and efficiently carried out by the Subah Diwan Bahadur, V. M. Samarth.

8. As regards the prospects for 1901, it is improbable that more than half of the revenue demand will be realised, liberal remissions will have to be made and relief works will have to be provided during February and assistance given to the cultivators to purchase bullocks and seeds. The people have appreciated and are grateful for the help given, and I have every confidence that His Highness the Gaekwar will take suitable measures for their further relief as occasion arises.

9. I reached Dwarka on 21st by steamer from Verawal, and during my stay up to 27th, I visited the greater part of the district and works, inspected 24 out of the 44 villages. To realise its condition it must be mentioned that the past year was practically the third year of famine in Okhamandal, and that relief works were first started in April, 1898, and continued till 9th October, 1900. The taluka has an area of 280 miles, and a total population of 26,909. Five thousand of which are Waghirs and cognate tribes, who, though now forced by circumstances to take to agriculture, are bad cultivators and unprofitable subjects. In ordinary years the expense of the administration has exceeded the revenue by about one lakh of rupees. That realised for the past three years has aggregated Rs. 66,947, against a demand of Rs. 93,761. During the same period Rs. 4,52,373 have been expended on relief works out of a sanction of Rs. 5,68,283. This has not only been a severe drain on the resources of the State, but has practically exhausted all the projects it is possible to take up in this taluka. Under takavi advances Rs. 1,48,210 have been paid out of a sanction of Rs. 2,32,394. During the three years 5.2, 17.7, 13.7 represent the percentage of population on relief works, while in more than one day during the past year approximately half the population has been on relief works.

10. The average daily expenditure for the three years on relief works was about Rs. 490-10-3.

11. Three kinds of relief has been provided by the State:—

- (i.) Road-making and repairs.
- (ii.) Tank-making and repairs.
- (iii.) Takavi advances.

With the exception of two main roads leading to Jamnagar and Porbandar, those constructed serve villages and would not have been undertaken except as purely relief works; of the tanks few hold water for more than six months, and cannot be used for irrigation.

Takavi advances have been given under three heads:—

- (i.) Seed grains
Bullocks
Wells. } under usual rules.
- (ii.) Maintenance, under special rules.
- (iii.) Advances to Waghir class, under special rules.

Maintenance takavi was somewhat a novel experiment; it was commenced in March, 1900, and lasted for seven months; it was introduced owing to the difficulty in obtaining sufficient labour for the wage and had for its object the reduction of the large expenditure in Public Works Department under relief works; it was granted to all cultivators, including Waghir, to whom it was granted on the security of their *salami* lands, sale in default being subject to reference to the Resident. The amount was based on the wage that could be earned on the relief works and averaged Rs. 5 for a man and his wife, ranging up to Rs. 15 for families, and the recipients were at once struck off the relief works; payment extended over twelve years, the first instalment being due in 1902-1903.

Takavi to Waghirs as a class under special rules, payment to extend over twenty years, though sanction was never granted, as final sanction came too late to be of any use.

12. An attempt was also made to reduce the numbers on relief works by transporting labourers by sea to Porbandar, and then by rail to the relief works in Amreli and Naosari. Some 500 were induced to go, but the experiment was found too costly and was abandoned.

13. A poor-house, supported by private charity, was opened at Dwarka, but it does not appear to have been much resorted to and was closed. A sum of Rs. 400 was expended by the State on this account, private charitable relief was soon exhausted; under the Darbar Famine Code children were fed on the relief works.

14. A grant of Rs. 69,000 from the Indian Famine Fund was distributed throughout the taluka under the supervision of the Assistant Resident. This was an inestimable boon; bullocks and seed were provided, and extreme cases of want were relieved.

15. The rainfall of this taluka in an ordinary year is about 25: 35·64, 7·18, 1·54 rain fell respectively during the past three years; 18·10 fell during 1900, but it came six weeks late, and fell inside 20 days in August. Cultivators were obliged to keep to the works till the rain fell, and again could not sow till the land had dried a little. After the sowing no more rain fell, hence all the rain crops, such as *bajri*, *jowar*, practically failed, and the produce realised cannot be estimated at more than a 2-anna crop throughout Okhamandal.

16. It has not been possible to obtain any accurate return of mortality among the people, but it has been heavy. Many deaths must have occurred from starvation or its effects; during May cholera raged in most of the villages, Rajpura, Dhrasanwell, Katomba, Baura Mota, and Dwarka suffering most severely. Cholera was followed in August by a very severe and fatal type of fever; not a single village escaped it, though abated, it still continues; in some villages I visited two were carried off daily. The after effects leave the sufferers prostrate and debilitated, and ordinary medicines seem to have no effect. Mortality among cattle has not been less than 90 per cent.

17. All these causes have reduced the people to a very low condition, and, with bad crops, they have no immediate chance of improvement. In several villages I visited on the south and east, the people are subsisting on grass seeds which are crushed and made into a kind of bread. Many are too debilitated to earn anything on relief works.

18. The question of what relief measures should now be adopted is one of some difficulty. Road-making and repairs are still available for those who can work, and these can afford temporary relief, but are of little utility to the State or the district, and it would appear more advantageous if the money was spent in well-sinking, where sweet water can be obtained, under State agency, employing village labour; also in assisting the cultivators in purchasing bullocks and seed grain. Scarcity and famine have, of late years, visited Okhamandal with distressing regularity, and it would be too sanguine to expect that it can even approximately revert to its former prosperity; but we must continue to hope that seasonable rain in 1901, with such assistance as is possible, will improve the condition of the unfortunate people.

19. Okhamandal is looked upon rather as a penal settlement by the officials of the State; none wish to serve there, and those who serve are anxious to get away. His Highness the Gaekwar has never visited the place, and has to rely often on not wholly disinterested information; were it otherwise, it is probable more judgment and sympathy would have been exercised in the conduct of the famine administration in this taluka. This report will, however, I trust, show that His Highness has accepted his responsibilities in a liberal and charitable spirit, and has deservedly earned the gratitude of his subjects in Okhamandal, and that local officials have worked intelligently to carry out the relief measures organised.

20. I attach a map of Amreli and Okhamandal districts, showing, as far as possible, the different relief works, and their position.

Enclosure in No. 162.

DIARY OF TOUR IN AMRELI DIVISION, BARODA STATE.

Leaving Baroda on 7th January, I reached my first camp at Dhari on the 8th.

Dhari is the head-quarters of the taluka of the same name, and borders on the west on the hills of the Gir or forest hills of the Junagadh State. The soil is mostly black cotton, and in and around Dhari the trap rock is very near the surface. The country undulates in low stony hills and deep *nullahs*.

The taluka contains 64 villages with a total population of 29,296, and has a revenue demand of Rs. 1,43,030, out of which Rs. 22,830 was realised during 1899. There were altogether 18 relief works sanctioned for this taluka at an estimated cost of Rs. 2,85,045. Of these 10 were taken up at an expenditure of Rs. 2,63,458. Of these 5 were metalled roads of total length of 58½ miles. Up to the end of November approximately Rs. 64,508 were given in takavi. *Bajri* and cotton are the staple crops of this taluka. The *bajri* crop in the villages round Dhari varied from 14 to 8 annas. Every other crop had failed owing to the want of late rains. There was plenty of water in the wells which varied from 30 to 40 feet in depth; where they were used for irrigation, the wheat promised well. The majority of the people of this taluka subsist on their cattle, and as it borders on the Gir or forest, when grazing is used up in the taluka, the cattle are driven to the Gir. Seventy per cent., at least, of the cattle died during the past year, hence large numbers were thrown on relief works. In some of the villages hand-ploughs had been used. There was no reluctance to go on relief works, and even religious ascetics had resorted to them.

9th January.—I visited the villages marginally noted, and the Dhari-Khisa, Dewala, Sarsia. Ingorala road. All these are in the vicinity of this work, and the villagers had freely resorted to it. Cholera and fever were responsible for the majority of deaths, which in Khisa and Devala had been 109 and 233 out of a population of 785 and 537, respectively.

10th January.—I visited the villages marginally noted on the east of the Dhari-Dalkhania road, which had been resorted to by all the villagers. The earth-work of the Dhari-Dalkhani road, a distance of 9½ miles, has been completed as far as the Baroda border;* metalling has yet to be stacked and laid on, and some culverts have to be made. It is not yet fit for wheel traffic, as in many places rocks have been left. This is reported to be due to want of skilled labour. This, however, seems scarcely a reasonable excuse, as in some parts the rocks have been broken, and a charge of dynamite in most places would have effected all that was required. Rupees 84,100 have been spent up to end of December, 1900, and approximately a daily average of 3,575 labourers have been employed, the highest number in one day being 6,084.

The villages visited to-day all seemed in a wretched condition. There had been little cultivation, and I passed through large tracts of uncut grass, which, in ordinary years, would have been cut by now. Cholera and fever had carried off many, and the survivors were too debilitated to cut it, and no cattle to eat it. Dalkhania, where I had my camp, is on the new road. It is a half Khalsa, and half Girasia village.

11th January.—I visited the villages marginally noted on the west of the Kotda, Pania, Chachai, Am- Dhari-Dalkhania road. The first four belong to bagala, Nuthiapur, Nakki the Chachai Girasia and his nephew. All were in (deserted). a deserted condition, and little or no cultivation had been carried out. The villages border on the Gir. The grass crop was plentiful and uncut.

12th and 13th January.—I marched through 32 miles of Junagadh Gir to Ghantwad, a Baroda border village on the south of the Gir, and the commencement of the Kodinar Taluka, the most southern of the Amreli Division. Roads had been made by the Baroda Darbar to its limits at each side of the Junagadh Gir; the intervening 28 miles is, as a connecting road between the two talukas of Dhari and Kodinar to Amreli, of much importance to the Darbar. It does not, however, affect Junagadh Darbar, who up to now have persistently adopted "a dog in the manger" policy of neither keeping this road through the Gir in order or allowing the Baroda Darbar to do it.

14th January.—During my halt at Ghantwad I visited the villages marginally noted. Ghantwad is of some importance as a border village, as well as the junction of the Simasa-Ghantwad road (to be continued east to Harmaria and Junaghad frontier) and Ghantwad-Kodinar road. The river Singora runs under the village, and it is proposed to run a dam across the river at the narrowest part at the village, and by diverting the water by a canal along the banks to irrigate about 5,000 acres of land now lying fallow. The project has been examined, and recommended by Mr. Whiting, C.E.; the cost is estimated at 1½ lakh of rupees, and is expected to give a return of 9 per cent. This, as well as a project to impound water and make a large reservoir at Pichvi,* estimated to irrigate 6,000 acres at an estimated cost of 3 lakhs of rupees, are kept as alternative relief works if necessity arises.

The Ghantwad-Simasa road has been completed and metalled during the past year.† At Simasa it joins the Junaghad road from Prachi, a place of pilgrimage. Sanction has been given by the Darbar to continue this road east *via* Harmaria to Junaghad completed will be of great convenience to Junaghad but none to Baroda, but its construction is delayed pending a practical reciprocation by Junaghad in making the Prachi-Pedhavada road, connecting the latter and Kodinar and affording a through communication from Kodinar to Veraval.

The Kodinar Taluka comprises 74 villages, and has a population of 38,784.

Out of Rs. 4,39,879 sanctioned for this taluka, eight works have been completed at an expenditure of Rs. 2,77,670, and Rs. 83,777 approximately has been given as takavi. The ordinary revenue demand is approximately Rs. 1,46,462, while that realised during 1899-1900 (St. 1956) was Rs. 16,551.

- * (1) Kodinar-Dolasa Road.
- (2) Kodinar-Velan Road.
- (3) Ronaj-Pichvi Road.
- (4) Simasi-Ghantwad Road.
- (5) Kodinar-Pedhavada Road.

Five* of the relief works were new roads of a total length of 45 miles, costing Rs. 2,75,258, which gave a daily average expenditure of Rs. 942 and afforded relief to a daily average of about 10,000 people and an approximate of 29 per cent. of the population of this taluka.

The staple crops are *bajri*, *jowar*, and cotton. The former had been fair, but cotton had failed for want of late rain, while the *jowar* was destroyed by what is known as the "*bhor*" wind. Some nine villages on the Gir or its

frontier had received less rain than the centre and southern villages, and had suffered more, but the condition of all the villages visited was much the same.

No poor-house had been opened, but charitable relief was given on the works, all of which were in easy distance of the villages concerned.

Fifty per cent. of cattle in this taluka had died. No deaths were attributed to starvation, but cholera followed by fever had carried off numbers. Plague still existed in Kodinar village.

The class of cultivators in this taluka are not as industrious as in others, and irrigation is done from wells worked with the Persian wheel.

15th January.—I visited the villages noted below :—

Nana Sangada.	Shedhaya.
Mota do.	Arilia.
Jagatia.	Nagadla.

Bhandaria, Govindpura; Kareda, Mitiaj
Runaj, Kadodra, Chhachar, Sarkhadi.

16th and 17th January.—I visited the villages marginally noted.

At Sarkhadi I enquired into a long-pending dispute between the Darbar and Sarkhadi Girasias.

18th January.—I visited the villages named below :—

Damli.	Kodinar.
Devli.	Kadvasan, and
	Pedhavada.

19th, 20th, 21st, and 22nd January.—I marched through Junaghad territory to Veraval and left by steamer on the 20th for Dwarka (Okhamandal); arriving on the night of 21st, and the 22nd was passed in discussing matters connected with famine work and interviewing officials.

23rd January.—I went along the Dwarka-Wachu road which joins the main road to Porbandar, and has been completed up to Wachu during the past year; has a total length of six miles, and Rs. 12,480-15-7 have been expended on it. Culverts had, however, still to be made, and the late rains had much damaged it.

I visited the villages as per margin. All were reduced to the lowest state of poverty and distress, especially was this the case in the villages of Dhrevad Old and New, and Lowrali. The villagers had frequented the adjacent relief works, had taken advantage of maintenance takavi, and had received help from the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund. They had practically lost all their cattle, and were at the time subsisting on jungle grass seeds, which they crushed and made into bread. *Bajri* had given about a 2-anna crop, *jowar* had failed and castor oil crop was very poor.

23rd January.—I visited the villages marginally noted on the Dwarka-Aramra road. Warvala is one of the largest and most prosperous villages in Okha, but is now in as bad a way as others. Makanpur and Mojab- Waghir villages were reduced to the last straits, keeping alive on grass-seeds. Gadechi is partly a Waghir village and mortgaged to the Beyt temple and had been kept going. It had lost over 100 from fever alone. Kalianpur had a very severe visitation of cholera. The country between Gadechi and Mowassa usually yields good crops.

24th January.—I visited the villages marginally noted. The condition of all these was much the same. Cholera had been very bad at Dhrasanwell and Rajpura, followed, as at other villages, by severe fever. Goriali, usually the most flourishing of Waghir villages, was reduced to the same state. Petty repairs on the road was being carried on which gave relief to all that came.

25th January.—I visited the villages of Mulvasar and Charakla along the road lately constructed, which were the only two villages in a distance of 12 miles. Better rain had fallen in and around Mulvasar and it is one of the best villages in Okha. An 8-anna crop of *bajri* had been realised and the condition was generally better than any other villages I visited.

Charakla was the reverse, and like Lowarali, 2 miles south, was reduced to the last stage of want.

The condition of the roads constructed as famine relief is as follows :—

Aramra to Samlasar.—Has been metalled throughout, and is used for traffic.

Aramra to Adatara.—The bridge works across the creek have been swept away during the rain ; it was left incomplete for want of further sanction. What was done has been destroyed and the money wasted.

Dwarka to Wachu.—Requires culverts.

Samlasia to Charakla via Malwara.—Metal has been laid throughout ; requires culverts and rolling, which was postponed till the rains, but not carried out.

Dwarka-Dhola to Molwasr.—Earth-work has been completed ; no metalling laid on half the distance.

Warwala-Vasai to Gadechi.—Has been metalled throughout, but not rolled, and is unfit for traffic.

Dwarka to Swantalao.—Under progress.

The heavy rain, 18·10 inches in 15 days, has breached and injured most of these roads ; repairs are going on, and some 400 labourers are now employed at ordinary rates ; all seeking work are taken on.

Dhrewad Charakla to Tupni road, for which sanction has been obtained, will be commenced at once to afford relief to the villages along the east, which are in a very bad way.

Approximately 78 miles of road have been made between April, 1898, to October, 1900. Fifty-three and three-fourths of miles of old roads gave relief in repairs.

There are still five roads of a total length of 17 miles which can be constructed.

Through the courtesy of the Commandant, Mr. Harrison, I inspected the

See this office letter No. 3981, dated 3rd March, 1900, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department.

Okhamandal battalion on the 26th January and am able to repeat the congratulations given last year on the smart appearance of this battalion. The Thana and Police work this battalion is called on to do was specially severe during the past year. These duties, as well as sickness, prevented more than 80 rank and file being present on parade.

On 23rd I received a deputation of State officials and leading men of Dwarka to express their sorrow and condolence on the death of Her Majesty Queen Victoria. The grief seems to have been most genuine. Public offices and shops were closed directly the news reached, and all classes were deeply affected.

I returned to Baroda on 30th January, 1901.

No. 163.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel C. W. Ravenshaw, Officiating Resident at Baroda, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 19,959, dated Baroda, the 1st November, 1900.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 4421 I.A., dated 6th October, 1900, regarding certain adverse criticisms by a correspondent

to the *Times of India* in its issue of 14th September, 1900, on the famine administration in the Baroda villages of Bilasia and Kathwara of the Dehgam Taluka.

2. A reply (copy enclosed) to these criticisms has since appeared in the issue of the same newspaper of the 5th October, by a Baroda Famine official, and also a rejoinder, and as I have had access to and been able to examine the statements on which the Baroda reply is based, I am able to record that the facts and figures given are substantially correct. Two tracings are attached, one showing the relative position of the two villages of Bilasia and Kathwara, with Ahmedabad and adjacent villages of that district, the other showing the whole of the Kadi Division, and more particularly the Dehgam Taluka in

which the two villages are situated, and the relative positions of Dehgam and other villages where minor and major relief works were opened, also a statement A showing the progress of relief works* in Dehgam Taluka from October, 1899, to end of August, 1900.

3. In reply to the rejoinder by the special correspondent in the issue of the *Times of India*, dated 5th October, from information obtained, I am able to give the following explanation :—

(i.) The comparative mortality in cattle in the two villages of Bilasia and Kathwara is not remarkable, inasmuch as cattle do not die in the same proportion in villages, but it has been found that in villages where the number of cattle are few greater exertion is made to save the indispensable minimum.

(ii.) In the village of Kathwara 50 per cent. of the area cultivated in the year before this famine, not taking into account lands under grass or fallow, has already been cultivated, and it is anticipated that the cold weather cultivation under wells, which are very numerous in this village, will bring up the total area under cultivation to 75 per cent. It appears, moreover, that unirrigated lands prepared for cultivation last year and not sown for want of rain required reploughing only to a small extent, and that this is the case is shown from the fact in the Dehgam Taluka in which these two villages are situated, more than $\frac{3}{4}$ of the area cultivated in the year previous to the famine is now reported to be under cultivation, hence it is anticipated that the effect of the loss of cattle during the past year is likely to be more felt next year.

(iii.) The absence of information as to rates, wages, etc., in the Ahmedabad District prevents comparison with the rates, etc., sanctioned in the Baroda villages, but when it is known that the Baroda villagers were, as far as possible, excluded from Ahmedabad District Relief Works, the number who could have resorted to the latter clandestinely must necessarily have been comparatively small. No doubt the difference in value of the wage when paid in British or Baroda currency, as well as the comparative proximity of relief work to a Baroda village would account for the preference of works in Ahmedabad District, but the records of the State Public Works show that no less than 2,360 villagers from Ahmedabad District resorted to the Dehgam Relief Works.

(iv.) The records of the Dehgam poor-house show that the daily average number of persons gratuitously relieved in Dehgam poor-house during the months of May, June, July, August, and September was respectively 85, 165, 309, 191, 233 and may be accepted against the statement of the village Mukhi that there was no poor-house or that none were taken there.

(v.) In the matter of *tacavi* advances the Darbar has shown liberality as far as is possible, and from information received from responsible officials, whom I have closely questioned, every effort has been made to ensure the money reaching those to whom it was granted. If, however, irregularities are possible in the adjacent British district, as is evidenced by the enquiries to be instituted by the Government of Bombay, they are equally possible in a Native State, and until specific cases of defalcation are traced and proved, it is impossible to accept general statements as made by the correspondent.

(vi.) As regards the proportion of revenue collected in the two villages, the proportion was $\frac{1}{4}$ in Kathwara and $\frac{1}{5}$ in Bilasia—in the first village there are 175 wells and in the second 15. There was a considerable amount of irrigated cultivation, and the collections appear to have been made from substantial ryots who were quite able to pay.

4. A famine in Baroda has not been known to the oldest inhabitant, hence neither His Highness the Gaekwar nor his officials have had previous experience of such a calamity. This inexperience, added to native apathy, is, no doubt, responsible for delay in opening relief works in Baroda and Kadi Divisions. The villages in these are interlaced with villages in British districts, and in the early days of the famine, no doubt, the Gaekwari villagers, for the reasons already mentioned in paragraph 2, resorted to relief works in British district. Suitable works were, however, promptly provided by the Darbar in response to representations, and deportation of the Gaekwari villagers arranged for; as an instance I may specially mention the opening of the works on the Miagham-Sinor Railway, Motipura Quarries, Kosamba and Velachha Road in the vicinity of the Broach District, where some 4,000 Gaekwari villagers were deported and provided with work. Conditions maintaining in two outlying peculiarly situated Baroda villages can scarcely be accepted as a criterion of famine administration over the whole of the Baroda State, while facts and figures show that the statement given by the special correspondent is much exaggerated. His Highness the Gaekwar has been fully alive to his responsibilities, and has, as far as I have been able to judge, made every effort to relieve distress in his State. These efforts have been well seconded by intelligent officials, and when the history of the Baroda famine administration comes to be written, a culpable negligence to provide for its subjects in a time of severe famine will, I feel sure, not find place in its shortcomings.

Enclosure in No. 163.

FAMINE RELIEF IN BARODA TERRITORY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "TIMES OF INDIA."

SIR,—In your issue of the 14th instant is published a sensational account written by your special correspondent, headed "After the Rains; Scenes in Baroda territory. Effects of the Gaekwar's policy." Your correspondent, it appears, visited three villages near the town of Ahmedabad in the Ahmedabad district, and two isolated Gaekwari villages adjoining; and comparing the condition of the latter with that of the former, he has passed a wholesale condemnation on the famine administration of the Baroda State. As one of the officials of the State who is in some measure responsible for famine administration, I trust that you will allow me to point out that your correspondent's facts and figures regarding the condition of the Gaekwari villages are incorrect, and that, whether willingly or unwillingly, he has been cruelly unjust to both the famine administration of the Baroda Government and the officials connected with it. Of the three villages in the Ahmedabad district selected, Ghoraj is a talukdari village, Saispur Inami, and Naroda a purely *Sarkari* village. Naroda, he admits is a strong village possessing 100 irrigation wells, and yet he selects it for comparison with two Gaekwari villages, Kathwara and Bilasia, which form "a tiny island in the sea of British India," remote from the main portion of the Baroda territory. He states that "he is assured by those who know the (Ahmedabad) district thoroughly, in many villages remote from the towns, houses, deserted during the period of the greatest scarcity, have been de-roofed, timbers torn out for fuel, and the unfortunate occupants have returned from the relief-work only to find their homes dismantled." He has not, however, chosen one of these villages for examination, and "point the moral and adorn a tale." As regards the Gaekwari villages of Kathwara and Bilasia, nearly all the facts and figures that he gives are wrong. In Kathwara he states that there are 600 houses, out of which 250 have been abandoned. There are only 505 houses in the

village, of which only 19 have been abandoned during the famine. He puts down the mortality among the villagers at 300. The village registers show a mortality of 123 only. We have not been favoured with any information as regards the mortality or deserted houses in the village of Naroda; and, perhaps, it is intended that we are to suppose that this necessary feature of famine is entirely absent in that village. The plough cattle in Kathwara left after the famine is given as 120 out of 600. The correct figures are 202 out of 627. As regards the milch cattle there has been wholesale destruction throughout Guzerat, and there is little to choose between British and Gaekwari villages in this respect. The crop yield of Kathwara, last season, the correspondent estimates at 300 maunds of jowar. The village contains 175 wells, and the outturn of crop was 1,817 maunds. He states the cultivable area of the village to be 12,000 bighas, of which 8,000 are occupied, and that the village contains 50 houses of Pattidars. The total area of the village is only 8,031 bighas, of which 5,427 bighas—3,586 *Sarkari* and 1,843 *Barkhali* or *Inami*—are occupied, and there are 83 houses of Pattidars. Not one-fourth of the occupied area, as the correspondent states, but three-fourths will be cultivated; a proportion which, it is hoped, will not be very much less than that reached even in the model village of Naroda. The *tacavi* granted in this village amounted to Rs. 385, and not Rs. 300 as stated by the correspondent. The figures quoted by him for Bilasia are equally inaccurate. To save space I shall put them in a tabular form:—

	Actual.	As given by the Correspondent
Number of houses deserted during the famine.	13 out of 152	Half deserted.
Number of plough bullock saved	62 out of 99	40 out of 200.
Outturn of produce during the famine year.	398 maunds; the village contains 15 wells.	Nothing mentioned.
Area under occupation	965 bighas	1,600 bighas.
Area sown up to date	496 „	200 „
<i>Tacavi</i> granted	Rs. 250 last year, and Rs. 171	Rs. 20.

Next as regards revenue collection. It is interesting to note how differently the same story impresses the mind of your correspondent, when it is told by the British ryots, from what it does when told by Gaekwari ryots. In the former case, the stories are received with great suspicion and incredulity; in the latter case with great readiness, apparently as being in consonance with his pre-conceived ideas of the fitness of things. In his letter of the 12th instant, speaking of the British village of Saispur, he says—"I give the figures with some reserve because your village officer has a large and generous method, not always consonant with strict accuracy." Even in the case of the two Gaekwari villages he lays down the general principle correctly enough. "In these days," he says, "it is necessary to regard with some scepticism general complaints of harsh measures in the collection of land revenue, and even specific instances should not be unreservedly accepted unless fully corroborated;" but when it comes to the application, it is another matter. The Gaekwari ryots come forward, "so to speak, in open Darbar at Kathwara and Bilasia, and without axe to grind or selfish purpose to serve;" and, therefore, he finds it difficult to believe they narrated fictitious stories of illegal and oppressive practices to realise the assessment. At Naroda the British village, when the ryots told stories of the Mamlatdar having thrown the furniture in the streets, until the wealthier inhabitants guaranteed the amount, they got little encouragement to proceed with their stories, apparently because they did not tell them in "open Darbar," whatever that might mean, and had "axe to grind or selfish purpose to serve." At Bilasia, Sona is detained for some hours in the village Chowra, or place of assembly of elders, where all business connected with the village is

transacted by the village officers, until she found security for the payment of revenue; and this is represented as a terrible insult. The Vahivatdar of the Dehgam taluka was Mr. Govind Shridhar Apte, a graduate of the Bombay University, who has recently been transferred from Dehgam to Dwarka as Naib Suba; and the moment he saw the articles of your correspondent, he wrote indignantly denying the allegations made against him, and requesting that a thorough enquiry might be made and matters cleared up. The Suba of the Kadi Division is enquiring into the matter. The facts as regards the revenue collection of the villages are these:—

Out of the land revenue demand of Rs. 7,947 in Kathwara Rs. 2,173, or a little over one-fourth, was collected, and in Bilasia out of a demand of Rs. 1,738 a little over one-fifth was realised. The two villages contain 175 and 15 irrigation wells, respectively. Two men who were ringleaders of a combination had to be sent to the civil jail for contumacious refusal to pay the assessment, and were speedily liberated on arranging for payment. All the five persons who complained to your correspondent have been ascertained to be persons who were well able to pay and obstinately withheld payment. Gagal Kishor could not have been asked to pay more, if, as stated by him, he had already paid Rs. 19; for the December instalment being 8 annas in the rupee, he had to pay only Rs. 18. He could have produced the notice, if any, served on him. As for the tobacco and leaves and the large bill for rice and other provisions supplied, the Vahivatdar, Gobind Shridhar Apte, B.A., does not chew betel leaves or use tobacco. He stayed in Kathwara for two or three days, and he could not possibly have consumed betel leaves and tobacco and rice and sugar costing Rs. 10 or Rs. 12. It is true that Gagal was taken to Dehgam for non-payment of revenue, but it is not true that he was not given food there. He has made a written statement, in which he says that he was confined for about 24 hours, during which time he himself refused to have the first meal, while the second meal was offered to him duly, and he had it.

The story of Nathan Jehangir is altogether false. He has paid nothing at all. The amount he owed was only Rs. 3-6, and not Rs. 40, and he has not paid anything. He is a village servant drawing Rs. 4-8 per month. The story of the *japti* and buffalo relates to occurrences of the previous year, that is, previous to the famine year, Samvat 1955. His buffalo was sold in Samvat 1955, and he then parted with his lands to a Bania and some relations of his.

Ragha Bhika has no tale of oppression to narrate, nor have the two mentioned above. It is true that he had to sell one of his bullocks, but he did it of his own choice. His bullock was not taken by Government in *japti* and sold. It appears that he himself sold his bullock, because he had a sufficient number of cattle with him. Even at present he possesses three bullocks, two buffaloes, and a calf. He has complained that he had applied for several times for *tacavi*, but failed to get it. It is possible that when he was so well off, his claim was not preferred to that of other agriculturists who more badly wanted help.

The woman, Sona, says nothing about mal-treatment definitely. Her vague statement that the revenue peons searched her house and beat her is unreliable. She positively says now that she was not ill-treated. She was only told to sit in the Chowra, and was allowed to go after some time, as the Mukhi stood security for her. She says that a *Sahab*, with a *topee* on, was sitting in the Chowra, and while she was passing by she was called and asked some questions by Narsi Bhat, to which she replied as above.

Shanker Ranchhod denies all about the story of oppression. He says he was sent to Dehgam with peons, and that after going a short distance he came back in custody, and arranged about paying half the demand at once.

The two men of Bilasia are, as already stated, ringleaders. Dhira Perma is a Girasia and Jesung a Barot. Both sold their ornaments and paid up the instalments.

From the above it will be seen how readily your correspondent has swallowed all the stories told him by the villagers. In the case of the British village of Naroda he says that, considering the area of cultivation under wells, if 14 per cent. of the revenue could not be realised without pressure, then the conclusion is warranted that pressure was necessary and proper. But in the case of the Gaekwari village of Kathwara, containing a larger area of irrigated cultivation, he would not draw the same conclusion. I will give yet another instance of your correspondent's method of dealing out equal justice.

On his way to Saispur your correspondent sees a dead body, on which two vultures were having a filthy feast. Though the body is found in British territory, far away from the Gaekwari limits, still it is described as that of "some poor wanderer from across the borders probably." The salving of conscience by putting in the last halting word "probably" does credit to his sense of justice; his feelings, however, soon get the better of it, and he gives free play to his imagination and takes it for granted that the man must have been a Gaekwari subject, and thrills us with the pathetic narration of how he, in a tottering condition, left his home for seeking refuge at last in the great city (Ahmedabad, it is presumed) and dying within sight of the goal, where charity "has been extended to thousands neglected by their own rulers." It is quite possible, however, he was a Gaekwari subject; for I personally know of cases of persons from neighbouring British villages in a dying state coming up to the Baroda city and have sent them to the poor-house or the hospital. Your correspondent says that the poorer classes in the villages of Kathwara and Bilasia sought refuge in British generosity and went to the relief works in British territory. His informants told him—"The *Hukam*, *Sahab*, had gone round that *garib lok* from Baroda territory were not to be employed on British relief works. So our people pretended to come from Government villages." The villages of Kathwara and Bilasia, as already stated, form "a tiny island in a sea of British villages." They are only 8 miles from Ahmedabad City, and all their business relations are with that city. In ordinary times the labouring poor go to that city for work, or for selling grass or fuel. Is it any wonder, then, if they went either to Ahmedabad City during famine times or to the relief work opened at Naroda within 3 miles of their houses? The British Authorities had made it a rule not to admit Gaekwari "*garib lok*." Could not the officers in charge of the work at Naroda have detected people coming from a distance of 3 miles and turned them back?

In the Dehgam Taluka, ten minor works were opened at first for relief, two each in Bahiel and Dehgam, and one each in Sampna, Chhala, Vasna Rathode, Mahudia, Mota Isanpur, and Dharisna. The minor works going on in Mahudia, Isanpur, Dehgam, Vasna Rathode, and Bahiel were within reasonable distance (on an average of 10 miles) for the people of Kathwara and Bilasia to go to. These works continued from the middle of October till the middle of January, when the major works were ordered to be opened. The major work for this taluka was the Kalol-Vijapur Railway, which work continued up to the end of July. The minor works were re-opened in July. This will show that there was no want of relief works for the people of Kathwara and Bilasia, if they chose to avail themselves of them. I am sure your correspondent cannot mean to say that every village must have its separate relief work. If any of the people of these two villages, in spite of the facilities given to them in their own territory, resorted to British relief works close at hand, how is this to be prevented? People from foreign villages have also come to the Baroda relief works. From the records of the Public Works Department it appears that 2,366 foreigners at various times took advantage of the relief works opened in Dehgam alone, with its Petha Mahal of Atarsumbha.

The principle of village relief as enunciated in the Famine Code is that people who want employment may be sent to relief works; that those who are unfit for work, but who can go out of their houses, may be sent to the poor-houses; and those only who are unfit for work and cannot be moved to the poor-houses have to be given village doles.

These principles were fully followed in regard to these two villages. A poor-house was opened at the Dehgam centre. The circle Inspectors and Talaties were engaged in inspecting the villages, and they have actually sent up twelve persons from Kathwara and twenty-six from Bilasia to the Dehgam poor-house. The Mukhis of the villages report that they advised the villagers repeatedly to go on the relief works, but many refused to go, and a few went to the large work at Naroda close at hand. For *tacavi* advances in connection with current year's cultivation in the whole State 20 lakhs of rupees have been allotted. Out of this sum the share allowed to the Kadi Division is 4½ lakhs and to the Dehgam Taluka half a lakh. Kathwara and Bilasia got Rs. 385 and Rs. 175, respectively. As there are nearly 3,000 villages to be assisted in the whole *Raj*, it can readily be seen that the individual share of each village cannot be in thousands, unless the total amount available is counted by crores. It is true that the village of Naroda got Rs. 1,500 in *tacavi* and Rs. 500 as a free gift from the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund; and that the ryots fully recognise the generous policy of the Government, adding significantly, "especially since the advent of the rains." I do not know whether all the villages in the Ahmedabad Division have received pecuniary assistance on the same scale; but I do know that there are limitations to the resources and borrowing powers of the Baroda State, which do not exist in the case of the British Government. As regards the assistance given from the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund more was given in British villages because there was more to give. Baroda State obtained from this Fund—thanks to the persistent advocacy of its claims by the Resident, Colonel Ravenshaw—a sum of 2½ lakhs of rupees, and it has been of great help. But what proportion does it bear to the allotments made to the British Districts? Your correspondent has told us that Broach District alone, with a population of 350,000, has got 4½ lakhs of rupees, or more than Re. 1-4-0 per head. Two and a half lakhs of rupees divided among the population of the Baroda State is less than 2 annas per head. As regards village doles, the local officers have satisfied themselves that there is no necessity for giving it in the village of Kathwara and Bilasia. The disabled poor, who are few in number, are dealt with from the allotment for *Gam Kharch*. The labouring classes are in full employment, labour being in great demand for weeding. Relief works, though kept open, are deserted as the inferior classes can collect large quantities of grass seeds (*Sami*) with little trouble and subsist on them; and they are not willing to do more work than they can help. The ryots who have lands to cultivate are generally averse to receiving maintenance *tacavi*, and the *Soukars* who kept aloof during the height of the famine have renewed their old relations and commenced to minister to their needs. The cultivators will, of course, be very glad to have free gifts out of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund; but allotments from that fund are not available in unlimited amounts. That your correspondent should look with a kinder eye on the shortcomings of famine administration in British districts and make large allowances for the difficulties under which it has been carried on is quite natural. He has seen the work of the officers, moved amongst them, and probably discussed with them the reasons for any defects, real or apparent, he may have observed; and he has conceived a just admiration for the noble work that has been and is being done there. He has not the same knowledge of the work done by the Baroda State, which is to him a *terra incognita*; but before condemning it so utterly is he not bound in common fairness to seek for information or explanation as regards any defects he might have observed, either from the local officers or the central administration at Baroda, if he wanted to find out the truth and not merely to register a foregone conclusion? Suppose that the famine administration of the Baroda State fell short of the standard attained in the British districts, does that justify a wholesale condemnation? Compare the resources in men and money at the command of the British Government with those available to a Native State. The present famine has affected a larger area of British India than any previous one; still the area affected is only a fractional part of the whole of India, and the resources of the parts unaffected can be made available for the relief of the affected part. The Public Works Department is the back-bone of the

famine administration; and when a famine occurs, the work of this department in the way of preparing famine relief programmes, the framing of estimates, the organizations of relief works and their execution is enormously increased; and to meet it the subordinate Public Works establishments—assistant engineers, supervisors, overseers—have to be quadrupled. Now the Bombay Presidency can indent on Madras or Bengal for trained men to supply the want. How is the Baroda State to obtain the men required? It had to content itself with raw, inexperienced recruits, and this means increased strain on the officers already in the service. This has been the greatest difficulty of the Baroda Government. Again, take the Medical Department. There was a severe outbreak of cholera simultaneously in all parts of this State in April and May. There was a similar outbreak in the Bombay Presidency, and Hospital Assistants to the number of fifty or a hundred were requisitioned from Bengal and Madras, and though the men came some time after the outbreak had subsided, still they were to be got. These resources are not available to the Baroda Administration, and it had to employ very inferior material. In a particularly violent outburst in his letter on Broach District published in your issue of the 22nd September, your correspondent characterises the relief programmes of the Baroda State as delusions and shams. Rs. 30,24,700 have been sanctioned for *tacavi* advances, part of it without interest. Out of this sum Rs. 20,09,295 have already been given away; and more is being given away every day, and the whole will be exhausted before the cold weather cultivation commences. Eight railway earthworks have already been almost constructed, covering 152 miles; three large canal works have already been started to cost 23 lakhs of rupees, and they are in rapid progress; over 25 lakhs of rupees are already expended on the relief works, 484 in all; and over 60 lakhs of rupees are already spent on famine measures, and before the famine operations are closed, something like 80 lakhs of rupees will have been spent. Revenue to the extent of 80 lakhs out of a total demand of about 130 lakhs has been suspended. These are incontestable facts. You may say that Baroda has not attained perfection in its famine measures. You may say that others could have run it much better, though I take leave to doubt it. You may say that there have been unavoidable mistakes of calculation. But you cannot say, unless you are simply bent on condemning Baroda, because it is Baroda and for no other reason, that all this substantial and solid work has been only a sham and a delusion.

I fear I have trespassed too much on your space and even more on your patience; but I have been obliged to do so in justice to an administration and its officials, who have tried to do their duty under enormous difficulties, and whose work your correspondent has endeavoured to belittle and discredit in many closely printed columns. The time required for the collection of correct information, from a distance, is my excuse for a little delay in replying to your correspondent.

Baroda,

X.

The 1st October, 1900.

Enclosure 2 in No. 163.

A REJOINDER.

Our Special Correspondent in the famine districts writes:—

"X" has been at some pains to contradict certain figures published in my letter on the present condition of the villages of Kathwara and Bilasia. It was clearly explained that these statistics were supplied by the *Mukhis*, and that they should be accepted with some reservation as the village officer has a large and generous way of handling figures. "X" writes as one having authority, and his statistics are presumably drawn from official sources, but there are one or two points upon which a little elucidation is desirable. For instance, in the village of Kathwara, with its 175 wells, the mortality amongst plough cattle is

placed at 425 out of 627; in Bilasia it is put down at 37 out of 99—a truly remarkable difference. “X” produces absolutely no evidence to show that any measures were taken to repair this terrible wastage; and yet claims that in Kathwara, where two-thirds of the oxen have perished, seventy-five per cent. of the full area will be cultivated. The ryots of Kathwara must be an exceptionally energetic body if this is the case, and there were no indications that anything like that area would be brought under cultivation when I visited that village last month. “X” further asserts that nineteen houses only have been abandoned in Kathwara and thirteen at Bilasia. He has been gravely misled, for a cursory inspection of the villages at the beginning of September would have shown him the absurdity of these figures. Discussion on these points, however, is unprofitable. I am prepared to assume, though it is a large assumption, that the figures quoted are accurate, and correctly represent the position of Bilasia and Kathwara at the period in question. This in no way affects my main contention, “that a virtual neglect of the afflicted peasantry in a year of terrible privation has, in these two villages, been accompanied by a severe exaction of the revenue demands.” To take the question of relief first. “X” gives a list of minor works opened in the Dehgam Taluka, within reasonable distance, and of a major work subsequently established. He is discreetly silent upon the number of people engaged, the rates of pay and conditions of employment, and fails to give a single instance of any of the villagers utilising this means of relief. The task exacted under the Bombay Code is a very fair day’s work for man, woman, and child, and the restrictions are many. If the indigent preferred the British works, under these circumstances, to those said to have been established by the Baroda Government, there must have been very good reason for their doing so. “X” asserts that thirty-eight persons from the two villages went to the Dehgam poor-house; the *Mukhis* emphatically denied that any such measure of aid had been extended. As there was admittedly no dole, we are thrown back, then, upon the question of *tacavi*. This was given by the *Mukhis* at Rs. 300 for Kathwara and Rs. 20 for Bilasia; “X” says the figures are Rs. 385 and Rs. 421. By this I presume he means the amount sanctioned, and if, as I take it, he is a revenue officer experienced in the ways of the native subordinate and working, in his own words, with “raw, inexperienced officials,” there is no need to enlarge upon the difference between the amount “sanctioned” and the amount probably paid to the recipient. But assuming again that the sum mentioned by “X” is correct, what does it amount to? Taking the population at 2,500, the magnificent proportion of less than 3 annas per head in Kathwara and 1 rupee per head in Bilasia. My conclusion that whatever relief measures were decided upon by His Highness’s Government, and whatever money grants were sanctioned, these two villages have been left to meet the greatest calamity which has ever befallen Guzerat without any material help, except a paltry loan at interest, is in no way affected by “X’s” assertions.

With the revenue question I will deal briefly. “X” states that the percentage of recovery was a little over one-fourth in Kathwara and one-fifth in Bilasia. Is it not singular that the *Mukhis*, whom “X” claims to have been wildly inaccurate in every other particular, should, in this all-important question of the collections, have given figures which closely approximate to his own? He recognises that the principle I laid down, “that vague and general allegations of harsh or illegal practices in realising the assessment are entitled to little consideration at this juncture” is sound; my application was equally sound. The complaints of the villagers of Kathwara and Bilasia were neither vague nor general; they were specific and detailed. The instances I gave of the measures alleged to have been adopted by the Vahivatdar and his subordinates were narrated in the *chora*, in the presence of the village officers and the principal cultivators, and were vouched for by many responsible bystanders. Apparently, before the official appointed to inquire into this matter some of these statements were withdrawn. I will leave your readers to judge which is the more likely to be correct—the story volunteered before the unofficial visitor and backed by the village elders, or the retraction elicited by the official inquirer. The inference sought to be drawn by “X” from the case of Naroda is utterly unwarranted. I made no comparison between the two

villages, but since he invites it here it is. In the British village, where there was a wide and generous measure of Government relief, fourteen per cent. of the revenue was recovered; in the Gaekwari village, where the Government’s bounty was represented by a loan at interest of less than 3 annas per head, more than twenty-five per cent. was collected. At Naroda no specific instance of furniture having been thrown into the street was mentioned; at Kathwara there were many allegations of harsh measures, besides the five categorical stories I quoted. The comparison I made was between Bilasia and the British village of Haspura—a subject “X” wisely avoids.

The other points in “X’s” long letter are immaterial to the issue. My main contention was that a virtual neglect of the afflicted peasantry in a year of terrible famine has, in these two villages, been accompanied by a severe exaction of the revenue demands, and although “X” has pointed out inaccuracies in the figures of the village officers—which were anticipated and allowed for—he has brought forward nothing to show that the statement was not fully warranted. It is no answer to specific instances of neglect to parade imposing figures, showing amounts sanctioned in *tacavi* and elaborate relief schemes undertaken. These figures have been thrust forward *ad nauseam*, both in India and in England, when any detail of the Baroda famine policy has been called in question, while thousands of the Gaekwar’s subjects were at the same time being maintained on British relief works and supported in British poorhouses.

IV.

REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

RELATING TO

THE RAJPUTANA STATES.

No. 164.

Letter from the Agent to the Governor-General, Rajputana, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 2235 F., dated Abu, the 22nd May, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 1883 F., dated the 22nd April, 1900,* I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the famine statement† of the Mewar State for the month of April, 1900, together with the Resident's covering letter No. 1057, dated the 8th May, 1900.

2. The marginal table gives the numbers on relief for the last seven months. The decline noticed last month has continued. There were 15,842 fewer people on works during April than in the preceding month. This is a fall of 17 per cent. The Darbar's explanation as given in paragraph 2 of Resident's letter that the decrease is chiefly due to the numbers on relief in Shapura having been wrongly reported last month is unintelligible. A reference has been made to the Resident on the

Months.	Works.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Percentage of Population.
1899.				
October ...	10,587	2,534	13,121	·72
November ...	15,306	6,242	21,548	1·19
December ...	23,876	11,112	34,988	1·94
1900.				
January ...	73,092	13,527	86,619	4·81
February ...	99,201	22,710	1,21,911	6·77
March ...	90,588	18,290	1,08,878	6·04
April ...	74,746	22,688	97,434	5·40

subject. It is probable that the falling off is due partly to the cholera panic and partly to a number of Khalsa residents having left the works in Bednore and Deogarh when they were about to be drafted elsewhere. This view is confirmed by an analysis of the details. According to the statement, the numbers on the Khalsa works have risen by nearly 2 per cent., and on the Devasthan works by 15 per cent., while in the jagir areas they have fallen by as much as 16,572 persons or 25 per cent.

3. There has been an increase of 4,398, or 24 per cent., in the numbers on the gratuitous lists. The Khalsa numbers have increased by 36 per cent., the jagir only 7 per cent., and the Devasthan by 23 per cent. All these persons

* See page 472 of Command Paper No. 206, presented in 1900.
† Not printed.

are relieved in one or other of the poor-houses. Now that the chief poor-house at the capital has been organized, its efficiency and scope have both been very much increased.

Unfortunately, it has not escaped the epidemic of cholera which has broken out in a violent form in the city. The Resident mentions that the local committee of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund has applied for a grant of Rs. 20,000, but this application was submitted at a time when the aggregate amount at the disposal of the Central Committee was very much less than it is now. It is hoped that the Provincial Committee will be able to allot nearly one lakh of rupees to Mewar. Even that amount cannot possibly cover the wide margin of suffering and distress with which these grants are intended to deal.

4. No account has been given of the rabi harvest, but incidentally it is stated that the yield has had some effect on the existing stocks.

5. Mr. Martindale, in paragraph 6 of his review for the month of March, remarked that the Resident had taken a more hopeful view of the situation in the Magra than was warranted by previous reports. The interesting report by Lieutenant Pinney, which forms the enclosure of Captain Pinney's covering letter, confirms Mr. Martindale's opinion. The generous intentions of the Maharana have not been carried out by the local Hakim, as barely one-fourth of the amount sanctioned for relief purposes has been spent, and works which are now in progress will probably not be completed before the arrival of the monsoon rains.

Enclosure in No. 164.

Letter from the Resident, Mewar, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, Mount Abu, No. 1,057, dated Udaipur, the 8th May, 1900.

I have the honour to submit the famine statement for Mewar for the month of April, 1900, together with the prescribed skeleton map in duplicate.

2. The number of persons on relief works and of those in receipt of gratuitous relief compared with the figures for the preceding month show a decrease of 11,444, which is explained by the Darbar to be chiefly due to the number of persons under relief in Shapura having been erroneously reported last month as 27,100 instead of 1,600.

3. As observed in my Narrative Famine Report for April, No. 378, dated 2nd instant, Lieutenant Pinney has completed his tour in the Khalsa Hilly Tracts and has submitted a report giving the result of his inspection. A copy of the report is now enclosed. From the report it will be observed that relief works in this district are not in a very satisfactory state. For this the Magra Hakim and the local officials entrusted with the supervision of relief works are chiefly to blame in not employing the full amount of labour that the sanctions provided, and to their dilatoriness in opening the works that had been sanctioned. This remissness on the part of these officials is much to be regretted, but Lieutenant Pinney has, I understand, taken steps to remedy these defects.

4. Mr. Pinney has also marched through Bednore and Deogarh, but I have received no particulars yet as to the relief measures in progress in these Estates.

5. The Darbar gives no information regarding expenditure on famine work during the month, as it is stated that no figures are available till after the 31st March. Information regarding expenditure up to that date was given in Colonel Thornton's report No. 297, dated 13th April, 1900. It is, however, stated that an additional sum aggregating Rs. 34,792 was sanctioned during April for relief works in Khalsa villages.

6. After some persuasion the Darbar applied during the month under review for the services of an Assistant Engineer especially for the purpose of controlling works in the Jagir Estates of Bednore and Deogarh. The Engineer, however, has not as yet been appointed.

7. Grain supplies now appear to be ample for all requirements, although prices still rule high.

8. Great improvement is observed in the management of the poor-house at Udaipur since it was placed under the control of the Residency Surgeon.

There have been a good many cases of cholera, but these have been imported from the city, where the disease is now prevalent in a severely epidemic form, and are not due to any cause arising from the management of the poor-house itself. The inmates of all poorhouses, as soon as they recover their health and strength, are at once drafted on to works.

9. A local committee of the Indian Charitable Famine Relief Fund has been formed. Subscriptions are being collected locally, and a sum of Rs. 20,000 has been applied for from the Provincial Committee for Mewar.

Lists of persons to be relieved under each of the four objects for which the fund has been organized are being prepared, and small sums have already been sanctioned for distribution through the local Missionaries and the Residency Surgeon.

10. The work on the Bara-Ajmer-Marwar Railway continues to give substantial relief to some of the most affected districts in Mewar. The returns show that at the end of April there were 12,221 persons on the works and 3,507 in receipt of gratuitous relief. This Railway work is still under the general supervision of the Superintending Engineer, Rajputana and Central India, the Darbar having declined to take over the management.

11. As desired in your letter No. 1935 F., dated 25th April, 1900, the Darbar has been asked to furnish information regarding the outturn of the rabi crop and the probable requirements of the people in the way of loans for the purpose of seed and bullocks. The Darbar has, however, not yet been able to collect the required information, which will be furnished in the report for the current month.

12. As I have only lately taken over charge of this Residency from Colonel Thornton, and have had no opportunity yet of visiting any portion of the State outside the Capital, I am not in a position to furnish any information regarding famine operations based on personal knowledge, except as regards the poor-house at Udaipur, which I have inspected and found to be in good working order and situated in a healthy locality well away from the city.

From information received, however, through Mr. Pinney and the State Engineer and others it would appear that substantial aid is being given to distressed persons throughout the Khalsa districts, and that even in the Estates of Jagirdars arrangements have at length been made to secure loans from the Darbar and money-lenders wherewith to employ labour and feed the starving portion of the population.

Annexure.

Letter from Lieutenant J. C. D. Pinney, Famine Officer, Mewar, to the Mehkma Khas of Mewar, dated the 10th April, 1900.

I have the honour to furnish you with the following report concerning the famine relief works, &c., in the Magra District.

2. I have personally inspected the works at the following places :—

Karpina.
Bara Pal.
Ama Pura.
Tiri.
Paduna.
Patia.
Rakhabdeo.
Bilac.
Sarara.
Jaisamand.

At Sarara I also examined the files showing the expenditure up to 31st March on relief works in charge of the Magra Hakim.

I attach a schedule which briefly shows the result of my enquiries.

3. With the exception of Jaisamand, where the original estimate has already been exceeded, and a fresh one of Rs. 35,000 granted, the expenditure on the tank works in the Magra Zilla has not been in due proportion to the money sanctioned, especially when it is borne in mind that all new reservoir bunds should be finished by 15th June or thereabouts.

In some cases works sanctioned long ago were only begun at the beginning of the present month, in others too much regard has been paid to money, and too little to endeavour to make the works afford as much relief as possible without exceeding the sanctions.

4. I have twice before during the last few months made a tour through the Magra Zilla, and on both occasions I urged most strongly the necessity of employing the full number of workers that the sanctions would allow, and of at once opening all the works that had been sanctioned.

5. However, this advice has not been followed, with the result that now within two months of the time that the monsoon may be looked for, a large proportion of the money sanctioned for tanks remains unspent, and the works themselves remain in a dangerously backward condition.

Moreover, large numbers of the Khalsa Bhils, having failed to obtain employment on the works in the vicinity of their Pals, have wandered off in search of food elsewhere.

6. The non-employment of the full amount of labour warranted by the sanctions of these local works is very much to be regretted, not only has it caused unnecessary suffering and loss of life, but it has also caused actual loss to the State in driving people at whose very doors local relief works had been sanctioned, to wander from their homes and gravitate towards the centres where gratuitous relief is distributed.

7. In fairness to the State officials I am bound to say that as far as they go these local works seem well managed, but, as I have pointed out above, they have fallen very far short of what they might have done in relieving distress.

I carefully tested the numbers engaged on the works I visited, and in every case found that the books and registers had been carefully kept.

The workers themselves had but one complaint to make, viz., the smallness of the wages.

As a general rule men's wages were 0-2-0 and the women's (1½), three-quarters of which were paid in cash every third, fifth, or eighth day according to local arrangements.

The balance was allowed to accumulate till the end of the month, the grain being supplied by the local "borer" or "bannia," which system seemed to work satisfactorily. But as 0-2-0 only purchases from 10 to 11½ Imperial chittacks at the local prices, I think the wages are low, and I am glad to say the Hakim has issued orders making men's wages (2½), women's (2) and children's (1½) on all the relief works in his charge.

With reference to Jaisamand, as stated above, the original sanction of Rs. 24,000 has all been expended, but a further sum of Rs. 35,000 is being sanctioned to continue the work.

I found there 1,600 people at work, which number was daily being increased by fresh arrivals, and the arrangements in every way very much improved.

Payments were made daily in grain, the ration for an able-bodied adult being about nine chittacks Imperial, which in spite of only half a day's work being exacted is not enough.

In conjunction with the Hakim I arranged a new scheme which we hope will enable workers to earn 12 instead of 9 chittacks, and will at the same time obtain in return a few more hours' work for the State.

8. In addition to the above-mentioned works, I inspected the poor-houses at Bara Pal, Tiri, Rakhabdeo and Sarara, where I found respectively 142, 187, 222, and 225 people in daily receipt of gratuitous relief.

These poor-houses have made a great difference to the aspect of the Kherwara road, and considering the difficulty of managing such institutions, I think their arrangements are fairly good, and that the food given by His Highness the Maharana finds its way to the people.

At the same time I think more discretion should be used in its distribution, and that under no circumstances should it be given to people who could be in any way employed at neighbouring relief works.

The grain supply for the works under the Magra Hakim, except in the case of the work at Jaisamand, is, as I said above, supplied by the local "borers" or "bannias." These men make their own arrangements for importing their grain, or can on request get assistance either in grain or money from the State.

The supply at Jaisamand has been imported by the Magra Hakim, who has now stored there a three months' supply for 1,500 people. The camel transport that is thus set free is now being used to import grain to Sarara, the capital of the Zilla.

9. With reference to the works at Rakhabdeo under the Devasthan, I have already written to the Kothariji pointing out the desirability of increasing the number of unskilled labourers on the city wall, etc., etc.

10. In conclusion I would beg to call attention to my former reports of 30th November, 1899, and 23rd December, 1899, and to emphasize my remarks therein concerning the necessity of relief measures being inaugurated in all the jagirs of this Zilla.

Advances have been sanctioned to many Jagirdars, but they seem slow in availing themselves of the help thus afforded, and others to whom advances have not been sanctioned are doing nothing. I would beg to suggest that the Hakim be empowered to make the necessary arrangements for relief measures in all the latter without further delay.

No. 165.

Letter from the Agent to the Governor-General, Rajputana, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 2533 F., dated Abu, the 18th June, 1900.

In continuation of my letter, No. 2235 F., dated the 22nd May, 1900, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statement* of the Mewar State for the month of May, 1900, together with the Resident's covering letter, No. 1401, dated the 10th June, 1900.

2. The numbers on relief since operations began in October last are brought together in the marginal table. During March and April the number of

Months.	Works.	Gratuitous	Total.	Per Cent.
October ...	10,587	2,534	13,121	·72
November	15,306	6,242	21,548	1·19
December..	23,876	11,112	34,988	1·94
January ...	73,092	13,527	86,619	4·81
February...	99,201	22,710	121,911	6·77
March ...	90,588	18,290	108,878	6·04
April ...	74,746	22,688	97,434	5·40
May ...	77,422	20,821	98,243	5·45

workers steadily declined. Delay in the submission of returns from outlying portions of the State has doubtless affected the relief statistics. The reference to the Shah-pura figures in last month's report has now been explained. The Darbar were alluding to the returns for the Kachola Pargannah of Mewar which forms part of the Shahpura estate. But the chief reason for the continued decrease in labourers since February is attributable to reluctance of the Jagirdars in coming forward with properly organised schemes of relief. Latterly also the cholera epidemic and the resulting panic on some of the works contributed to the general tendency. During May, however, the efforts of the Maharana to bring his nobles to a sense of their duties have resulted in an increase of $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. in the numbers on works in spite of the cholera which reached its height during the same period. The Khalsa returns show an actual decrease of nearly 4 per cent., while those from the Jagir and Deosthan works have risen by 7 and 14 per cent. respectively. Under instructions from His Highness, Lieutenant Pinney visited the estates of several of the leading nobles who have undertaken to carry out works under the supervision of the Darbar's Central Famine Officers. The lands of the Thakurs comprise the worst affected part of the jagir area, and these measures, although tardily introduced, have done much to mitigate the mortality and distress which prevailed under the less energetic policy pursued before Colonel Thornton's arrival. The administration of the Magra tract has improved.

3. The numbers on gratuitous relief have fallen by 8 per cent. This is said to be due to the non-receipt of the figures of one district, and to the closing of this branch of relief in Bhainsrorgarh (one of the larger and out of the way Jagir estates), the cause of which is being inquired into. The decline in the Khalsa figures is 853, or 7 per cent., and in the Jagir figures, 953, or 13 per cent. As

* Not printed.

only 400 persons were relieved gratuitously during April in the Bhainsrorgarh Jagir, there must have been a falling off in some of the other Jagirs also. The Deosthan figures have fallen by nearly 2 per cent. Cholera is probably the chief cause for the variations. The Provincial Committee of the Charitable Fund allotted Rs. 90,000, to Mewar during the month, and lists are being prepared for the distribution of the bulk of this sum in gifts for the purchase of seed and cattle.

4. The Resident states that the estimate of the recent rabi harvest is four annas in the rupee. This probably means that the yield of the crops actually sown was only one-fourth of the normal, and not that the harvest resulted in an amount of grain equal to one-fourth of that secured in an ordinary year. If the matured area and the average yield per acre are compared with those of a normal year, the harvest can hardly be considered as more than one-eighth of what is usually obtained.

The condition of the people has not improved. No part of Rajputana has been more severely stricken by cholera than Mewar. The recorded deaths alone show that 5 per cent. of the total population of the city and suburbs perished during the first fortnight in May, and the sudden outbreak on the railway works at Lambia carried off more than 800 out of 14,095 relief workers, or 6 per cent., in a few days. The number of deaths given in paragraph 4 of the remarks appended to the statement does not give even an approximate idea of the total mortality.

Enclosure in No. 165.

Letter from Captain A. F. Pinhey, Resident, Meywar, Rajputana, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, No. 1401, dated Camp via Udaipur, the 10th June, 1900.

I have the honour to submit the famine report for Mewar for the month of May, 1900, together with the prescribed skeleton map in duplicate.

2. The number of persons on relief works and of those in receipt of gratuitous relief given in the statement when compared with the figures for the preceding month show an increase of 2,676 in the number of relief workers, and a decrease of 1,867 in the number of recipients of gratuitous relief at the end of the month under review. The increase in the number of relief workers is reported to be due to the pressure brought to bear on certain Jagirdars to open relief works in their estates, who had hitherto neglected to do so. The decrease in the number of recipients of gratuitous relief is stated to be caused by the non-inclusion of the figures for the Girwa District, which have not been received, and the discontinuance of gratuitous relief to 400 people in the estate of the Jagirdar of Bhainsrorgarh, which is being inquired into by the Famine Officer.

3. An additional sum of Rs. 8,973, is reported to have been sanctioned during the month for relief works in Khalsa villages. The Durbar has also induced many of the Jagirdars to provide relief in their estates.

4. The services of Mr. Wakefield have been lent to the Durbar for the purpose of controlling relief works in the Jagir estates of Bednore and Jeogarh.

5. The yield of the rabi crop on the whole is estimated at 4 annas in the rupee, but the crops sown in the emerged beds of tanks, and on land irrigated by wells having a fair supply of water, have yielded a good outturn.

The Durbar reports that the information regarding the probable requirements of the people in the way of loans for the purchase of seed and bullocks still awaited from the district Hakims and the Jagirdars.

6. The Rajputana Provincial Committee of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund has allotted a sum of Rs. 90,000 for Mewar, and steps are being taken by the local Committee for the distribution of the money.

No. 166.

From Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. C. Wyllie, C.I.E., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 2827 F., dated Abu, the 14th July, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 2533 F., dated 18th June 1900, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statement* of the Mewar State for the month of June 1900, together with the Resident's covering letter No. 1716, dated 6th July, 1900.

2. The following table gives the numbers on relief of all kinds in the Mewar State since the month of October, 1899. The figures from January to May inclusive do not agree with those given in previous reports, as they include for the first time the persons relieved on the Mewar section of the Baran-Ajmer-Marwar Railway. I ascertained only early last month that these statistics had not been shown up till then in the famine returns received from the Darbar. The following, therefore, are the correct figures :—

Months.	Works.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Percentage.
1899.				
October	10,587	2,534	13,121	72
November	15,306	6,242	21,548	119
December	23,876	11,112	34,988	194
1900.				
January	76,993	14,535	91,528	508
February	107,898	26,512	134,410	746
March... ..	101,653	23,186	124,839	693
April	86,967	26,195	113,162	628
May	89,926	24,540	114,466	635
June	84,548	29,664	114,212	634

There has been a decrease of over 5,000 or nearly 6 per cent. in the numbers on all works. The numbers relieved on the Devasthan works have risen and those on the Jagir works have remained steady. The decrease is entirely confined to the Khalsa and Railway works. The decrease is by the cholera. The epidemic was at its height during May when the numbers actually increased. It is satisfactory to find that operations have not slackened in the Jagir area. Thanks to the exertions of Captain J. Pinney and Mr. Wakefield. The Darbar will have some difficulty in providing for the large number of people who will be thrown out of employment by the closing of the railway camps on account of want of funds. I have instructed Mr. Billings, the officer in charge, to keep open his works until the Darbar officials are in a position to open others.

3. The gratuitous relief figures have risen by 20 per cent. The increase is confined entirely to the Khalsa relief centres. The tendency of the famine policy during June appears to have been to induce people to leave the works for their villages, and this has naturally resulted in increase in the number of destitute people relieved at their own homes. The poor-house arrangements in

* Not printed.

the Magra tract and the rest of the Bhil country are very far from what they should be. The great difficulty in these parts is the depletion of the local food-stocks combined with a lack of transport. Unfortunately, the military authorities in Bombay, to whom I applied, are unable to provide either camels or mules, and the Resident at Udaipur has had to fall back on the slender local resources, supplemented by what animals he can hire at Neemuch. The Provincial Committee of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund have now allotted altogether Rs. 1,50,000 to the Local Committee at Udaipur, who are buying up cattle for issue to the cultivators as soon as the rains break. The Darbar have already advanced over one lakh of Chitori rupees for the same purpose. The people generally are deteriorating in condition, and I fear there is much unrelieved suffering among them, judging from the increased influx of starving Bhils into Udaipur. Water is failing in many parts. Cholera exists in sporadic form ; most of the cases occurring in and about the city.

Enclosure in No. 166.

Letter from Captain A. F. Pinhey, Resident, Mewar, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, No. 1716, dated Udaipur, the 6th July, 1900.

I have the honour to submit the Famine Statement for Mewar for the month of June, 1900.

2. 73,605 persons were on relief works and 25,885 in poor-houses at the end of the month, as compared with 77,422 and 20,821, respectively, on the last day of the preceding month.

No reason is alleged for the large decrease of 3,817 persons on relief works, but it appears to be due to the outbreak of cholera.

3. The number of persons under relief on the Bara-Ajmer-Marwar-Railway earthwork, which is not included in the above figures, is as under :—

	Numbers.
Workers	10,943
Dependants	3,779
Total	14,722

This work will be shortly closed, as the Darbar are unwilling to advance further funds to carry it on, and arrangements are being made by the Darbar to take over the labourers, and draft them on to other relief works and poor-houses in the neighbourhood.

4. A sum of Rs. 1,02,410 is reported to have been sanctioned by the Darbar during the month for providing seed and food for cultivators, in addition to a sum of Rs. 25,898 for relief works in the Khalsa and Devasthan villages.

5. Emigration is reported to have practically ceased. A number of Marwari emigrants are returning to their homes from Central India, and arrangements are being made to provide relief depôts for them at fixed stages on the principal routes, where they can obtain food and fodder for their cattle.

6. The Rajputana Provincial Committee has allotted a sum of Rs. 30,000 for Mewar, in addition to the grant of Rs. 90,000 reported last month. A public meeting was held at Udaipur on the 25th June, under my presidency, for the purpose of collecting funds to supplement the above grants, and Rs. 8,500, Udaipuri, have been collected up to date.

The Local Committee of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund have ordered 2,000 bullocks from Messrs. Abbot Brothers of Jhansi at Rs. 50 per pair for distribution to agriculturists who have lost their bullocks and are unable to replace them, and are taking steps to relieve the famine-stricken in accordance with the objects of the fund.

7. The consignment of 1,500 maunds of paddy, generously sent by the Minister of Nepal for the famine-stricken in Mewar, has been received and will be distributed after it has been husked.

8. I inspected the poor-houses at Bara Pal, Tiri, and Pershad on the Udaipur-Kherwara Road during my recent visit to Kherwara and Dungarpur. The inmates were in bad condition and did not appear to get sufficient food to support life. The officials in charge, however, explained to me that most of those I saw were new comers who arrived in a very emaciated condition, and that the inmates of the poor-houses are drafted on to relief works in the neighbourhood as soon as they are fit to work. I also visited the Dabok poor-house about 10 miles from Udaipur, and a relief work in the neighbourhood on the 21st June, and found the numbers increasing rapidly every day. The arrangements were fairly good.

9. Grain in the Magra district is again becoming scarce, and large numbers of Bhils are daily coming into Udaipur. This scarcity of grain is attributed to the difficulty in obtaining transport. All the local transport available is now being engaged for transporting grain to the district, and, at Captain Pinney's request, I have applied for Government mules, as the local supply of camels and carts will not be sufficient.

10. With the exception of two hours' steady rain at Chitor a few days ago, there has been no rain in Mewar up to date. Distress is, therefore, rapidly deepening and water is becoming scarcer every day. As far as I can judge, the Darbar appear to be making every effort to cope with the daily increasing severity of the famine. But if the approach of the monsoon current is delayed much longer, the Darbar's resources, both in the matter of establishments and cash, will be strained to the utmost, and a fresh and much more extended programme of relief measures will have to be drawn up.

11. The Rajputana-Malwa Railway recently stopped booking grain to stations on the Malwa section of the Railway and on the Udaipur-Chitor Railway, which resulted in an immediate rise in prices in the city. The restriction, however, only lasted a few days and has now been withdrawn.

Annexure.

Remarks by Captain J. C. D. Pinney, Famine Officer, Mewar, on famine in Mewar during June, 1900.

1. *Private relief.*—One lakh of rupees have been granted to Mewar from the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund, which is being distributed in accordance with the rules of the Fund. To supplement this Fund, private subscriptions are being collected in Udaipur itself, but up to the present only Rs. 8,500, Udaipuri, have been subscribed.

2. *Village and poor-house relief.*—In the vicinity of Udaipur at Thur, Rupsagar, Lakhaoli, Dabok, and outside the Birampole gate, 12,549 people are receiving gratuitous relief. In all these places, except at the Birampole poor-house, a light daily task is exacted from the able-bodied.

In the Khalsa districts 4,293, in the Jagirs 6,019, and in the Devasthan villages 3,024, or in all a total of 25,885 people are reported to be receiving gratuitous relief.

3. *General character of relief works.*—Tanks, wells, canals and buildings are being constructed as relief works.

4. *Physical condition of people. Death (if any) from starvation.*—The famine-stricken are thin and weak.

The returns of Hakims and Jagirdars show 2,885 deaths from famine and disease.

This does not include the deaths from cholera.

5. *Food-stock.*—Certain merchants undoubtedly have grain stored, but it is impossible to correctly estimate the amount.

6. *Importation of grain.*—Grain is being imported by the Raj and private individuals as required, and comes chiefly from Cawnpore and Hathras.

7. *General condition and prospects of affected area.*—The general condition of the affected area is bad; it is hoped that the arrival of the monsoon will materially improve matters.

8. *Changes in rates of wages.*—Nil.

9. *Emigration or immigration and other matters.*—Emigration has practically stopped. Thirty people are reported to have gone to Neemuch, but have been brought back by State officials.

10. *Crop prospects.*—A report on the "rabi" crop was submitted last month.

11. *What amount will be required for loans to cultivators for the purchase of seed and cattle.*—An estimate in answer to this question is being prepared, and will be hereafter submitted.

Report for June, 1900.

I.—Differentiate the expenditure on relief works and on gratuitous relief?
From reports received the following amounts appear to have been expended on relief works and gratuitous relief during the month of May, 1900:—

RELIEF WORKS.							Rs.
Khalsa and Devasthan	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,23,814
Jagirs	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,67,660
Total							2,91,474
Details, viz—							
1st class jagirs	...	...	...	...	...	...	77,660
Deogarh and Badnor, &c., State money under State supervision	...	...	...	...	...	...	80,000
Small jagirs	...	...	...	...	...	...	10,000
Total							1,67,660
Grand Total Relief Works							2,91,474

N.B.—It is impossible to submit these figures for the month of June, as reports do not arrive in time.

GRATUITOUS RELIEF.

							Rs.
Khalsa and Devasthan	...	...	...	...	...	...	42,566
Jagirs	...	...	...	...	...	...	8,019
Grand Total for Gratuitous Relief							50,585

II.—Enter in the remarks on the back of the statement the scale of rations in chittacks or, if cash is given, the amount and the grain equivalent?

The majority of relief works in Mewar are under the management of the Local Public Works Department, who report that their minimum wage for men is 3 annas, Udaipuri, whilst women and children receive 2½ and 2 annas.

Roughly speaking, the present purchasing power of 3 annas, Udaipuri, is about 16 Imperial chittacks of barley or maize. The relief workers are all paid by cash payments except in the Jahazpur district, where payments are reported to be made in grain at the following rates:—

Men per diem	...	16 to 20 chittacks Imperial.
Women and children	...	12 ditto.

In the Magra Zilla the relief works are nearly all under the entire management of the Hakim.

The coolies are paid in cash, and as reported last month the rates were raised at the end of March by half-anna all round which brought them to the following :—

Men	...	...	...	...	2½ annas.
Women and children	...	...	...	...	2 ditto.

In the poor-houses around Udaipur, with the exception of Dabok, adult inmates are allowed 6 Udaipuri chittacks of food a day which = 7½ chittacks Imperial measure. But those performing heavy work are given a ration increased up to 10 chittacks Imperial.

At Dabok rations in the form of boiled grain are given, and as reported last month the allowance for every individual is about 4½ or 5 Imperial chittacks.

In distribution the shares are divided according to the age and condition of the recipients.

III.—Show separately workers paid on the contract system and at rates higher than the famine rates?

Reports received show that no relief work has been carried out by contract.

No. 167.

Letter from the Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 3134 F., dated Abu, the 18-20th August, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 2827 F., dated the 14th July, 1900, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statements* of the Mewar State, including the hilly tracts, for the month of July, 1900, together with the Resident's covering letters Nos. 2068, dated the 7th August, 1900, 2086, dated the 10th August, 1900, and 3010, dated the 11th August, 1900.

2. The numbers in receipt of relief of all kinds in the Mewar State, excluding the hilly tracts, during the last ten months are brought together in the marginal table.

Months.	Workers.	Gratui- tous.	Total.	Per- centage.
1899.				
October ..	10,587	2,534	13,121	·72
November...	15,306	6,242	21,548	1·19
December ...	23,876	11,112	34,988	1·94
1900.				
January ...	76,993	14,535	91,528	5·08
February ...	107,898	26,512	134,410	7·46
March ...	101,653	23,186	124,839	6·93
April ...	86,967	26,195	113,162	6·28
May ...	89,926	24,540	114,466	6·35
June ...	84,548	29,664	114,212	6·34
July ...	57,892	20,993	78,885	4·38

Khalsa, Devasthan, and Jagir areas, respectively. The numbers on the Khalsa

* Not printed.

works have fallen by nearly one-half, and on those financed by the Devasthan revenues which are controlled by the Darbar by 55 per cent. The Jagir figures, on the other hand, show a fall of only 10 per cent. The Lambia Railway works have throughout occupied a peculiar position of their own. They were finally closed on the 28th July, the people having been gradually dismissed with a week's wages to their homes, except about one-fourth, who were drafted on to other works. The majority of the Jagir labourers are employed under the direct superintendence of Mr. Wakefield. Owing to a dearth of remunerative works and the enormous mortality among agricultural live-stock, that officer has made field labour his chief relief work. With the exception of a large gang of carriers who have been posted along the road to the nearest station on the Rajputana-Malwa Railway to bring in the grain for payments, the people have been busily engaged for the last two months in a great scheme of spade cultivation. Before the monsoon broke, the culturable area was systematically and effectually tilled by means of the ordinary country hoe. In the rest of the Jagir area the people have been employed on petty relief works under the direct superintendence of Captain Pinney.

3. The numbers of those in receipt of gratuitous relief have fallen by 29 per cent. The figures for the Jagir area have remained stationary, while the decrease in the Khalsa area is 15 per cent. The Devasthan figures, however, have declined by nearly one-half. The total under this head is inconsiderable. On the last day of the month over two-thirds of the people in receipt of gratuitous relief were returned from the Khalsa area. The details of the numbers given in the remarks do not agree with the figures in column 7 of the relief statement. The former are as follows :—

	Number.
Poor-houses at Udaipur and neighbourhood...	9,800
„ under Khalsa Hakims	4,467
„ of Jagirdars	5,087
„ in Devasthan	1,577
Total	20,931

The total noted in the statement is 20,993. In addition to the above about 3,500 people were being fed on doles of rice out of the consignment sent from Nepal by His Excellency the Minister. This brings the total up to 24,431. It is not said who the recipients of these doles were, but it appears they have been collected at two towns in the plain between Udaipur and Chitor. They are probably Bhils, who have fled from their hills and Minas from the Jehazpur direction.

4. The monsoon burst in in the Mewar on the 8th July, and gave good rain up till the 14th. After a break of ten days, a second burst occurred, and from the 24th up to the time of writing heavy showers have fallen almost every day. A short break of five or six days would now be beneficial. The great dearth of cattle will, I fear, prevent the cultivators from taking full advantage of improved weather conditions. 500 hand ploughs have been distributed, and 1,000 bullocks have arrived or are on their way from Jhansi. Their cost has been debited to the allotment of Rs. 1,80,000, which the Local Committee of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund have received from Calcutta. The report does not mention the amount spent by the Darbar on the same object, or the number of cattle supplied as taccavi loans. The lately sown crops have germinated well, and, except that the area under cultivation will be very much below the normal, the kharif prospects are excellent.

5. The following table shows the numbers on relief in the hilly tracts during the last eight months :—

Months.	Workers.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Percentage.
1899.				
December	765	567	1,332	1.87
1900.				
January	1,505	806	2,311	3.25
February	3,189	966	4,155	5.76
March	3,254	1,372	4,626	6.51
April	4,152	1,879	6,031	8.5
May	4,019	2,542	6,561	9.24
June	4,101	4,264	8,365	11.78
July	1,585	3,015	4,600	6.38

The numbers on works have fallen by 61 per cent., but as the figures for Kotra represent the daily average attendance during the month, the decrease must be really very much greater. This is probably the case also in Kherwara, as the Political Superintendent reports that the relief works have ceased for want of labourers. The works open at the end of the month appear to have been one large tank at Jawas and two tanks in Kotra. The numbers supported by the Church Missionary Society Missionaries are said to have remained stationary.

6. Copious rain has fallen all over both districts. The people are slowly picking up condition and are now in good heart. The death-rate is still high, as the people eat freely of unripe jungle products. Otherwise there is no epidemic, and fever cases are by no means numerous. The cattle can now obtain sufficient grazing. The animals purchased by the Local Charitable Fund Committee are now coming in, but live-stock being now almost priceless, thefts and raids are increasing. On the 8th of August the Political Superintendent telegraphed that pleuro-pneumonia had broken out among the cattle at Kherwara, and the cartmen who were engaged in bringing in grain were bolting. A further reference, however, showed that the original diagnosis was wrong. Eighty cattle died suddenly in one day, but there have been no cases since, and there seems to be little doubt that the animals died from eating some poisonous plant. In the remarks appended to the statement, the Political Superintendent states that many hundreds died in one day all over the district. This is not borne out by his special report on the subject. It is interesting to note that some of those who left the district during the famine are beginning to return.

7. The returns now furnished of the details of the expenditure of the Government grant of Rs. 5,000 are not yet complete. I have kept these back, therefore, pending the result of further inquiries.

Enclosure in No. 167.

Letter from Captain A. F. Pinkey, Resident in Mewar, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, No. 2068, dated Udaipur, the 7th August, 1900.

I have the honour to submit the Famine Statement for Mewar for the month of July, 1900.

2. The number of persons on relief works and of those in receipt of gratuitous relief, compared with the figures for the preceding month, show a falling off of 15,713 and 4,892, respectively. This large decrease is due to the advent of the rains, which has induced many of the people to go and cultivate their fields.

3. To meet the great dearth of plough cattle, efforts have been made to provide a hand plough of the Jaipur pattern, and already about 500 have been distributed. Besides the above, 1,000 bullocks are being obtained from Messrs. Abbott Brothers, Sehore, from the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund money for distribution to broken down agriculturists—113 of these bullocks were distributed in my presence at Chitor on the 26th July.

4. I inspected the Bara-Ajmer-Marwar Railway relief works at Lambia on the 16th July. I found that 3,500 persons had been discharged with a week's wages, and that 7,846 remained on the works. The latter have since been gradually drafted back to their own districts and the work closed.

5. A sum of Rs. 6,516 is reported to have been sanctioned by the Darbar during the month for relief measures.

6. About 600 Mewaris are reported to be in the poor-house at Erinpura, and the Mewar Darbar has been asked to arrange for their removal. Complaints have also been received of the emigration of Mewar subjects to Ajmer-Merwara, and the Darbar has been requested to adopt effective measures to prevent this.

7. Fairly good rain fell throughout Mewar between the 8th and 14th of the month, which enabled agricultural operations to be undertaken throughout the State. Since the 24th instant more rain has been received, and the agricultural prospects in the State are so far good.

8. A further allotment of Rs. 30,000 has been received for Mewar from the Rajputana Provincial Committee of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund. This additional grant has enabled the Mewar Local Committee to place Rs. 25,000 at the disposal of Mr. Wakefield for expenditure in the Deogarh, Bednore, and other severely-affected Jagirs.

9. I visited the Udaipur poor-house on the 24th July. I found 1,351 inmates, who were accommodated in four enclosures. The sanitary arrangements were very defective, and I recommended improvements under several heads to the Darbar, which are now being carried out.

10. With His Highness the Maharana's consent, I have now obtained the services of a Famine Assistant, Lieutenant St. John, for Mewar. His work will consist in distributing Famine Fund money and bullocks under the 4th object, more particularly amongst Bhils, and in supervising Captain Pinney's work at Udaipur during the latter's absence on tour.

Annexure.

Remarks by Captain J. C. D. Pinney on famine in Mewar during July, 1900.

Private relief.—1½ lakhs of rupees have been received from the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund, and this sum has been increased by a local subscription list of about Rs. 10,000, which sums are now being distributed.

2. *Village and poor-house relief.*—In the vicinity of Udaipur at Birompole, Rupsagar, Lakhaoli and Dabok, 9,800 people are receiving gratuitous relief.

In the Khalsa zillas 4,467 are reported to be being fed in poor-houses managed by the Hakims.

In the Jagirs 5,087, and in the Devasthan 1,577 people are reported to be in receipt of gratuitous relief.

At Sanwar and Mauli about 2,000 and 1,500 people, respectively, are being fed on the rice presented to the Famine Fund by His Highness the Minister of Nepal.

3. *General character of relief works.*—Tanks, wells, canals and buildings are being constructed as relief works.

4. *Physical condition of people.*—The famine-stricken are thin and weak.

Deaths, if any, from starvation.—The returns from State officials and Jagirdars show 4,742 deaths from famine and disease.

5. *Food-stock.*—Certain merchants have undoubtedly stores of grain, which are now being brought into use in providing seed for their well-to-do assamis; but it is impossible to correctly estimate the amount of these stores.

6. *Importation of grain.*—Grain is being imported from Cawnpur, Hathras and other places by the Raj and other individuals in accordance with the requirements of the population.

7. *General condition and prospects of affected area.*—The general condition of the affected area has been very much improved by the recent rains, and a promising kharif crop has already begun to make its appearance on all sides.

8. *Changes in rates of wages.*—Nil.

9. *Emigration or Immigration and other matters.*—Emigration appears to have practically stopped, reports showing only 11 emigrants had to be brought back to Mewar by State officials.

10. *Crop prospects.*—The sowing of the kharif crop has been general, and many fields of makki are already in a forward condition.

11. *What amount will be required for loans to cultivators for the purchase of seed and cattle.*—The necessary reports for framing this estimate not having been received, it is impossible to submit a reliable answer under this heading.

1. From the latest information received, the following amounts appear to have been expended on relief works and on gratuitous relief, viz.:—

				Amounts.	
RELIEF WORKS.				Rs.	a. p.
Khalsa and Devasthan	...	...	...	51,305	12 3
First-class Jagirs (independently)	...	...	...	59,429	10 0
Jagirdars in charge of Mr. Wakefield	...	...	...	80,000	0 0
Small Jagirdars (independently)	...	...	...	17,212	12 6
Total...	...	...	...	2,07,948	2
GRATUITOUS RELIEF.					
Khalsa and Devasthan	...	...	...	43,870	11 3
First-class Jagirdars	...	...	...	9,075	11 3
Small Jagirdars	...	...	...	1,699	14 6
Total...	...	...	...	54,646	5 0
Grand Total	...	...	...	2,62,594	7 9

2 & 3. As last month.

Enclosure 2 in No. 167.

Letter from Captain A. F. Pinhey, Resident in Mewar, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, No. 2086, dated Udaipur, the 10th August, 1900.

I have the honour to forward the Famine Statement of the Kotra district for the month of July, 1900, together with the returns called for in connection with the grant of Rs. 5,000 allotted by the Government of India for the purposes of relief in the cantonments of Kherwara and Kotra.

2. There is a decrease of 843 among relief workers, and an increase of 156 among recipients of gratuitous relief as compared with the figures for the preceding month.

3. Good rain has fallen in the Kotra district, and the decrease in the number of relief workers shows that people are leaving relief works to cultivate their fields.

4. Crime is reported to be abnormal, and cattle-lifting by Bhils of adjoining States is very frequent. No specific cases of crime have, however, been reported to this office, and the Assistant Political Superintendent has been instructed to address the Political Officers concerned, with a view to the Darbars being requested to take steps to prevent their Bhils from committing raids in the Kotra district.

5. A complete return has at length been furnished by the Assistant Political Superintendent, showing the expenditure of the portion of the Government grant allotted to the Kotra Cantonment. Up to the end of July the whole amount of Rs. 1,000, so allotted, has been expended, and Rs. 135-7-0 besides on relief works for inhabitants of the Kotra Cantonment. As no further sum has been asked for, I presume that Major Dawson has sufficient funds at his disposal from other sources to go on with, and, as good rain has fallen, these petty works have no doubt by this time been closed.

Annexure.

Remarks by Major Dawson, Assistant Political Superintendent, Hilly Tracts, Mewar, on famine in the Kotra (Mewar) District during July, 1900, dated Kotra, the 2nd August, 1900.

1. *Condition of the people.*—Bad.

2. *Deaths.*—435 deaths in poor-house and dispensary from dysentery, following starvation and injurious food, and 26 deaths have been reported in the district, but correct numbers cannot be obtained. A very large percentage of deaths are wanderers from Guzerat. Women have been brought in by their friends in a dying state and left.

3. *Cholera.*—No deaths from cholera have been reported this month.

4. *Importation of grain.*—Sufficient grain has been imported.

5. *Emigration.*—Nil.

6. *Cattle.*—The cattle are in poor condition. It is hoped that they will soon pick up as the grass grows.

Plough oxen are fed free of cost to owners in Kotra. Hundreds have been stolen and driven over the border.

7. *Relief works.*—The decrease in the number of people on relief works is owing to good rain having fallen in the district. Most Bhils prefer to eat the herbs which have sprung up to going on work. The numbers shown this month are the daily average—

283	Bhils are employed in Jura
144	" " " in Panarwa.
167	" " " in Oghna.
150	" " " in Kotra.

8. *Rate.*—The rate of of rations in the district are men 12 chittacks, women 8, and children 6.

9. *Works.*—Most of the works are closed, the majority being completed. The Bhils refuse to work since rain has fallen. Upwards of 50 miles of road have been made. Two tanks, four bauries and one house have been completed; two tanks still under construction.

10. *Poor-house.*—488 are fed.

11. *Private charity.*—750 children, 50 women and cripples.

12. *Water.*—Owing to good rain the water is now sufficient everywhere in the district.

13. *Fodder.*—Green leaves in large quantities obtainable, grass is growing and brought in for sale; many Bhils obtain a living ration from this source.

14. *Crime.*—Crime is still great, raids on cattle are very frequent. Four banias' shops have been looted. Counter-complaints from adjoining States are received.

15. *Grain*.—Seed grain has been given to upwards of 3,000 Bhils in my presence, others have freely bought in the Kotra market, which is open to everyone.

16. *Rain*.— $8\frac{3}{4}$ inches of rain has been measured in Kotra during the month. The fall in the district has been very much heavier.

17. *Prospects.*—The rain has made every one hopeful and the outlook is brighter. The crops are well up and strong.

Enclosure 3 in No. 167.

Letter from Captain A. F. Pinhey, Resident in Mewar, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, No. 3010, dated Udaipur, the 11th August, 1900.

I have the honour to forward the Famine Statement of the Kherwara district for the month of July, 1900, together with the returns called for showing the expenditure against the Government grant of Rs. 5,000 allotted for the purposes of relief in the cantonments of Kherwara and Kotra.

2. The number of persons on relief works and gratuitous relief show a decrease of 1,673 and 1,405, respectively, as compared with the figures for the preceding month.

3. Good rain has fallen throughout the district, and the majority of the people are reported to have left the relief works and poor-houses and kitchens to cultivate their fields. The few people that have remained are said to have been put on earthworks at Jawas, but no information is furnished as to what these earthworks are.

4. Colonel Bignell recently reported that pleuro-pneumonia had broken out among the cattle in the Kherwara district, and that there was great mortality among the cattle from the disease. From this Famine Report it, however, appears that the cause of the mortality among the cattle is unknown, and that no more deaths have occurred since the first outbreak. The deaths were probably due to eating poisonous herbs which are now springing up.

5. The difficulty experienced in transporting grain into Kherwara is now reported to have been overcome. Colonel Bignell stated in a report, dated 3rd August, that he has purchased 40 carts and 160 draught bullocks, and has in addition hired 25 carts and 30 camels for conveyance of grain, and that this transport may be considered sufficient for present requirements.

Since the receipt of this report, however, the road between Udaipur and Kherwara has been badly breached by the late heavy rains, and it will be some days before it again becomes available for wheeled traffic. It would be some, therefore, have been better to have depended more on camel than cart transport during the rainy season.

Annexure.

*Remarks by Colonel E. D. F. Bignell, Political Superintendent, Hilly Tracts, Mewar, on
famine in Kherwara District during July, 1900.*

On this page should be recorded very briefly information as to private relief, village and poor-house relief, general character of relief works, physical condition of people, death, if any, from starvation, food-stock, importation of grain, general condition and prospects of affected area, changes in rates of wages, emigration or immigration, and other matters which will not delay the despatch of the statement beyond the 15th of the following month.

The pressure has ceased, but great exertions are being made to supply grain, cattle and seed to those working in the fields. The poor-houses are emptying, kitchens nearly deserted, relief works ceased for want of labourers. A few hundreds still want relief till next crop ripens, and I have put them on earthworks at Jawas to give them employment and keep them away from cantonments.

Copious rain has fallen, though very late, which leaves little time to make and distribute hand ploughs and import and give out seed, but a great deal has been done.

The condition of the people daily improves, though deaths are numerous from the ravenous way they eat a jungle plant called Powar which gives them cholic and diarrhoea.

Water in wells rising ; pools filled.

Cattle disease has, it is believed, broken out, but its character is not known ; many hundreds died one day all over the district, but none have died since.

Immigration beginning.

Grain still very scarce, being imported.

No. 168.

Letter from the Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 3313 F., dated Abu, the 18th September, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 3134 F., dated the 18-20th August, 1900, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statements of the Mewar State, including the Hilly Tracts, for the month of August, 1900, together with the Resident's covering letters Nos. 3316, 3317, and 3295, dated, respectively, the 12th and 10th September, 1900.

2. The following table gives the numbers on relief of all kinds in Mewar during the last 11 months :—

MEWAR.					Workers.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Percentage
Months.								
October	1899	...	...	...	10,587	2,534	13,121	72
November	"	...	...	...	15,306	6,242	21,548	1.19
December	"	...	...	...	23,876	11,112	34,988	1.94
January	1900	...	...	...	76,993	15,535	91,528	5.08
February	"	...	...	...	107,898	26,512	134,410	7.46
March	"	...	...	...	101,653	23,186	124,839	6.93
April	"	...	...	...	86,967	26,195	113,162	6.28
May	"	...	...	...	89,926	24,540	114,466	6.35
June	"	...	...	...	84,548	29,664	114,212	6.34
July	"	...	...	...	57,892	20,993	78,885	4.38
August	"	...	...	...	4,275	6,745	11,020	.61

The number of workers has fallen by 92 cent. from nearly 60,000 to just over 4,000. The famine labour is chiefly employed in repairing the dams-of-tanks which have been breached by the recent heavy floods and in the construction of buildings. The gratuitous relief figures have declined by two-thirds from 21,000 to nearly 7,000. All the people assisted in this way, excepting 684 who are supported from the Devasthan (Temple) Funds, are collected in the four central poor-houses close to the capital or in similar institutions at the headquarters of Hakims. Every other form of relief has ceased. The total number of persons on relief of all kinds during August was the lowest on record since operations began in October last, and represents only .61 of the population of the State as compared with over 4 per cent. in July.

3. Mewar has received upwards of 30 inches of rain since the monsoon broke a little more than two months ago, and a long break is now required to enable the grain to develop and the crops to ripen. Jungle products are available, so there is no longer fear of people dying from actual hunger. The distribution of the charitable allotments has been nearly finished, and all the plough bullocks imported by the Local Charitable Committee have been given out. The jagir cultivators have not been forgotten. In the western jagir area Mr. Wakefield has distributed Rs. 32,000 as gifts to the poorer classes for the purchase of seed grain and bullocks. Captain C. J. D. Pinney has been forced to take leave owing to ill-health, but his duties are being carried on by Lieutenant St. John. Mr. Wakefield has nearly completed the special work he was engaged in and will leave Mewar some time during the current month.

4. The numbers on relief in the Hilly Tracts of Mewar during the last nine months are brought together below :—

HILLY TRACTS.

Months.	Workers.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Percentage.
December 1899	765	567	1,332	1·87
January 1900	1,505	806	2,311	3·25
February „	3,189	966	4,155	5·76
March „	3,254	1,372	4,626	6·51
April „	4,152	1,879	6,031	8·5
May „	4,019	2,542	6,561	9·24
June „	4,101	4,264	8,365	11·78
July „	1,585	3,015	4,600	6·38
August „	1,036	1,867	2,903	4·09

Workers and persons in receipt of gratuitous relief have both fallen off by approximately one-third, and the total number of relief units is under 3,000. This is the lowest total recorded since January last, but it represents 4 per cent. of the population as recorded at the Census of 1891. Kherwara returns is the higher. This is probably due to the fact that the relief operations of the Missionaries are not so extensive in the latter district. The numbers on the Mission lists have fallen by nearly one-half. The Hilly Tracts have had their full share of the abundant rainfall of the last two months, and as in Mewar the most encouraging accounts of the condition of the people and cattle which have been received since the famine began. Crime is still above the normal in Kotra only.

5. Altogether the outlook is distinctly promising over the whole of Mewar, and by the end of this month all necessity for direct relief will have passed away. The medical establishment will, however, be unable to relax their efforts, as malarial fever is certain to break out in epidemic form after the rains cease.

Enclosure 1 in No. 168.

Letter from Captain A. F. Pinhey, Resident, Mewar, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, No. 3316, dated Udaipur, the 12th September, 1900.

I have the honour to submit the Famine Statement for Mewar for the month of August, 1900.

2. The numbers of persons on relief works and on gratuitous relief, have decreased from 57,892 and 20,993 at the end of the preceding month, to 4,275 and 6,745, respectively.

Above 30 inches of rain have now fallen in Mewar, and it is hoped that by the end of the current month most of the relief works and poor-houses will have been closed.

3. The physical condition of the famine-stricken is improving, though they are reported to be still thin and weak.

4. The crops have been considerably damaged by excessive rain, and it is feared that this may prolong the distress to a certain extent.

5. A further allotment of Rs. 27,000 has been received for Mewar from the Rajputana Provincial Committee, Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund, making the total allotment up to date Rs. 2,50,000. From this further grant Rs. 10,000 have been allotted for distribution among the Bhils of the Khalsa Hilly Tracts, in addition to the sums previously sanctioned for this purpose.

The money is being personally distributed by Lieutenant St. John, Famine Officer, who is now touring in the Hilly Tracts. Mr. Wakefield was engaged in distributing Rs. 32,000 allotted to Deogarh, Bednore and the other neighbouring jagirs during the month.

Annexure.

Remarks on famine in Mewar during August, 1900.

1. *Private relief.*—Private relief is being afforded from the funds allotted by the Mewar Local Committee, Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund.

2. *Village and poor-house relief.*—In the poor-houses in the vicinity of Udaipur at Birampole, Rupsagar, Daboke and Kamode about 2,990 people are receiving gratuitous relief.

In Khalsa Zillas 3,021 are reported to be fed in poor-houses managed by the Hakims. In the Devasthan villages 634 are reported to be in receipt of gratuitous relief.

3. *General character of relief works.*—Tanks, wells, canals and buildings are being constructed as relief works.

4. *Physical condition of people.* Deaths (if any) from starvation.—The famine-stricken are thin and weak.

5. *Food-stocks.*—Some merchants have stores of grain, but it is not possible to estimate the amount of these.

6. *Importation of grain.*—Grain is being imported from Cawnpore, Hathras and other places.

7. *General condition and prospects of affected area.*—Crops are in excellent condition, except in parts where they are affected by excessive rains.

8. *Changes in rates of wages.*—Nil.

9. *Emigration and Immigration.*—Emigration has now ceased. There is no immigration.

10. *Crop prospects.*—The sowing of kharif crops is completed.

Enclosure 2 in No. 168.

Letter from Captain A. F. Pinhey, Resident, Mewar, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, No. 3317, dated Udaipur, the 12th September, 1900.

I have the honour to forward the Famine Report of the Kotra district for the month of August, 1900.

2. The number of persons under relief at the end of the month shows a decrease of 351 on relief works and 284 on gratuitous relief as compared with the figures for the preceding month.

3. The condition of the Bhils is said to be improving, though crime is still above the normal. Sama, Batti, Kuri and other inferior crops are now ready, and afford sufficient food for the people until the maize ripens.

4. Major Hutton Dawson, who has been in charge of this district throughout the famine, and whose long experience and influence over the Bhils have enabled him to organise relief measures with great success and to inspire confidence amongst the people, has lately taken over charge of the duties of Political Superintendent, Hilly Tracts at Kherwara, and has been succeeded by Captain Holmes.

Annexure.

Remarks by Captain G. V. Holmes, Officiating Assistant Political Superintendent, Hilly Tracts, Mewar, on famine in the Kotra (Mewar) District during August, 1900, dated Kotra, the 1st September, 1900.

1. *Condition of people.*—Improving.
2. *Deaths.*—There has been 197 deaths in dispensary and poor-house and nil reported in district.
3. *Emigration.*—Nil.
4. *Cattle.*—The cattle are now in good condition, as the grass and water are sufficient everywhere in the district.
5. *Relief works.*—Most of the Bhils are employed in their fields, many now eat grass seeds of various kinds and especially Sama, Batti and Kuri. This is also the cause of preventing the Bhils from coming on relief works.
The following is the daily average of the Bhils on relief works :—
127 Bhils in Jura.
23 „ in Panurwa.
93 „ in Oghna.
150 „ in Kotra.
6. *Poor-house.*—312 destitute are fed.
7. *Private charity.*—692 children, old women and cripples.
8. *Fodder.*—Green grass in large quantities obtainable.
9. *Crime.*—Crime is above normal.
10. *Seed grain.*—Seed grain has been supplied to a large number of Bhils who were in need.
11. *Rain.*—About 22 inches of rain have fallen during the month.
12. *Crops.*—Such crops as have been sown are in a good condition.

Enclosure 3 in No. 168.

Letter from Captain A. F. Pinhey, Resident, Mewar, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana. No. 3295, dated Udaipur, the 10th September, 1900.

I have the honour to forward the Famine Report of the Kherwara district for the month of August, 1900.

2. There were 643 persons on relief works, and 2,363 in receipt of gratuitous relief, as compared with 841 and 4,477 at the end of the preceding month.

3. There has been good rain in the district, and by the end of the current month it is hoped there will be no further necessity for relief of any kind.

Annexure.

Remarks by Major C. Hutton Dawson, Political Superintendent, Hilly Tract, Mewar, on Famine in Kherwara District, during August, 1900.

On this page should be recorded very briefly information as to private relief, village death, if any, from starvation, food stock, importation of grain, general condition and prospect of affected area, changes in rates of wages, emigration or immigration, and other matter which will not delay the despatch of the statement beyond the 15th of the following month.

Condition of people.—Improving.

Deaths.—236 in the Kherwara poor-house from dysentery and diarrhoea. No details from the district.

Grain.—Grain is still imported; the very bad state of the Udaipur road makes it difficult for carts to travel.

Cattle.—The cattle that have survived are in fairly good condition. About 100 plough oxen have been distributed and more will be given in time for rabi sowing.

Relief works.—Very few Bhils now apply for work. In Jawas there are upwards of 300 people employed, only about 20 per cent. are Bhils. In Kherwara about 200, chiefly Kumars, Patels, Chamars, Mogias, are given work.

It is hoped that by the end of the month no relief will be necessary.

Rate paid in grain.—Men, 12 chittacks; women, 8 chittacks; children, 6 chittacks.

Poor-house.—Kherwara, 529; Jawas, 198; Church Mission Society kitchens in Hilly Tracts, 1,500.

Water.—Ample.

Fodder.—Abundant.

Crime.—Not much above normal.

No. 169.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. C. Wyllie, C.I.E., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 2157 F., dated Abu, the 15th May, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 1808 F., dated the 14th April, 1900,* I have the honour to forward, in original, for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statement† of the Marwar State for the month of April, 1900, together with the Resident's covering letter No. 338 G., dated 7th May, 1900.

2. The marginal table gives the details of numbers relieved on works, and

Months.	Works.	Gratui- tous.	Total.	Per- centage.
1899.				
September...	10,985	2,263	13,248	·5
October ...	26,025	4,614	30,639	1·21
November...	39,207	10,719	49,926	1·97
December...	78,084	13,790	91,874	3·63
1900.				
January ...	73,232	18,370	91,602	3·62
February ...	105,264	23,510	128,774	5·09
March ...	106,699	28,237	134,936	5·34
April ...	80,113	24,558	104,671	4·14

gratuitously during the last eight months. In my review of the figures for March some doubt was expressed as to their accuracy, but a further reference to the Resident shows that they were really correct. It will be seen that there has been a marked decrease in the numbers in receipt of both kinds of relief. The workers have fallen off by no less than 26,586 persons, or 25 per cent. It was expected that the restricted harvest operations would operate as a check on the steady increase in the demand for relief, and they have doubtless had their effect. But the main cause of the large drop in numbers has, as the Resident points out, been the outbreak of cholera. On one or two of the largest works, notably Dholera, a panic set in, and the people fled to their houses. Some of these joined the civil agency works open near their villages. An

* See page 447 of Command Paper No. 206, presented in 1900.

† Not printed.

analysis of the numbers on works during the past three months shows that, while the increase on petty works during March was only 592, or 6 per cent., the total rose in April by 4,339, or 42 per cent. These figures, however, still leave over twenty thousand of the people who abandoned the Department Public Works works unaccounted for. Most of these may soon rejoin, but, in the interval, they will suffer very considerable hardship, and require careful treatment when they first arrive at the camps. Thanks to the exertions of the officers the cholera is now well in hand. The total reported death-roll amounts to 1,635 persons, but the actual mortality must have been very much larger. The epidemic was very severe while it lasted, and the organisation on the works will take some time to recover from the dislocation caused by the scare. This is all the more to be regretted, as the administration had attained a marked degree of efficiency. The task system was almost universal, and the staff on most of the large works were able to pay attention to individuals.

3. The numbers on gratuitous relief have declined by 13 per cent. The decrease is confined entirely to the dependents on the works. Private charity is more active than ever. The details are given in the Resident's report. The larger jagirdars are now taking a fair share in helping the general distress. It will also be noticed with satisfaction that the Darbar has started a female orphanage, in which Lady Partab Singh is directly interesting herself.

4. The calls made on the Darbar in connection with returning emigrants are by no means light, and it is feared that these will increase during the current month. The Darbar has wisely resolved to assist all Marwaris who are still in Malwa, and have some cattle left. Only a proportion of these can be traced, but there are now two officials well supplied with funds in Gwalior and Bhopal, who have been given power to issue loans to emigrants with cattle, and to rail back all who are absolutely destitute. I am in correspondence with the railway authorities, with a view to securing privileged rates for the men and cattle, who will return on the arrival of the rains.

5. Imports of food-grains have actually increased during April. The total imports were sufficient to feed nearly 1½ millions of people for one month. The Resident reports that mortality among the cattle continues, but there cannot be very many left to die. The weight of hides exported in April represents approximately 25,000 animals, but the majority of these must have succumbed before the beginning of the month under report.

6. The yield of the rabi harvest was meagre everywhere, owing to the insignificant area the cultivators were able to sow. The high winds in the beginning of the month caused the grain to shrivel in the ear, and some of the grain was damaged by rain on the threshing floors. The total result of the harvest has had quite an inappreciable effect on the general situation.

Enclosure in No. 169.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel A. P. Thornton, Resident, Western Rajputana States, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, No. 338 G., dated Abu, the 7th May, 1900.

I have the honour to submit Famine Report of the Marwar State for the month of April, 1900, together with a skeleton map showing the famine-affected area.

2. The total number of labourers on 13 relief works under Mr. Home on the 25th April was 65,689, as compared with 96,614 employed during the preceding month.

The decrease of 30,925 persons is, the Darbar explains, chiefly due to the prevalence of cholera, the scare resulting from which has caused a number of

people to return temporarily to their villages. The expenditure on these works during the month was Rs. 1,99,998-11-0, giving an incidence per head of 1 anna 7 pies per diem. The increase of 3 pies is said to be due to the introduction of task system on all these works.

7,207 dependents were also maintained on the above works at a cost of Rs. 7,303-12-6.

Thirty-two civil agency works afforded employment to 14,424 persons as compared with 10,440 persons in the previous month (showing an increase of 3,984) at a cost of Rs. 33,828-15-10. Their dependents numbering 496 were maintained at a cost of Rs. 375-14-1.

The majority of labourers on all the works continue to earn only the minimum ration, viz., men 12 chittacks, and women 10 chittacks.

Of the total number of labourers, viz., 80,113, 1,046 were employed on contract work on ordinary wage rates.

6,107 deaths occurred in famine camps, hospitals, and poor-houses, of which nearly 40 per cent. occurred at Dholera, and 13 per cent. at Bankli. I am glad to say cholera is decreasing in Marwar. During the month 324 persons fell victims to the disease in the city and suburbs of Jodhpur, and 1,311 persons in the districts and on relief works.

Four men and two women are reported to have died of starvation, of whom two were immigrants.

Captain Grant, I.M.S., reports that the physical condition of the people on the relief works continues good, and that the pay they receive is sufficient to buy food enough to maintain their physique unimpaired.

Owing to the outbreak of cholera, it has been impossible for Captain Grant to continue the weighment of persons at Pali, but he thinks that there is abundant evidence to show that the people do not expend all the wage they receive in buying food. I have asked the Darbar to enquire and ascertain the causes which give rise to the desire to put by money, adding that, if the poor people are actuated by any fear that they are likely to be suddenly turned adrift to starve when the first shower of rain falls, they might be re-assured on this point.

The number of persons receiving gratuitous relief from the State on the 25th April was 24,558, including dependents, inmates of poor-houses and collecting camps; the cost of this relief is stated by the Darbar to be as follows:—

	Rs.	a.	p.
Dependents	7,679	10	7
Poor-houses	14,646	5	3
Collecting camps	16,719	0	4

Lady Partab Singh has kindly interested herself in organising an orphanage for destitute girls. The Darbar has placed the Jalia garden with its buildings at the disposal of the Managing Committee, and agreed to bear the cost of feeding. The number of girls receiving relief is said to be 28.

The Darbar also distributed Rs. 1,033-3 among poor *pardah nashin* women during the month. The Oswald community in Jodhpur is said to have subscribed Rs. 3,400 to the relief of their distressed *pardah* women in the city.

The following statement shows the poor-houses kept up by the jagirdars of Marwar and their cost:—

Estate.	Number of doles issued.	Cost.
Asope	17,854	Rs. a. p. 1,900 10 0
Chanode	3,130	672 0 0
Kuchawan	7,030	223 11 3
Raipur	4,974	446 5 0
Rean	2,323	51 9 0
Minda	2,146	36 5 6
Kherwa	966	56 9 0
Baru	448	22 8 0
Bhadrajun	3,018	118 6 0
Total	47,889	3,527 15 9

In addition to the above, private charity has also supported 9,204 persons in different parts of the State.

No emigration took place during the month. 628 persons were brought back from the Central India States at a cost of Rs. 2,334-7-6 and 2,895 persons from the Ajmer-Merwara district at a cost of Rs. 2,284-15-3.

3,932 persons are said to have voluntarily returned to their homes.

The drinking water-supplies are still sufficient. The recent rains brought about 4 feet of water into the Gulabsagar tank. This supply being polluted has since been condemned and allowed to run off. Grain-stocks are abundant. 318,377½ maunds were imported during the month as compared with 310,043½ maunds imported in March.

Prices of food-grains show a tendency to fall. Barley is selling at rates ranging from 8½ to 13½ seers per rupee.

The mortality among cattle still continues. During the month 4,192¾ maunds of hides were exported from Marwar against 8,436½ maunds exported in March. The Darbar contributed Rs. 1,600 to the Home opened for starving cattle in the city, in which 79 cattle are now taken care of.

Rain varying from 7 cents to 61 cents fell in most of the districts during the month, causing some damage to the rabi crops.

The Residency Surgeon, Jaipur, to whom the sample of Pilia Bhata stone was sent for analysis, informs me that the stone is called steatite (soapstone); its composition is hydrous silicate of magnesia; its alimentary effect is probably mechanical only, and acts as a diluent of real food, producing bulk and temporarily satisfying hunger: it has no nutritive value and might in some cases induce diarrhoea.

Annexure.

1. *Private relief.*—Private gratuitous relief was doled out at 32 places, where cooked khichra and parched gram were distributed to the poor. Their average daily strength was 9,024.

2. *Village and poor-house relief.*—State poor-houses are kept up at the cost of the Darbar at each Hakumat and on Departmental Relief Works for the non-working and the sick.

3. *Medical relief.*—The hospital, kitchen and conservancy arrangements are reported satisfactory. Cholera broke out at Marwar Junction and Jagrawas on the 24th and 27th ultimo, respectively, but precautionary measures taken did much to arrest its spread. The prevailing diseases are diarrhoea, dysentery and malarial fevers, and small-pox to a small extent. The number of persons in 10 hospitals on the last day of the month was 2,224.

4. *Physical condition and deaths from starvation.*—The majority of persons are in good condition. Four men and two women are reported to have died of starvation. Of these one died in a village, one in the town of Marote, and four on the high-road. One of them was Rajputani, and the caste of the others is not known; two of them were immigrants.

5. *General character of relief works.*—Digging, clearing and embanking of tanks; construction of bunds; renewing roads and sinking wells.

6. *Food-stocks.*—Sufficient.

7. *General condition and prospects of affected area.*—The water still holds out. The wells near Khokarya are being worked for the Jodhpur city. The recent rainfall brought in 4 feet of dirty water in Gulabsagar and impeded the passage to the well water reservoirs. A causeway has been thrown up in the tank, so as to enable the people to fetch uncontaminated water. Under this head Rs. 3,724-12-0 have been spent during the month.

Rabi crop.—In Nawan and Sambhar the outturn, considering the areas cropped was normal in the latter, while in the former it was damaged 2 annas in a rupee. The outturn was fair in Parbatsar, but in Marote it was only 14 annas. In Jaitaran, Sojat and Bali the crop was raised; it was slightly damaged by high and unseasonable winds except in the last. In Merta, Bilara, Pali, Siwana, Jaswantpura, Jodhpur, Pachbadra, Mallani, Didwana, Shergarh and Nagore it yielded a fair outturn. In Jalore and Sanchoe a slight damage was done by the winds and bad weather. The rest of the parganas had no rabi.

8. Rates of wages—

	As. p.	As. p.
Male... ..	from 1 3 to 1 9	
Female	„ 1 0 „ 1 6	
Children over 7 years	 1 0	
„ under 7 „	 0 6	
„ in lap	 0 3	

9. Prices of food-grains.—

	Minimum.	Maximum.
	Sr. ch.	Sr. ch.
(1) Wheat... ..	5 4	10 12
(2) Bajri	8 0	10 4
(3) Gram	7 8	12 12
(4) Moong... ..	5 6	9 10
(5) Mokki... ..	8 4	9 12
(6) Jowar	8 0	11 0
(7) Barley... ..	8 8	13 8
(8) Oil	1 14	3 7

10. *Condition of the cattle.*—The mortality amongst cattle still continues; 79 poor emaciated cattle are taken care of in the Bit-Dharmada Institution. Rs. 1,600 have been contributed by the Darbar.

11. *Emigration.*—Nil.

Immigration.—The Motamid has sent from Central India States 237 persons at a cost of Rs. 1,012-6-0. A Motamid is being sent to rail off 344 people to the new 'Ava' collecting camp from the Delhi division. The Jaipur Darbar has been asked to rail off 80 Marwari inmates of the poor-house to 'Ava'.

The Motamid sent to advance taccavi in Bhopal and to send back the excess number of agriculturists has sent by rail 391 people at a cost of Rs. 1,322-1-6.

From the Ajmer district 2,895 persons were imported at a cost of Rs. 2,284-15-3.

3,932 persons are said to have returned of their own accord.

12. *The grain equivalent of wages in chittacks:—*

	High.	Medium.	Low.
Men	16	14	12
Women	14	12	10
Children	6	4	2

13.—*Number of labourers on contract.*—Out of 80,113 labourers, 1,046 were engaged on contract.

14. *Expenditure:—*

					Amounts.		
RELIEF WORKS.					Rs.	a.	p.
(1) Departmental	...	...	...	...	1,99,998	11	0
(2) Civil Agency...	...	...	...	...	33,828	15	10
(3) Dependents	...	...	...	...	7,679	10	7
Total	...	...	...	...	2,41,507	5	5
GRATUITOUS RELIEF.							
Poor-houses...	...	...	...	...	14,646	5	3
Macowaras	...	...	...	...	16,719	0	4
Dispensaries	...	...	...	...	12,066	5	1
Pardah Nashin	...	...	...	...	1,093	3	0
Total	...	...	...	...	44,464	13	8

No. 170.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. C. Wyllie, C.I.E., Agent to the Governor-General, Rajputana, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 2475-F., dated Abu, the 14th June, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 2157-F., dated the 15th May, 1900, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statement* of the Marwar State for the month of May, 1900, together with the Resident's covering letter No. 426-G., dated the 4th June, 1900.

* Not printed.

2. The marginal table gives the numbers on relief during the last nine months. The figures for the month under report have been taken from the Famine Statement which forms an enclosure to this letter, and show a marked diminution of 20 per cent.* The figures represent the numbers as returned for the 25th May, but the weekly statement for the week ending the 26th May gives the following detail:—

Months.	Works.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Per Cent.
1899.				
September ...	10,985	2,263	13,248	5
October ...	26,025	4,614	30,639	1.21
November ...	39,207	10,719	49,926	1.97
December ...	78,084	13,790	91,874	3.63
1900.				
January ...	73,232	18,370	91,602	3.62
February ...	105,264	23,510	128,774	5.09
March ...	106,699	28,237	134,936	5.34
April ...	80,113	24,558	104,671	4.14
May ...	74,086	9,273	83,359	3.30

	Number.
Workers	72,969
Dependants	7,609
Relieved in villages	11,604
„ „ kitchens	9,134
„ „ rest camps	8,230
Total	109,546

If these statistics are correct, there has really been an increase of 4,875 persons or 4 per cent. on relief of all kinds. As far as can be gathered from the monthly report the returns are defective. The figures of persons relieved in villages, kitchens and rest camps appear to have been omitted. A reference is being made to the Resident on the subject.* There can be no doubt, however, the numbers both on the large Public Works Department works and those supervised by Civil Agency, have fallen off. The reasons as stated by the Resident are the cholera panic and the abnormal rain which attracted so many people to their fields for the sowing of early bajra and the coarser kind of pulses. Numbers of these deserters may possibly return to the works during the month. Much depends on the falling of further showers. Cholera had been stamped out on all the works but recently re-appeared in the rest camp at Marwar Junction.

3. The numbers in receipt of gratuitous relief at their homes have evidently increased. This is a natural result of decline on works at this period of a famine. The women's home and the girls' orphanage have both expanded their operations but no details of the numbers relieved have been furnished. The numbers assisted by Jagirdars appear to be slowly rising.

4. The Darbar have been active in bringing back Marwari emigrants from foreign territory. During the month under report 3,953 persons were railed back from Central India, Delhi, Palanpur, Erinpura, Jaipur, Ajmer and Beawar, at a cost of Rs. 11,941 or Rs. 3-0-4 per head. During April the total thus brought back was 3,523. The numbers who are reported as having returned of their own accord have increased this month by 119 per cent. 8,612. This total will probably be exceeded during June. No particulars have been

* See later letter on page 198.

given of the cattle which returned. The Traffic Managers of the Bombay, Baroda and Central India and the North-Western Railways have been good enough to reduce their rates for returning emigrants, but the Agent and Manager of the Indian Midland Railway will be unable to reduce his rates until the grain traffic declines in July.

5. The mortality among the surviving cattle continues in spite of all efforts to save them. The numbers in the "Bit-Dharmada" (animals' home) in Jodhpur, are steadily rising and the Mahajans of Nagpore are keeping a considerable number of cattle alive. The weight of hides exported in May represents only 9,870 animals as compared with the equivalent of 25,000 animals in April. Imports of food grains have increased by nearly 18 per cent. but prices show a tendency to rise. Thanks to the recent rain, the water-supply, except in isolated tracts, is holding out, but if the monsoon rains set in late, the deficiency will be felt generally. Arrangements have been made to supply cultivators with over ten thousand hand ploughs before the monsoon bursts.

Enclosure in No. 170.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel A. P. Thornton, Resident, Western Rajputana States, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, Abu, No. 426-G., dated Abu, the 4th June, 1900.

I have the honour to submit Famine Report of the Marwar State for the month of May, 1900, together with a skeleton map showing the famine affected area.

The total number of labourers on 12 relief works under Mr. Home on the 25th May was 61,111, as compared with 65,689 employed during the preceding month.

The decrease of 4,578 persons is attributed partly to the panic caused by the outbreak of cholera and partly to the return of the workers to their houses under the belief that recent showers of rain was a prelude to the bursting of the regular monsoon.

The expenditure on these works during the month was Rs. 1,66,705-2-6, giving an incidence per head of 1 anna 4 pies per diem.

7,665 dependents were also maintained on the above works at a cost of Rs. 6,008-1-6, giving an incidence of 4-2 pies per head per diem.

36 Civil Agency works afforded employment to 12,975 persons as compared with 14,424 persons in the previous month (showing also a decrease of 1,449) at a cost of Rs. 29,038-6-6. Their dependents numbering 284 were maintained at a cost of Rs. 158-2-3.

The majority of labourers on all the works continued to earn only the minimum ration of 12 and 10 chittacks.

Of the total number of labourers, viz., 74,086, 1,448 were employed on contract work on ordinary wage rates.

Captain Grant, I.M.S., reports that the physical condition of the people on the relief works continues good, except in the case of recent arrivals and persons who persist in wandering about from place to place, and that the ration they receive is adequate to maintain their physique unimpaired.

In the 11 Famine dispensaries, 1,781 persons were receiving medical treatment on the last day of the month. Small-pox and cholera have decreased on all the works. The total reported deaths from all causes numbered only 2,680 against 6,107 in the previous month. No deaths from starvation were reported during the month.

In the Jagirdar estates 3,035 persons were maintained on relief works and 46,890 doles were distributed during the month.

The number of persons receiving gratuitous relief in the State poor-houses was 9,273, the cost of which is stated by the Darbar to be Rs. 15,184-5-3, giving an incidence of 1 anna 1 pie per head per diem.

At the Chensuk-ka-Bara, Rajput women are fed and clothed and similar relief is given to orphan girls at Jalia garden, but their number is not given though these institutions are said to have cost the Darbar Rs. 772-10-0 during the month.

Amongst the parda nashin women Rs. 1,105-11-3 were distributed by the Darbar.

The number of persons fed on private charity was 11,300, which probably indicates that some of the deserters from the relief works have taken refuge in these charitable institutions.

1,204 persons were brought back from the Central India States, Jaipur, Palanpur, and Delhi, at a cost of Rs. 3,064-14-3, and 2,749 persons from the Ajmere-Merwara District at a cost of Rs. 8,879-9-4. 8,612 persons are said to have voluntarily returned to their homes.

The drinking-water supplies are still sufficient. During the second and third weeks of May there has been rain in 20 Parganas. In Bali, Phalodi, and Jaswantpura it was inappreciable, and in the other 17* it was measured from 36 cents. to 1 inch and 77 cents. In the Nawa, Sambhar, and Jalore Parganas the ploughing of land for the khariff has commenced here and there and in some places bajra has been sown.

The prices of food grains show a tendency to rise. Barley is selling at rates ranging from 8½ to 12¼ seers per rupee, and mukki from 9 to 9¾ seers.

The following table shows the movement of food grains and hides from and to Marwar :—

	Maunds.
Grain and pulses exported from Marwar ...	219
Grain and pulses imported into Marwar ...	375,434½
Hides exported from Marwar	1,645

Annexure.

Remarks by Sukh Deo, the Famine Secretary, Rajputana, Marwar.

1. *Private relief.*—Private gratuitous relief was doled out at 29 places where cooked "khichra" and parched gram were distributed to the poor. The daily average number of persons fed in these charitable institutions was 10,139.

2. *Village and poor-house relief.*—There are 42 State poor-houses kept up at the cost of the Darbar at each Hakumat and on Departmental relief works for the non-working and the sick. The number of persons fed gratuitously in 42 poor-houses on the 25th May was :—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
	2,889	3,114	3,270	9,273

3. *Medical relief.*—The hospital, kitchen, and conservancy arrangements are reported to be satisfactory. Bowel complaints continue to be the commonest causes of illness. Small-pox has greatly decreased. Cholera has subsided on all the works, where it prevailed

during the last month, though it is reported to have re-appeared at Marwar Junction—most probably due to the influx of the newly imported cases from the out-districts. Precautionary measures adopted are attended with good results. It, however, broke out in Mallani and made a sad havoc at Bandra for a few days. There it has also now been brought under control. The number of persons in 11 Famine dispensaries on the last day of the month was 1,781.

4. *Physical condition and deaths from starvation.*—The majority of workers are in good condition. Persons who have been wandering about suffer greatly from debility.

No death is reported to have occurred from starvation during the month.

5. *General character of relief works.*—Digging, clearing, and embankment of tanks; construction of Bunds; renewing roads; and sinking wells.

6. *Food stocks.*—Sufficient.

7. *General condition and prospects of affected area.*—The water still holds out, though sinking fast.

The Khokarya water-scheme for Jodhpur is being successfully worked, though indications are not wanting of its water-supply being on the decrease. Under this head Rs. 3,478 have been spent during the month.

* 1. Nawan.	10. Jodhpur
2. Sambhar.	11. Barmer.
3. Jalore.	12. Sheo.
4. Sankra.	13. Pachpadra.
5. Pali.	14. Nagore.
6. Parbatsar.	15. Merta.
7. Maroth.	16. Shergarh.
8. Didwana.	17. Siwana.
9. Desuri.	

Mostly during the second and third weeks of May, there has been rain in 20 districts. In Bali, Phalodi, and Jaswantpura it was inappreciable, and in the other 17* it registered from 36 to 177 centimetres. It has been conducive of very little good. In Jalore, Nawan, and Sambhar, clearing and ploughing of land for the next khariff has commenced to a small extent, and some have gone even so far as to sow the bajra.

For the construction of 10,500 hand ploughs Rs. 15,700 have been advanced to the carpenters so that these implements may be in the hands of the agriculturists before the rains set in.

8. Rates of wages—

	As. P.	As. P.
Male from	1 3	to 1 9
Female from	1 0	„ 1 6
Children over 7 years		1 0
Children under 7 years		0 6
In lap		0 3

9. Prices of food grains—

	Minimum.	Maximum.
(1) Wheat	Sr. ch. 6 8	Sr. ch. 10 12
(2) Bajri	7 4	9 11
(3) Gram	5 12	11 12
(4) Moong	5 0	8 12
(5) Mukki	9 0	9 12
(6) Jawar	6 8	10 0
(7) Barley	8 8	12 4
(8) Oil	2 2	2 15

10. *Condition of the cattle.*—High mortality among the few remnants still continues. 110 poor emaciated animals are taken care of in the Bit-Dharmad Institution. 1,000 maunds of grass are being imported from the Government forests, Central Provinces. The cost of the importation will be borne by the Darbar. Rs. 700 has been sent in advance on this account.

11. *Emigration and Immigration.*—Nil.

Three Motmids were sent to bring back our people, who were reported to be in distress in the out-districts.

The Motmid deputed to bring persons from Central Indian States has sent by rail 522 persons at a cost of Rs. 2,021-15-0.

The Motmid deputed to Delhi has brought back 304 persons at a cost of Rs. 1,042-15-3.

At the representation of the Political Agent, Malwa, a Motmid has lately been sent to take charge of the Marwari inmates of the poor-houses at Agar, Mundsoor and Ujjain. He has already sent 77 persons from Mundsoor.

Our Vakils at Palanpur and Erinpura have drafted 172 and 6 persons respectively to the relief works in our territory.

The Jaipur Darbar railed 123 Marwaris to Awa.

From the resting camps at Ajmer and Beawar 2,749 people were imported at a cost of Rs. 8,879-9-4.

It will thus appear that 3,953 persons have been brought back at the State cost for Rs. 11,944-7-7.

Over and above this number 8,612 people are reported to have returned voluntarily at their own cost.

12. The grain equivalent of wages in chittaks—

	High.	Medium.	Low.
Men	16	14	12
Women	14	12	10
Children	6	4	2

13. *Number of labourers on contract.*—Out of 74,086 labourers 1,448 were engaged on contract.

14. Expenditure—

	Amount.
1.—RELIEF WORKS.	Rs. a. p.
(a) Departmental	1,66,705 2 6
(b) Civil Agency	29,038 6 6
(c) Dependents	6,166 3 9
Total	2,01,909 12 9
GRATUITOUS RELIEF.	
(a) Poor-houses	15,184 5 3
(b) Masowaras	16,277 13 3
(c) Dispensaries	5,924 1 3
(d) Purdanashin	1,105 11 3
Total	38,491 15 0

Intimation has been received that the Indian Charitable Fund Committee has been pleased to allot Rs. 1,30,000 for distribution in Marwar. The Darbar takes this opportunity to express the deep sense of gratitude which its subjects feel towards the generous donors of the fund.

No. 171.

Letter from the Agent to the Governor-General, Rajputana, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 2838-F., dated Abu, the 15th July, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 2475-F., dated the 14th June, 1900, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statement* of the Marwar State for the month of June, 1900, together with the Resident's covering letter No. 525, dated the 5th July, 1900.

2. The statistics of the numbers on relief during the last ten months are

Months.	Works.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Per cent.
1899.				
September ...	10,985	2,263	13,248	5
October ...	26,025	4,614	30,639	1.21
November ...	39,207	10,719	49,926	1.97
December ...	78,084	13,790	91,874	3.63
1900.				
January ...	75,232	18,370	91,602	3.62
February ...	105,264	23,510	128,774	5.09
March ...	106,699	28,237	134,936	5.34
April ...	80,113	24,558	104,671	4.14
May ...	74,086	35,570	109,596	4.34
June ...	77,622	23,063	100,685	3.98

risen by nearly 5 per cent. But this increase appears to be fictitious as the details given in the report of the Durbar seem to indicate that dependents have been included for the first time under "works." The following table contrasts the details for the two months and gives a more accurate idea of the fluctuations:—

Months.	WORKERS.			DEPENDANTS.			Jagir relief works.	Grand total.
	Public Works Department.	Civil Agency.	Total.	Public Works Department.	Civil Agency.	Total.		
May ...	61,111	12,975	74,086	7,665	284	7,949	3,035	85,070
June ...	54,814	13,417	68,231	7,644	360	8,004	1,387	77,622
Difference ...	-6,297	+442	-5,855	-21	+76	+55	-1,648	-7,448

There is a marked decline in the number of workers under the Public Works Department, but the number of their dependants has remained practically stationary. The persons relieved on the Civil Agency works on the other hand have increased. On the Jagirdars' works the numbers have fallen by more than half. All the fluctuations point to the same conclusion that there has been a tendency on the part of the able-bodied men to desert the works for their fields leaving their weaker relatives to be looked after by the State. The camps on the Rajputana Malwa railway for the purpose of doubling the line have been

* Not printed.

closed and the labour on the Shadapali extension has shrunk to half its former total. Last month I was able to report that cholera has been stamped out on all the works, but during June I regret to say it reappeared in the Mallani district where sporadic cases are still occurring.

3. As I anticipated in the review of last month's statement the totals of the gratuitous lists had actually increased in May, although owing to the change made in showing dependants with workers a drop of 12,447 or 35 per cent. is returned. The actual decrease, however, amounts to only 4,463 persons or 12 per cent. The figures for May and June are contrasted below:—

Detail.	May.	June.
Poor-house kitchens ...	9,273	7,108
On Jaipur estates ...	3,035	2,166
By village doles ...	11,300	9,780
In rest-camps ...	3,953	Not given.
Total ...	27,561	19,054

The rest-camp figures have not been given but would appear to be 4,009. As usual no details have been given of the operations of the women's home and children's orphanages or of the Agency which throughout has been distributing relief to the respectable poor in the capital and large towns. Till the end of May the numbers relieved by the Jagirdars, whether on works or gratuitously, steadily rose. This gradual development was checked during June and the numbers under both heads have appreciably fallen.

4. The emigrants are still being brought back or are voluntarily returning from the east in large numbers. During June no fewer than 9,765 persons were railed back from Central India and Palanpur as compared with 5,953 in May and 3,523 in April. The numbers reported as having returned of their own accord on the other hand have fallen to 4,114 which is barely half of the May total. I ventured to foretell an increase in this class of returning emigrants during June, and certainly over 5,000 have passed through the relief depôts on the Neemuch high road alone. Many of these doubtless joined the Jodhpur depôt at Ajmer, only too glad to find that the Darbar Agents were prepared to be responsible for the last part of their journey.

2,428 head of Marwari cattle were sent back by train at the cost of the State by the Agents accredited for this purpose to Gwalior and Bhopal. 96 animals also were purchased by the State, but no particulars are given of the herds of cattle which were marched back by their owners. These must have reached approximately a total of 5,000 head, and the special famine officers attached to the States through which they passed have all reported that the animals they have seen fed at the relief depôts were in good condition and ready for the plough. The one anxiety now is to provide sufficient fodder for these cattle until natural grazing is available. Money is not wanting for outside purchasers, but I again read complaints of congestion on the Rajputana Malwa Railway, while on parts of the Jodhpur Bikaner line the manager finds it difficult to run the usual number of daily trains owing to want of water.

5. The condition of the people continues fairly good and there is no deterioration of physique noticeable among those in the relief camps. Smallpox has entirely disappeared and cholera is confined in a mild form to the Mallani tract. The success with which the epidemic was fought is largely due to widespread and prompt disinfection of the drinking water supplies and to their being guarded wherever possible, by a special staff. The improvement in the general health is sufficiently indicated by a fall in the attendance in famine

dispensaries of 12 per cent. during June. The condition of the few cattle which have struggled to keep alive all through the famine months shows no improvement.

The net imports of food grains have risen during the period under report by 68 per cent. to 631,873 maunds, an amount sufficient to feed two-thirds of the population for one month. The hide traffic has fallen off by nearly 20 per cent. In all but seven pargannas showers of rain temporarily raised the water level in the wells, partially filled some of the village tanks and enabled an appreciable quantity of early bajra and pulses to be sown. But the delay in the arrival of the regular monsoon has caused the water level again to fall, while the hot winds have practically destroyed all the young crops which had germinated so well.

Enclosure in No. 171.

Letter from the Resident, Western Rajputana States, Jodhpur, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, Mount Abu, No. 525, dated Mount Abu, 5th July, 1900.

I have the honour to submit the Famine Report of the Marwar State for the month of June, 1900, together with a sketch map showing the famine affected area.

The total number of labourers on 12 relief works under Mr. Home on the 25th June was 54,814, as compared with 61,111 employed during the preceding month. The decrease of 6,297 persons is attributed to the return of agriculturalists to their homes to prepare their lands for the Kharif crop owing to the fall of rain in some of the districts.

The expenditure on these works during the month amounted to Rs. 1,39,913-14-5, giving an incidence per head of 1 anna, 3-8 pies per diem. 7,644 dependents were also maintained on the above works at a cost of Rs. 6,138-12-8, giving an incidence of 4-8 pies per head per diem.

38 Civil Agency works afforded employment to 13,417 persons as compared with 12,975 persons in the previous month at a cost of Rs. 32,948-9-9. Their dependents, numbering 360, were maintained at a cost of Rs. 149-10-4.

19 new works were opened against 15 completed.

The number of labourers on 9 relief works in the jagirdars' estates was 1,387.

The number of persons receiving gratuitous relief in the State was 23,063. Of these 7,103 were fed by the State at a cost of Rs. 16,362-8-9, and 2,166 persons by the jagirdars.

The institutions at Chan-suk-ka-Bera and Jalia garden were maintained by the State at a cost of Rs. 1,466-2-9, but no details of the numbers relieved have been given.

Amongst the Parda Nashin and respectable persons Rs. 1,130-2-6 were distributed.

The number of persons fed at 26 private kitchens was 9,780 as compared with 11,300 in the preceding month.

The vast majority of the men and women on all the works continued to earn only the minimum ration of 12 and 10 chittacks.

Captain Grant, I.M.S., reports that the physical condition of the people on relief works continues good, and that the ration they receive is adequate to maintain their physique unimpaired. In the 9 Famine Dispensaries 1,563 persons received medical treatment at a cost of Rs. 5,632-11-0, excluding the establishment charges, which amounted to Rs. 9,178-15-0.

Small-pox has disappeared, while cholera has decreased on all the relief works, except those in the Mallani District, where it still lingers, though its virulence has much abated.

On the relief works there were 597 attacks and 290 deaths from cholera during the month of May. These figures are remarkably small, considering that the epidemic had spread to all the works, on which about 80,000 persons were employed. This satisfactory result is ascribed to the constant disinfection of wells with permanganate of potash, and the arrangements made for the prevention of the water being polluted.

No deaths from starvation were reported during the month.

The drinking water supplies are reported to be still sufficient. The first fortnight brought in good showers of rain in the districts of Phalodi, Jodhpur, Bilara, Merta, Bali, Nawa and Nagour. These were of some benefit, inasmuch as they kept up the water level and filled some of the village tanks. Ploughing and sowing were taken up in earnest as the people began to expect early rains. Bajra sown in some districts in May last promised well, but the high winds, which have been blowing of late, have had a withering effect on it.

The Districts of Jalore, Jaswantpura, Puchbhadra, Sewana, Sheo, Mullani, and Sankra have had no rain during the month.

The prices of food grains slightly fell in 7, continued steady in 7, and rose in 9 districts. Barley is selling at rates ranging from $8\frac{1}{4}$ to $12\frac{3}{4}$ seers per rupee and makki from 9 to $9\frac{3}{4}$ seers.

The following statement shows the movement of food grains and hides from and to Marwar during the month :—

	Maunds.
Grain and pulses exported from Marwar ...	2,361 $\frac{3}{4}$
„ „ imported into Marwar ...	6,34,234
Hides exported from Marwar	1,322 $\frac{3}{4}$

385 persons were brought back from the Central India States, Jaipur and Palanpur in addition to 3,095 cattle owners brought by rail from Malwa at a cost of Rs. 4,193-13-0, and 6,285 persons from the Ajmir-Merwar Districts at a cost of Rs. 5,378-11-3. 4,114 persons are said to have voluntarily returned to their homes.

2,428 head of cattle were brought back by rail from Malwa, at a cost of Rs. 18,456-9-0, or Rs. 7-9-8 per head, and 96 bullocks were purchased for Rs. 1,571-10-9, giving an average cost per head of Rs. 16-6-0.

The Motamids at Jaipur, Ajmir and Beawar have been provided with grass and straw to replenish the fodder supply of the returning emigrants. They are said to have 2,898 cattle with 631 maunds of grass and 708 maunds of straw.

The condition of cattle returning from Malwa is reported to be excellent.

In the Bit Dharmada Institution 76 emaciated cattle are fed and tended, and the Darbar has contributed Rs. 550 to its aid.

Rai Seth Oomed Mal Lodha, Banker of Ajmir, generously sent a second famine donation of 200 ghagras and 200 kurtas to be distributed to the famine-stricken people in Marwar.

Annexure.

Remarks.

1. *Private charity.*—This stream of relief appears to have its flow slightly diminished.

The daily average number of persons fed at 26 private kitchens fell to 9,780.

2. *Village and poor-house relief.*—The number of persons fed gratuitously in 37 poor-houses on the 25th June was :—

Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
2,202	2,445	2,461	7,108

Their maintenance cost Rs. 16,362-8-9.

The institution at Chan-Suk-ka-Bera and Jalia garden were maintained by the State at the cost of Rs. 1,466-2-9.

Over and above this, amongst the pardanashin and respectable persons, Rs. 1,130-2-6 were distributed.

The number of inmates in 10 Thikana poorhouses was as follows :—

Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
965	667	534	2,166

3. *Medical relief.*—The hospital, kitchen, and conservancy arrangements are reported to be satisfactory. Great care is being taken to prevent pollution.

Bowel complaints continued to be the commonest causes of illness.

Small-pox has disappeared. Cholera has altogether subsided except on works in the Mallani district where it still lingers, though its virulence has much abated. The number of deaths from cholera fell to 532. The number of deaths from other causes continues to decrease. The satisfactory result is to be ascribed to the constant disinfection of wells, and the careful arrangement which the Executive Officer has made to prevent the water supply from contamination.

The number of patients in nine famine dispensaries on 25th June was 1,563.

4. *Physical condition and deaths from starvation.*—The condition of the people is satisfactory. The majority, exclusive of persistent wanderers, look well and fit. No death is reported to have occurred from starvation during the month.

5. *General character of relief works.*—Digging, clearing, and embanking of tanks; construction of bunds; renewing roads and sinking wells.

6. *Food stocks.*—Sufficient.

7. *General condition and prospects of affected areas.*—The first fortnight of June brought good showers of rain at Phaladi, Jodhpore, Bilara, and Merta, and a downpour sparingly to the other 10 parganas, and ignored the remaining seven parganas, viz., Jalore, Jaswantpura, Pachpadra, Siwana, Sheo, Mallani, and Sankra. It was conducive of some village tanks. Fairly good rains aggregating to more than two inches, brought on by local atmospheric disturbances, have filled the tanks in and about the city, so the Khokarya this head.

The Bajra sown in some districts at the end of May has a promising growth, but the high winds that have been blowing of late have tended in withering them.

Rs. 2,300 more were expended for hand ploughs.

8. *Rates of wages.* :—

						As. P.	As. P.
Male	...	...	...	...	...	from 1	3 to 1 9
Female	...	...	...	...	...	" 1	0 " 1 6
Children :—							
Over 7 years	...	...	...	...	...	—	1 0
Under 7 years	...	...	...	...	...	—	0 6
In lap	...	...	...	...	...	—	0 3

The weak and emaciated labourers are paid in grain and not in cash on all the Civil Agency Works, so as to give them full benefit of the relief allowance.

9. *Price of food grains.* :—

	Minimum.		Maximum.	
	Seers.	Chitacks.	Seers.	Chitacks.
(1) Wheat	6	4	10	12
(2) Bajri	7	4	7	8
(3) Gram	8	8	11	7
(4) Moong	5	4	7	8
(5) Mukki	9	0	9	12
(6) Jowar	5	4	8	2
(7) Barley	8	4	12	0
(8) Oil... ..	2	4	2	12

10. *Condition of the Cattle.*—The mortality among cattle still continues abnormal.

Hearing of a pretty general shower of rain in May and at the commencement of June in Marwar, the emigrants with their cattle began to return. Their condition was excellent. The Durbar has undertaken to book at its own cost the surviving Marwar cattle. 2,428 head of cattle were brought back by rail from Malwa at a cost of Rs. 18,456-9-0.

The Motamids at Jeypur, Ajmir, and Beawar have been provided with grass and straw to replenish the fodder supply which the returning emigrants as a rule carry in their carts on their march back to their homes. They have helped 2,898 cattle with 631 maunds of grass and 708 maunds of straw. In the Bit-Dharmada Institution 76 emaciated animals are fed and tended, and Durbar has contributed Rs. 550 in its aid.

11. *Emigration and Immigration.*—Nil.

The return of the people through the resting camp located in the Ajmer district continued, and 6,285 people were drafted on relief works at the cost of Rs. 5,378-11-3.

3,095 cattle owners were railed off from Malwa at a cost of Rs. 4,193-13-0. The Motamid, deputed to Malwa, sent by rail 288 Marwaris from Ujjain.

The Durbar Vakilat, Erinpura, drafted 95 persons on one relief work at a cost of Rs. 39-10-9.

Two persons were imported from Jeypur costing Rs. 2-3-0.

Over and above this, 4,114 persons are reported to have returned without availing themselves of the Durbar aid.

No. 172.

Letter from the Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 3062 F., dated Abu, the 9th August, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 2838 F., dated the 15th July, 1900, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statement* of the Marwar State for the month of July, 1900, together with the Resident's covering letter No. 675 G., dated the 4th August, 1900.

* Not printed.

2. The statistics of the number in receipt of all kinds of State relief are

MONTHS.	Workers.	Gratuities.	Total.	Percentage.
1899.				
September ...	10,985	2,263	13,248	·5
October ...	26,025	4,614	30,639	1·21
November ...	39,207	10,719	49,926	1·97
December ...	78,084	13,790	91,874	3·63
1900.				
January ...	73,232	18,370	91,602	3·62
February ...	105,264	23,510	128,774	5·09
March ...	106,699	28,237	134,936	5·34
April ...	80,113	24,558	104,671	4·14
May ...	74,086	35,570	109,596	4·34
June ...	77,622	23,063	100,685	3·98
July ...	59,450	19,938	79,388	3·14

table gives the details for the last three months, and illustrates the changes which have been going on :—

Months	WORKERS.			DEPENDENTS.			Jagir relief works.	Grand Total.
	Public Works Department.	Civil agency.	Total.	Public Works Department.	Civil agency.	Total.		
May... ..	61,111	12,975	74,086	7,665	284	7,949	3,035	85,070
June	54,814	13,417	68,231	7,644	360	8,004	1,387	77,622
July	37,719	15,499	53,218	4,242	793	5,035	1,197	59,450
Difference between June and July.	-17,095	+2,082	-15,013	-3,402	+433	-2,969	-190	-18,172

The decline on the Public Works Department works in July has been nearly three times as great as in June, while on petty works we find an increase of 15 per cent. The totals on works have fallen by 23 per cent. and the dependents have declined by 37 per cent. This was only to be expected. The majority of the cultivators on the works naturally preferred to bring their young and infirm relations with them, and the figures indicate that throughout the famine the majority of the dependents have been agriculturists. The recent rain has induced only this class to leave. It has had little appreciable effect on the artisan or urban workers, whose dependents have always been able to count on receiving support in the large centres of population to which they belong.

During the period under report two of the Public Works Department works have been closed, leaving 10 open. The tendency of the jagirdars to curtail their operations at the earliest possible date which was noted last month has been maintained and the numbers have again fallen.

3. The gratuitous relief figures also show a decline, but only of 13 per cent. There appears to have been an increase of nearly 2,000 persons on the State kitchens lists, but under every other head, except orphanages, there is a marked decline. Private charity is also being contracted. The orphanages are well managed, and the inmates have been gradually increasing in numbers. The boys are being prepared to earn their future livelihood, and the girls are taught arithmetic and sewing.

brought together in the marginal table. During the month under report the numbers on works fell off by 23 per cent. Early in June the sound policy was inaugurated of gradually contracting the large Public Works Department works, and expanding the number of petty works administered by civil agency in the various districts. The full effect of this policy was not apparent a month ago, because while the figures for the large works had fallen, the numbers relieved by civil agency had remained stationary. The following

4. Emigrants have continued to return, but the total brought back last month by the State has fallen considerably.

The following table gives the recorded figures during the past four months :—

Tract from which brought back.	April.	May.	June.	July.
Central India States	628	599	3,383	—
Ajmer and Beawar	2,895	2,749	6,285	2,031
Jaipur	80	123	2	1
Erinpura and Palanpur	—	178	95	434
Bharatpur	—	—	—	78
Delhi	—	304	—	—
Total brought back	3,603	3,953	9,765	2,544
Total returned voluntarily ...	3,932	8,612	4,114	5,300
GRAND TOTAL	7,535	12,565	13,879	7,844

The number brought back by the State in July fell to one-quarter of the June total. The statistics of persons who voluntarily returned are, I believe, inaccurate and below the mark, but show, so far as they go, that the majority of the people have reverted to their homes. No details have been given of the number of cattle brought back by their owners, nor have reports yet been received from all the relief depôts along the high roads from the east and north, but not less than 2,500 head may be assumed to have returned.

5. The condition of the people generally has been fair, but the wanderers are described as emaciated. Cholera has almost disappeared and the death-rate at the famine relief centres has fallen by over 17 per cent. as compared with a decline in the total relief units of 19 per cent. The number of patients treated in famine dispensaries declined by 17 per cent. Cattle are still in a very poor condition, and general grazing up to the end of July was not available. Hide exports declined by one-half.

The net import of food-grains has fallen by 32 per cent. No rain fell during the first 10 days of the month, and the early bajra crops suffered from the hot winds and want of moisture. On the 11th July the monsoon broke feebly giving general light rain, except in the south-western corner of the State. The tanks partially filled, the water level rose in the wells and the bajra which I described last month as practically destroyed, revived in a surprising way. But the monsoon current was weak and stopped altogether after a few days giving place to hot westerly winds. At the time of writing, however, a fresh and stronger burst of the monsoon has set in giving good showers to Malani and Sheo which had had no rain for 12½ months. Agricultural operations have been vigorously taken in hand over two-thirds of the State, and no pains are spared by the Darbar to help the people. Their action in this direction, as indeed in every other branch of relief, has been both generous and wise, reflecting great credit on Rao Bahadur Pandit Sukhdeo Prashad who is largely the pivot on which the administration turns.

Enclosure in No. 172.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel A. P. Thornton, Resident, Western Rajputana States, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, No. 675 G., dated Abu, the 4th August, 1900.

I have the honour to submit the Famine Report of the Marwar State for the month of July, 1900, together with a skeleton map* showing the famine-affected area.

2. The total number of labourers on 10 relief works under Mr. Home on the 25th July, was 37,719, as compared with 54,814 employed during the preceding month. The decrease of 17,095 persons is attributed to the return of workers to their homes to start agricultural operations. There was a sudden decrease during the week ending on the 21st July, due to the rainfall of the preceding week.

The expenditure on these works during the month amounted to Rs. 1,20,650-11, giving an incidence per head of 1 anna 4·5 pies per diem.

4,242 dependents were also maintained on the above works at a cost of Rs. 4,261-5-6, giving an incidence of 4·6 pies per diem.

29 civil agency works afforded employment to 15,499 persons, as compared with 13,417 persons in the previous month. The increase of 2,082 persons is attributed to the opening of small village works for providing labour to the cultivators nearer their homes. The total expenditure under this head amounted to Rs. 34,566-12-9. Their dependents, numbering 793, were maintained at a cost of Rs. 297-8-6.

The average daily number of labourers employed on 8 jagir relief works was 1,197, but the cost of their maintenance is not stated by the Darbar.

3. The number of persons receiving gratuitous relief in the State and Jagirdars' poorhouses was respectively 9,040 and 1,944 persons, and their maintenance charges amounted to Rs. 15,044-13-6 and Rs. 3,494-6-0, respectively.

There are two orphanages, one for girls and the other for boys, situated in the suburbs of Jodhpur city, in which 110 girls and 476 boys received gratuitous relief at a cost of Rs. 1,054-10-0, during the month.

At Chain-sukh-ka-Bara 420 respectable Rajput women were maintained at a cost of Rs. 1,738-10-6.

At Nawa, Didwana, Nagore, Shergarh and Jodhpur Rs. 434-7-3 were distributed among 795 respectable men and women during the month.

The number of persons fed daily at 24 private kitchens was 7,797 as compared with 9,780 during the previous month.

4. The number of patients in the nine famine dispensaries on the 25th July was 1,287, and their diet charges amounted to Rs. 4,311-15-0 in addition to the establishment charges of Rs. 2,457-4-9.

Diarrhoea, dysentery and debility with anæmia continued to be the commonest diseases. Cholera has mostly disappeared from the works. There were only 115 deaths from this disease during the month.

The condition of the people who have been on works for some time is good, but some emaciated persons are seen among the wanderers.

No deaths from starvation were reported during the month, though there were 1,693 deaths from famine diseases in relief camps against 2,047 during the last month.

5. The first half of July was quite rainless. The holding off of the rains had not only caused serious anxiety, but had also somewhat damaged the already sown bajra crop.

* Map not reproduced.

About the middle of July monsoon-like weather set in unexpectedly and allayed the general apprehension concerning the prospects of the kharif crops.

The total rainfall from 1st June to 25th July in each district has been noted below :—

District.	June.	July.	Total.
Bali	0·75	3·34	4·09
Nawa	0·51	3·18	3·69
Marote	0·40	2·74	3·14
Sambhar	0·17	2·78	2·95
Merta	1·22	1·65	2·87
Jaitaran	0·30	2·46	2·76
Pali	0·45	1·86	2·31
Desari	0·30	1·94	2·24
Sankra	—	2·06	2·06
Jaswantpura	—	2·03	2·03
Jodhpur	1·33	0·70	2·03
Scjat	0·35	1·68	2·03
Phalodi	1·55	0·30	1·85
Bilara	1·33	0·30	1·66
Nagore	0·50	1·00	1·50
Parbatsar	0·19	1·20	1·39
Didwana	0·17	0·83	1·00
Shergarh	0·20	0·66	0·86
Jalore	—	0·58	0·58
Siwana	—	0·33	0·33
Barmer	—	0·10	0·10
Sanchores	0·20	0·15	0·35

The three districts of Sheo, Pachbadra and Malani were rainless up to the 25th July, but since then some rain has fallen there, which has allayed the anxiety to a certain extent.

The water level in the wells has appreciably risen, and the village tanks in 18 districts have been partially filled.

The ploughing and sowing for the kharif have commenced in twelve districts and partially so in six. The bajra sown in the first fortnight of June is said to be progressing well in four districts. Duststorms and high winds have done some damage to the rising crops.

6. Owing to the delay in the advance of monsoon currents, the prices of food-grains had risen. Barley is selling at rates ranging from 8½ to 11½ seers per rupee and makki at 9 seers.

There has been no change in the scale of wages since the submission of the last report.

7. The following statement shows the movement of food-grains and hides from and to Marwar during the month :—

	Mauuds.
Grains and pulses exported from Marwar	334
Do. imported into do.	4,24,745½
Hides exported from Marwar	629½

8. The Darbar Vakils at Erinpura and Palanpur railed 434 Marwaris to Marwar Junction at a cost of Rs. 267-11-6. The Bharatpur Darbar also sent 78 Marwaris from the poor-house there. 2,031 persons were brought back from the Ajmer-Merwara district at a cost of Rs. 6,209-9-0. 5,300 persons are said to have returned to their homes without State assistance.

9. Two Motamids, who were deputed to Rutlam and Jaora, purchased 372 bullocks at an average price of Rs. 15-12-3. Their carriage by railway to Marwar Junction amounted to Rs. 2,694-7-3. The Motamid at Jaora also booked 85 head of cattle belonging to Marwari agriculturists at a cost to the Darbar of Rs. 713-5-0.

A Motamid has gone to Hissar to select the best stallion bulls from the Government cattle farm there.

The Motamids at Jaipur, Ajmer and Beawar have helped the returning cattle with 769 maunds of grass and 36 maunds of straw.

In the Bit-Dharmada Institution 83 emaciated cattle are fed and looked after.

Rs. 545-2-0 were paid to the Raja of Parour in Shahjehanpur on account of the transit charges of the 500 maunds of grass supplied by him for free distribution among the cultivators in Marwar.

Annexure.

Remarks.

1. *Private charity.*—As observed in the last month's report, this source of relief is continually diminishing. 7,797 doles against 9,780 of the previous month were on the average daily distributed at 24 places.

2. *Village and poor-house relief.*—The inmates of the 34 poor-houses on the 25th July, numbered :—

Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
2,597	3,267	3,167	9,040

Their maintenance charges amounted to Rs. 15,044-13-6, costing 10-7 pies per head per day.

In the two orphanages situated in the suburbs of the city, the number of boys and girls was 476 and 110, respectively. The total expenses amounted to Rs. 1,054-10-0, which would be partially borne by the Indian Charitable Fund.

Attempts are made to initiate the male orphans into agriculture. The girls are taught elementary arithmetic and needle-work.

At Chen-sukh garden 420 respectable Rajput women were maintained at the cost of Rs. 1,738-10-6. The sum would be partly defrayed by a subsidy from the Charitable Fund.

Over and above this Rs. 434-7-3 were distributed amongst the *pardah nashin* and respectable persons, who numbered 795 on the 25th July.

There were 10 poor-houses maintained by the Jagirdars. Their average daily strength was 1,944 and total expenditure Rs. 3,494-6-0.

3. *Medical relief.*—The number of patients in nine famine dispensaries on the 25th July was 1,287. The dietary charges aggregated to Rs. 4,311-15-0, costing 1 anna and 6-9 pies per head. Establishment and other charges were Rs. 2,457-4-9.

Diarrhoea, dysentery and debility with anæmia continued to be the commonest diseases. Cholera has mostly disappeared from the works. The hospital, kitchen and conservancy arrangements are reported to be satisfactory. Medical comforts are now being given on a liberal scale. Water-supply at works is sufficient, of good quality and well looked after.

4. *Physical condition and deaths from starvation.*—The condition of the people is satisfactory. The majority, exclusive of some persistent wanderers, is well and fit.

No death is reported to have occurred from starvation during the month.

5. *General character of relief works.*—Digging, clearing and embanking of tanks, construction of bunds, renewing roads and sinking wells.

6. *Food-stocks.*—Sufficient.

7. *General condition and prospects of affected area.*—About the 11th July, monsoonish weather set in unexpectedly and allayed the general apprehensions concerning the prospects of the kharif crops.

The water level in the wells has appreciably risen and the village tanks in 18 parganas are partially filled. The ploughing and sowing for the kharif have commenced in right earnest in 12 parganas and partially in 6. The bajra sown in the first fortnight of June is progressing well in four parganas. Duststorm and strong winds did some damage to rising crop.

Ploughs and a pair of bullocks with sufficient funds for seed grains are advanced as "taccavi" to the needy agriculturists, but those who are quite destitute are paid subsistence allowance as well. Four agricultural farms have been opened at Pali, Balotra, Marwar Junction and Dhanlerao, to bring the available fiscal area under cultivation by means of hand ploughs. To facilitate the distribution of "taccavi," 17 district committees have been formed with the Hakims as Presidents. Rs. 4,500 have already been advanced.

8. Rates of wages—

	a. p.	a. p.
Male from	1 3	to 1 9
Female from	1 0	to 1 6
Children over 7 years		1 0
„ under 7		6
„ in lap... ..		3

9. Prices of food-grains—

	Minimum.	Maximum
	sr. ch.	sr. ch.
(1) Wheat	6 8	9 13
(2) Bajra	6 4	9 4
(3) Gram	6 8	10 12
(4) Mung	12	8 4
(5) Makki	7 4	10 8
(6) Jowar	5 12	9 8
(7) Barley	8 4	11 12
(8) Oil	2 0	2 14

10. *Condition of the cattle.*—The mortality amongst cattle is appreciably decreased, yet it continues abnormal. In the Bit-Dharmada Institution 83 poor and emaciated cattle are fed and looked after.

The grass supplied to the returning Marwar cattle by the Motamids at Ajmer, Beawar and Jaipur was supplemented to a great extent by that distributed at the famine grass depôts established by the provincial charitable committee. There were three grass depôts at Marwar Junction, Merta and Jodhpur, which continued to supply grass to the cattle.

11. { *Emigration—* Nil.
and
Immigration— } The emigrants continued to return through the resting camps at Ajmer and Beawar. As many as 2,031 people were sent to relief institutions from the Ajmer district at the cost of Rs. 6,209-9-0. The Darbar Vakils at Erinpura and Palanpur have railed 434 Marwaris to Marwar Junction at a cost of Rs. 267-11-6. The Bharatpur Darbar has sent back 78 Marwari inmates of the poor-house there. Their railway fare amounted to Rs. 144-6-3. One man was drafted to the relief camp in Sambhar by our Vakil at Jaipur. His feeding and conveyance cost annas eleven. Rs. 823 were remitted through our Vakil at Erinpura to the local poor-house fund in payment of feeding the Marwari inmates.

No. 173.

Letter from the Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 3290 F., dated Abu, the 14th September, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 3062 F., dated the 9th August, 1900, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statements* of the Western Rajputana States Residency for the month of August, 1900, together with the Resident's covering letters, Nos. 788, 791, and 794 G., dated, respectively, 4th and 5th September, 1900.

2. The numbers on relief of all kinds during the last twelve months

Months.	Workers.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Per-centage.
1899.				
September ...	10,985	2,263	13,248	.5
October ...	26,025	4,614	30,639	1.21
November ...	39,207	10,719	49,926	1.97
December ...	78,084	13,790	91,874	3.63
1900.				
January ...	73,232	18,370	91,602	3.62
February ...	105,264	23,510	128,774	5.09
March ...	106,699	28,237	134,936	5.34
April ...	80,113	24,558	104,671	4.14
May ...	74,086	35,570	109,596	4.34
June ...	77,622	23,063	100,685	3.98
July ...	59,450	19,938	79,388	3.14
August ...	5,067	8,266	13,333	.52

gating under 200. All works in the Jagir area were closed during the month.

3. The number of persons relieved gratuitously has fallen by more than one-half. It is not easy to ascertain how the total under this head given in column 7 of the famine statement has been arrived at. But village gratuitous persons maintained in poor-houses, orphanages, and relief kitchens. One

* Not printed.

satisfactory feature of this branch of the relief is an increase in the number of girl orphans who have been rescued. The home for *pardah nashin* women which has done so much good was closed on the 13th August.

4. The drafting of wanderers to their homes still continues, but this class appears now to be chiefly represented by professional beggars and persons belonging to the lower castes, who have adopted mendicancy as the easiest mode of making a living. Paragraph 11 of the remarks appended to the relief statement gives a total of 13,556 people, presumably Marwaris, in the resting camps at Ajmer and Beawar. One-fourth of these were taken on to the relief lists, and the remainder sent to their homes, but numbers will doubtless drift back to the railway line, and the large centres of population. The following table gives the statistics of this branch of operations during the last five months :—

Tracts from which emigrants and wanderers brought back.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.
Central India States ...	628	599	3,383	—	—
Ajmer and Beawar ...	2,895	2,749	6,285	2,031	13,556
Jaipur ...	80	123	2	1	—
Erinpura and Palanpur ...	—	178	95	434	606
Bharatpur ...	—	—	—	78	—
Punjab ...	—	304	—	—	—
Total brought back ...	3,603	3,953	9,765	2,544	14,162
Voluntarily returned ...	3,932	8,612	4,114	5,300	200
GRAND TOTAL ...	7,535	12,565	13,879	7,844	14,362

The number brought back at the expense of the State is the largest on record for any State in Rajputana. No mention is made of any cattle having returned in August, and the relief depôts on the Central India route report that the few emigrants now passing through westward have no animals with them.

5. The condition of the people has considerably improved. The early bajra will soon come on the market, and the other crops are thriving. Pasturage is abundant, and the surviving cattle are in good condition. The Darbar have acted very wisely in procuring twenty picked stallion bulls from the Government cattle farm at Hissar, which have been sent out in the different districts. The special famine officers have spent the greater part of the month in distributing the charitable fund grants. From Lieutenant Menzie's report it appears that the taccavi advances in jagir areas have been few and far between, and, therefore, cultivation has been restricted. In the khalsa villages, except where the district officer happens to have been apathetic and lazy, the area under kharif crops is normal. The famine officer was struck while on tour by the number of plough cattle which had been kept alive in the south-western parganas.

6. As relief operations have practically closed in Jaisalmer, the usual relief statement has not been submitted. These operations have lasted just over ten months, and the expenditure has been kept well within the loan granted by the Government of India for the purpose. Eleven orphans are still maintained at the capital, and 147 persons are in receipt of charitable doles to enable them to await the ripening of the harvest.

7. The Resident now reports that the deaths from cholera in June and July amounted to 2,057, and not to 891 as stated in last month's report. The

health of the people is generally good. Rain has fallen everywhere, and the crop report for last week just received shows that further heavy showers have been received. The majority of the emigrants to Sind have not yet come back, but the return movement has set in. On their return, the State will have resumed its normal condition.

8. The marginal table gives the numbers on relief in the Sirohi State

Months.	Workers.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Per-centage.
1899.				
December ...	1,498	6	1,504	·83
1900.				
January ...	2,283	53	2,936	1·61
February ...	5,033	176	5,209	2·86
March ...	5,879	862	6,741	3·70
April ...	7,261	1,763	9,024	4·90
May ...	3,375	1,275	4,650	2·55
June ...	7,589	1,629	9,218	5·06
July ...	9,751	1,638	11,389	6·26
August ...	5	1,048	1,053	·58

during the last nine months. From the largest total reached during the famine in July, the number of workers had fallen to practically nil in August. All relief works have now been closed. The total in receipt of gratuitous relief has fallen by over one-third. All persons leaving the works and poor-houses received a four days' maintenance money, and were told to report themselves to their Tahsildars for taccavi loans should their circumstances entitle them to assistance of this kind. A central orphanage has at last been established, and the employment of non-commissioned officers belonging to the Erinpura Irregular Force has resulted in an improvement in the poor-house management.

9. Abundant rain has fallen all over the State. The tanks are full, and several streams and rivers have overflowed their banks. Cases of cholera are few, but dysentery is prevalent. 300 head of cattle have been imported by the State. The Darbar are prepared to make more extensive purchases, but animals are not easily obtainable. The crops are flourishing, but require sun, and grazing is ample.

10. During August famine may be said to have come to an end in the Western Rajputana States. Although the monsoon was delayed, there has been exceptionally heavy rain since it set in. Although the area put under cultivation is below the normal, the excellent rainfall promises to make the outturn one of the largest on record. The grass crop is the best known for years. Cholera has not yet been stamped out, but is mainly confined to Jodhpur and some other towns. Malarial fever may be expected later.

Enclosure 1 in No. 173.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel A. P. Thornton, Resident, Western Rajputana States, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, No. 788 G., dated Jodhpur, the 4th September, 1900.

I have the honour to submit the Famine Report of the Marwar State for the month of August, 1900, together with a skeleton map showing the famine-affected area.

Sufficient and general rain has fallen throughout the State, which has removed all anxieties regarding the autumn crops and improved the condition of the affected area and population. The fall was unusually heavy in most of the districts, but slightly in defect at Pachbadra, Nagore, Phalodi and Sankra.

2. There were only six departmental works open on 25th August under Mr. Home, on which 4,332 persons were employed, as compared with 37,719

employed in July last. The number on these works steadily fell from week to week, and this is attributed to the resumption of their normal occupation by the people.

The expenditure on these works during the month amounted to Rs. 47,988-0-6, giving an incidence per head of 1 anna and 9·6 pies per diem.

536 dependents were also maintained on the above works at a cost of Rs. 1,381-15-3, giving an incidence of 4·9 pies per head per diem.

Two new Civil Agency works were added to the 29 which were in progress on the 25th July. Of these 26 were closed before the 16th August. With the advent of the monsoon, the famine conditions generally disappeared, and the number of labourers on these works dwindled down to 199 workers with no dependents on the 25th August, as compared with 15,499 workers with 793 dependents on the 25th July.

The expenditure under this head amounted to Rs. 10,650-11-3 during the month, giving an incidence of 1 anna and 4·1 pies per head per diem.

The average daily strength of the labourers employed on jagir works also fell from 1,197 to 404 persons.

3. The number of persons receiving gratuitous relief in the State poor-houses was 5,930, and their maintenance charges amounted to Rs. 13,918-12-9.

The two central orphanages continued to take care of the famine orphans at Jodhpur, the number of girls rose from 110 to 150, and that of boys fell from 476 to 340. Their combined charges amounted to Rs. 1,747-13-9.

The zenana poor-house for respectable Rajput women at Chainsukh-kabara was closed on the 13th August, and each inmate was given Rs. 5 as an advance for her maintenance during the next two months. The expenditure on this institution from the 26th July to the date of its closing was Rs. 972-9-6.

Rs. 354-9-0 were distributed amongst the *pardah nashin* women at Jodhpur, Nagore and Didwana, and Rs. 1,715-9-0 were contributed by the Darbar towards the maintenance of a charitable orphanage at Guran-ka-Talao.

Four Jagirdars maintained their own poor-houses, in which the daily average number of persons maintained was 622, which is less than one-third of the number fed in the previous month.

There were only four organised private poor-houses open on 25th August, the number of their inmates being 653 as against 7,797 during the previous month.

4. Three famine dispensaries were closed before the 25th August and in the remaining six the daily average number of patients treated was 946. The diet charges amounted to Rs. 4,108-2-6, in addition to the establishment charges of Rs. 1,988-11-0.

The same diseases, as mentioned in the previous report, continued to be common. Cholera has again appeared in the towns of Phalodi, Balotra, Pokaran and in Jodhpur City, causing 649 deaths between the 26th July and the 25th August. Captain Grant, I.M.S., attributes the increase of cholera in Jodhpur City to the people drinking water from tanks in preference to using well water, in spite of the publication of frequent warnings of the danger so incurred.

The condition of the people is now rapidly improving. The water-supply at relief works was sufficient and well guarded from pollution.

No deaths from starvation were reported during the month. The number of deaths reported from famine and other diseases fell from 1,693 last month to 1,258 this month.

5. Ploughing and sowing have been general throughout the State. The bajra sown early in June has grown to a fair height and will soon be ready for harvest. Young seedlings have appeared everywhere, and weeding operations

are in progress. Cotton and late autumn crops are being sown. In Mallani, Pachbadra and Sheo ploughing commenced very late.

The prospects of the outturn of the kharif crops are favourable, and if rain falls in September they should be excellent.

In Sojat and Jaitaran hand ploughs were in general use, while in Desuri and Bali the hard soil had to be dug up and prepared with spades and hoes for sowing.

6. Owing to the improved agricultural situation, the prices of food-grains have fallen in most of the districts, though no change in the price of the cheapest edible grains has occurred.

The latest prices are:—

Food Grains.					Per British Rupee.
Barley	...	...	...	...	9 to 15 seers
Jowar	...	...	...	...	6 to 8½ "
Maize	...	...	...	...	9½ "
Millet	...	...	...	...	8½ to 9½ "

There has been no change in the scale of wages.

The following statement shows the movement of food-grains and hides from and to Marwar during the month:—

	Mds.
Grain and pulses exported from Marwar ...	1,160
Grain and pulses imported into Marwar ...	140,158½
Hides exported from Marwar ...	458

7. The Darbar Vakils at Erinpura and Palanpur deported 606 Marwaris by rail to Marwar Junction at a cost of Rs. 636-5-3. The Darbar has remitted Rs. 390 for the deportation of certain Marwaris, who are said to be at Gwalior, Baroda and Patiala, and have directed the Hakim of Jaswantpura to take over 40 persons, who are in the Sirohi poor-house.

The rest camps at Ajmer and Beawar were crowded with Marwaris, who were mostly pauperised vagrants and persistent wanderers. Of these 3,874 were drafted on to relief centres, while others were sent to their homes.

The Jodhpur City was cleared of 5,075 waifs and strays. The amount spent on their feed and conveyance came to Rs. 12,680-2-0.

8. 20 stallion bulls were bought from the Government cattle farm, Hissar, at a cost of Rs. 3,000, and sent to the different districts to improve and gradually to restore in numbers the country breed, which has suffered so severely during the past 10 or 12 months.

Owing to a general and abundant fall of rain, green grass is now obtainable everywhere, hence the grass depôts have been closed. They had supplied fodder weighing 490 maunds to 2,610 head of cattle during the period they remained open.

9. Taccavi advances both in cash and kind have helped in extending the cultivated area. The total amount distributed from the 26th July to

25th August was Rs. 40,439-6-3, in addition to 35 bullocks and 193 hand ploughs.

Subsistence allowance, varying from 15 to 30 days' rations, were given to all agricultural labourers who returned from departmental relief works to their homes and took to agriculture.

Annexure.

Remarks.

1. *Private charity.*—2,637 doles, against 7,797 of the previous month, were on the average daily distributed at 24 places.

2. *Village and poor-house relief.*—The inmates of the 28 poor-houses on the 25th August numbered—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
	1,696	2,334	1,900	5,930

Their maintenance charges amounted to Rs. 13,918-12-9, costing 11½ pies per head per day.

The two central orphanages continued to take care of famine orphans. The number of girls rose to 150 against 110, and that of boys fell from 476 of the last month to 340.

Their combined charges came to Rs. 1,747-13-9.

The zenana poor-house for respectable Rajput women was closed on the 13th. Each inmate was given Rs. 5 as an advance for her maintenance during the next two months. The expenditure incurred on it from the 26th ultimo to the date of its closing was Rs. 972-9-6.

Rs. 354-9-0 were distributed amongst the *pardah nashin* at Jodhpur, Nagore and Didwana.

Rs. 1,715-9-0 were contributed by the Darbar towards the maintenance of an orphanage at Guran-ka-Talao.

Four Thikanas maintain their own poor-houses. Their average daily strength was 622.

3. *Medical relief.*—The number of patients in six famine dispensaries was 946. The dietary charges were Rs. 4,108-2-6, costing almost 2 annas per head per day. Establishment and medical comforts were responsible for Rs. 1,988-11-0.

The same diseases as mentioned in the previous report continued to be common.

Cholera has disappeared, except in the Lalsagar poor-house, which is situate in the vicinity of the city, where it has been virulently raging for the last fortnight.

The hospital, kitchen and conservancy arrangements continued to be satisfactory. The water-supply at works was sufficient and was well guarded from pollution.

4. *Physical condition and deaths from starvation.*—The condition of the people is considerably ameliorated.

No death is reported to have occurred from starvation during the month.

5. *General character of relief works.*—Digging, clearing and embanking of tanks; construction of bunds; and sinking wells.

6. *Food stocks.*—Sufficient.

7. *General condition and prospects of affected area.*—Sufficient and general rain fell throughout the country and swept away all anxieties regarding the autumn crops. The fall was unusually heavy in Desuri, and in slight defect at Pachbadra, Nagore, Phalodi and Sankra.

Standing crops continue to do well. The bajra sown early in June has grown to a full height and will soon be ready for harvest. Sowing operations for late autumn crops continue.

It might be observed without fear of contradiction that famine has nearly approached its end, and, if a seasonal fall of rain occurs in September, the country with its verdant pastures and green crops would present a startling contrast to its once barren and gloomy appearance.

8. Rates of wages—

		As.	P.	As.	P.
Male	from	1	3	to	1
Female	from	1	0	to	1
Children over 7 years					0
Children under 7					6
Children in lap					3

9. Prices of food grains—

		Minimum.		Maximum.	
		Sr.	Ch.	Sr.	Ch.
(1) Wheat		6	11	11	12
(2) Bajra		8	0	11	8
(3) Gram		6	4	11	4
(4) Moong		5	7	8	10
(5) Makki		7	0	12	0
(6) Jowar		5	7	11	8
(7) Barley		8	4	15	0
(8) O.I.		2	0	3	0

10. Condition of the cattle.—Owing to a general downpour of good rain all over the country, green grass is now available everywhere, and the cattle are improving satisfactorily.

In the "Bit Dharmada" Institution, 14 unclaimed cows remained on the 25th, and the rest were restored to their owners.

11. { Emigration.—Nil.

Immigration.—Almost all the emigrants had returned before the end of July, 1900, and hence only 200 persons were reported to have come back. 13,556 persons were numbered in the resting camps at Ajmer and Beawar. Of these 3,874 were drafted on to relief centres, while the rest were sent to their homes, except 205 who died and 164 who were present on the 25th August.

Our Vakils at Palanpur and Erinpura deported 606 Marwaris to Marwar Junction.

Enclosure 2 in No. 173.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel A. P. Thornton, Resident, Western Rajputana States, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, No. 791 G., dated Abu, the 5th September, 1900.

I have the honour to submit the Sirohi Darbar's Famine Report for the month of August, 1900, together with a skeleton map of the famine-affected area.

2. There has been a general and copious rainfall throughout the State during the month. At Sirohi proper it measured 11.55 inches. People have taken to agricultural operations, and sowings and weeding, &c., are progressing satisfactorily. Green grass is procurable in sufficient quantities, and the cattle are regaining their strength.

3. There were 5 persons on the relief works on the 25th August against 9,751 in the preceding month. The relief works have had, therefore, to be closed. People leaving works or poor-houses received feeding expenses for the

journey and for 2 or 3 days extra. On arrival at their homes they had orders to report themselves to the Tahsildars who distributed taccavi advances if deemed necessary.

4. Mr. Knight, in charge of the State Famine Relief Works, reports that 300 pairs of plough cattle have been purchased by the State, and arrangements are in hand for their distribution.

5. Some Rs. 15,000 have been advanced as taccavi.

Special advances are also being made from the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund to Rebaris and others who have lost their all.

The final issue of taccavi and the distribution of bullocks will, it is hoped be completed by the end of this month.

6. The number of persons in receipt of gratuitous relief has decreased from 1,638 to 1,048. The decrease is due to the fact that the inmates when fit are sent to their houses and given food expenses; and also taccavi as above explained.

The number of persons on village doles was 487 against 1,763 persons at the end of the previous month.

7. The amount spent on relief works and on gratuitous relief during the month is reported at Rs. 10,126.

8. The physical condition of the people on the works, with very few exceptions, was, Mr. Knight remarks, good.

Public health was, according to the Dewan, fair.

Cases of cholera were reported from some of the districts. Diarrhoea, dysentery and fever are also said to be prevailing in some districts of the State.

464 persons are reported to have died on the relief works and in poor-houses against 777 in the preceding month.

There were 9 deaths reported from starvation among Bhils, Girassias and other wandering tribes.

9. An orphanage was opened at Sirohi during the month. There were 112 orphans and 74 widows in the orphanage on the 25th August, 1900. The expenditure under this head aggregated Rs. 600. The cost of the new building, which is under construction, is to be met from the Government famine loan granted to the State, while other expenses connected with the institution will be defrayed from the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund grants.

10. The State has practically dispensed with the services of the famine staff.

11. The services of a Jemadar and Havildar have been secured from the Erinpura Irregular Force for famine duty in connection with the supervision of the State poor-houses at Abu Road and Rohera, and to superintend the drafting of persons in receipt of relief. Owing to the closure of the relief works, the number of these military famine officers was reduced to two.

12. Hand ploughs provided by the Darbar are not applied for, but some tools have been distributed gratis to persons leaving relief works.

13. The local Bohras held back at first, but when they found that the State was prepared to grant necessary advances, they came forward and made advances to their "Asamis" freely.

14. The prices of food-grains have fallen as shown beneath :—

	In July.	In August.
Wheat	8½ srs.	8½ srs.
Barley	9 "	10 "
Makki	7½ "	8 "
Bajra... ..	7½ "	7½ "

15. The following table shows the comparative movement of food-grains and hides carried by the Rajputana-Malwa Railway :—

	In July.	In August.
Weight of food-grains and pulses booked from the Sirohi State ...	3,704 mds.	5,519 mds.
Weight of food-grains and pulses received in the Sirohi State from outside the State ...	18,693 „	12,207½ „
Weight of hides booked from the Sirohi State to stations outside the State ..	626 „	14 „

Annexure.

Letter from the Dewan, Sirohi State, to the Resident, Western Rajputana States, No. 921, dated Sirohi, the 1st September, 1900.

With reference to your No. 4,751, dated 26th December, 1899, I have the honour to rt as follows :—

(1) The subjoined table shows the number of ^{ere 2} ^{ere 3} that of workers employed on each :—

Name of works.	Men.	Women.	Children, 14 to 10.	Children, 7 to 10.	Children, under 7.	Remarks.
Sirohi ...	4	—	—	—	—	On 13th August.
Chandela..	1	2	—	—	1	On 14th „
Sirohi-Pindwara Road...	4	1	—	—	—	On 25th „
Total ...	9	3	—	—	1	

The following statement would show the increase or decrease in the number of labourers on the works on 25th August, as compared with those in June last :—

Name of months.	Sirohi Tank.	Chandela Tank.	Sirohi-Pindwara Road.	Grand total.
July ...	6,414	396	2,941	9,751
August...	—	—	5	5
Total ...	—6,414	—396	—2,936	—9,746

As there were good showers of rain throughout the State, and people were given taccavi advances, they took to agricultural operations. Labour at the famine works began going away. Those who were left there were induced by officers specially deputed for the purpose to go home and to take to agricultural operations where they would get taccavi advances. Sirohi and Chandela tanks were closed on the 15th August, and Sirohi-Pindwara road on the 28th.

(2) The following table shows the number of poor-houses in the State, and that of their inmates on the 25th instant :—

A.

Name of poor-houses.	Class of Inmates.					Total.
	Men.	Women.	Children.			
			10-14	7-10.	Under 7.	
Sirohi poor-house	47	102	47	63	13	272
Bohera ditto	128	109	44	23	42	346
Erinpura ditto	26	42	40	35	10	153
Abu Road ditto	106	80	38	31	22	277
Total	307	333	169	152	87	1,048

The following table would show the increase or decrease in the number of inmates of different poor-houses, as compared with that in the last month :—

B.

Name of poor-houses.	July.	August.	Increase or Decrease.
Sirohi poor-house ...	682	272	—410
Rohera ditto ...	538	346	—192
Erinpura ditto ...	163	153	—10
Abu Road ditto ...	255	277	+22
Total ...	1,638	1,048	—590

The decrease in the number of inmates of poor-houses is due to the persons going out from there and taking to agricultural operations. Besides this, natural jungle products have and are being sprung up, which helps people to maintain themselves.

(3) Water-supply at the works had been ample and sufficient.

(4) Stock of grain was also sufficient there.

(5) Public health has been tolerably fair. Few cases of cholera reported from Mandar, Pamera, Jhora, Khuni, and Sirohi. Measures for cleanness were adopted. Dysentery and fever prevalent on some tahsils. Health at the works and poor-houses has been fair.

(6) The following table would show the number of deaths (a) from starvation and (b) also on works and poor-houses :—

A.

Name of village.	Number of deaths.
Pindwara ...	131
Sirohi ...	98
Abu Road ...	2
Posalia ...	8
Total ...	239

B.

Name of works.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.	Increase or decrease.
Sirohi Tank	30	39	21	90	- 4
Chandela Tank	—	—	—	—	- 69
Sirohi-Pindwara Road	—	—	—	—	—
Sirohi poor-house	47	46	36	129	+ 16
Rohera poor-house	75	45	27	147	-155
Abu Road poor-house	31	27	16	75	+ 26
Erinpara poor-house... .. .	7	9	7	23	+ 13
Total	191	166	107	464	-173

(7) Condition of cattle changing for better.

(8) Grass growing.

(9) 11 inches 35 cents of rain fell at Sirohi during the month under report. Sowing operations progressing.

(10) No emigrations reported.

(11) No change in the rates of wages.

(12) The price of wheat has fallen; no perceptible change in that of other grains.

(13) Sadabarts at the temple of Sharneswarji and Sayer continued. The number of persons on village doles was reduced to 487; private charity was continued.

(14) Taccavi advances were made to the agriculturists in almost all the tahsils and are still being given. The sum of Rs. 15,261-14-6 has been advanced up to this time. 300 pairs of bullocks have been sent for through Messrs. Abbott Brothers. The bullocks were and are being distributed to cultivators. Advances are being made to Robaries, so that they may purchase cattle to support themselves.

(15) An orphanage has been opened at Sirohi. There were 112 orphans and 74 widows in the orphanage on the 25th.

(16) Usual statements and skeleton maps* are attached herewith.

Enclosure 3 in No. 173.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel A. P. Thornton, Resident, Western Rajputana States, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, No. 794 G., dated Jodhpur, the 5th September, 1900.

I have the honour to report that during August, 1900, there has been a general rainfall over the famine-affected area in Jaisalmer, which has brought an ample supply of water into the nadis, tanks, and kharins, and the people have undertaken agricultural operations. Grass has grown everywhere, and the condition of the cattle is improving. Kharif crops have been sown and are reported to be thriving well. The details of the rainfall are noted below :—

	June.	July.	August.	Total.
Jaisalmer Circle	—	0-57	2-05	2-62
Dewa	—	2-77	3-98	6-75
Ramgarh	—	0-49	0-30	0-79
Khabha	—	0-68	1-14	1-82
Devikot	—	0-60	1-26	1-86
Bap	1-40	1-15	3-32	5-87
Total	1-40	6-26	12-05	19-71

* Map not reproduced.

2. Relief works and the gratuitous relief have been closed, as the people left for their homes in order to resume their occupations.

On the 20th August, 1900, the number on relief works was 209, but on 25th idem there was none either on the relief works or on the poor-house relief. 11 children are, however, maintained in the orphan house, and 147 persons are in receipt of gratuitous relief or village doles met from the Local Charitable Relief Fund.

3. The Famine Expenditure during the month amounted to Rs. 4,153, of which Rs. 232 were spent on gratuitous relief. Out of the famine loan of Rs. 50,000 British currency, Rs. 46,550 in Jaisalmer currency have hitherto been spent.

4. Emigration has altogether stopped, and the people are returning to their homes from Sind and other adjoining districts.

5. The situation is thus sufficiently encouraging, and the Dewan hopes that a further rainfall will fully restore the condition of the affected area.

6. In July last 6,141 maunds of food-grains were imported, against 9,828 maunds in June. Notwithstanding the decrease in imports, the prices have gone down considerably as shown below :—

	In July.	In August.
Wheat	7½ seers.	8½ seers.
Bajra	7½ „	9 „
Jowar	7½ „	9½ „
Rice	6 „	7 „
Gram	7 „	8 „

7. The physique of the people is reported to be satisfactory.

The total number of deaths from cholera during June and July, according to fresh and reliable enquiries, were 2,257, and not 891 as reported previously.

The Hospital Assistant of Jaisalmer reports that the children in the orphanage are healthy, excepting one who is suffering from guinea worm.

8. Owing to the closure of famine relief works and the State gratuitous relief, the Dewan has not sent the usual Monthly Famine Statement or map for the month, hence this report has been prepared from the information available in this office, and, unless otherwise directed, will be the last of the series.

No. 174.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. C. Wyllie, C.I.E., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 2338, F., dated Abu, the 30th May, 1900.

In continuation of this office letter No. 1893 F., dated the 23rd April, 1900,* I have the honour to forward for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statement† of the Kotah and Jhalawar States for the month of April, together with the Political Agent's covering letter No. 1262, dated 19th May, 1900.

2. Kotah.—The numbers in receipt of all kinds of relief during the last six months are brought together in the marginal table. In commenting on the

* See page 482 of Command Paper No. 206, presented in 1900.

† Not printed.

Months.	Works.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Per-centage.
1899.				
November ...	1,500	1,000	2,500	·34
December ...	4,370	2,278	6,648	·92
1900.				
January ...	13,462	4,332	17,794	2·47
February ...	20,207	5,077	25,284	3·51
March ...	21,569	9,827	31,396	4·36
April ...	27,130	9,228	36,358	5·05

figures for the previous month, which had risen by only $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., I ventured to predict that my next report would probably show a marked increase. This rise has now taken place. The numbers on relief works have advanced by over one-quarter to 27,130. The largest additions have occurred in the railway camps where the labourers have nearly doubled. By the end of the third week in April, $72\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of cubic feet had been completed out of a total of 401 $\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs. Approximately five-sixths of the work thus remains to be done. At the present rate of progression this will take seven months to finish, but the labourers will probably increase still further in number. The wages have been raised by 20 per cent., although the reasons for the increase have not been given. Even if the local rupee is constant and prices are steady, the change is a wise one. The rate per 1,000 cubic feet under ordinary conditions of lead and lift is still only Rs. 3·12. The other relief works open consist of wells, which are usually constructed by the aid of loans, petty irrigation works and a few roads and buildings. These are partly under the State Department of Public Works and partly under the local Nazims. The numbers employed in this way have risen by 8 per cent. during the month under report.

3. It was stated in last month's review that the Political Agent's remarks to the effect that the ordinary labour wages were lower than those paid on the works was not understood. In reply to an enquiry from this office, the Darbar individuals for labour employed on their own buildings and works, and that it is a fact that this private wage is really lower than the relief works scale. If this is correct, and if private employers of labour do not supplement the cash wage with some remuneration in kind, then Kotah presents a contrast in this respect to the other States in Rajputana.

4. The numbers returned as in receipt of gratuitous relief have fallen by 6 per cent. to 9,228. It is not easy to ascertain how this total has been arrived at, as will be seen from the following table in which the statistics for the last three months, as corrected up to date, have been brought together :—

No.	Agency.	Numbers relieved in		
		February.	March.	April.
1	Village relief ...	2,127	3,938	3,410
2	Poor-house, Kotah ...	250	515	745
3	" Ghatoli ...	—	600	450
4	" Mandana ...	—	537	825
5	" Baran ...	—	2,640	?
6	Sadabarts of Jagirdars ...	unknown		
7	Relief camp, Kotah ...	1,200	1,597	885
8	Orphanage and Cripples' home ...			313
9	Destitutes ...	1,500	Nil	Nil
	Total ...	5,077	9,827	6,628

The statement gives a total for April of 9,228, but the persons relieved by the Jagir Sadabarts are not shown anywhere in this month's return. This probably accounts for the difference between the total of the final column in the above table and that of the final column of the statement. The Political Agent's reply to a reference made regarding "destitutes" shows that Mr. Martindale was mistaken in assuming in a previous letter that these persons were identical with the residents of the Ganeshpal relief camp. The "destitutes" were poor wanderers, who were supported by daily issues of boiled jowar (gugri), the cost of which was borne equally by the State and private subscription. This form of relief came to an end in March, and the majority of the recipients were drafted on the railway where they receive cooked food.

5. The condition of the people generally is deteriorating. They lack the physical stamina of the dwellers in the arid tracts of Western Rajputana, and are quite unfitted by past experience to cope with the present calamity. The death-rate is slowly increasing. The only account of the recent harvest received up to date is that contained in the concluding remarks appended to the statement. The yield of the area sown is said to be only one-eighth of the normal. As presumably sowings were confined to well lands and small strips on the banks or rivers or tanks, the wide-spread failure this estimate implies is hard to credit. As the area brought under cultivation has not been given, it is impossible to say what effect the harvest has had on the food-stocks, but imports have not risen above the comparatively low level to which they fell during March. His Highness the Maharao continues to show a personal interest in relief measures, and spent 19 days camping in the districts.

6. *Jhalawar*.—The following table shows the fluctuations in the numbers on relief in Jhalawar during the last six months :—

Months.	Works.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Percentage.
1899.				
November ...	400	250	650	·40
December ...	700	800	1,500	1·00
1900.				
January ...	1,155	769	1,924	1·28
February ...	2,351	2,127	4,478	2·98
March ...	2,583	1,692	4,275	2·85
April ...	3,712	1,443	5,155	3·43

As during March the rate of increase on works, 43 per cent., is even higher than in Kotah, the same four large works are still open, and each has returned a rise in numbers. The workers on the Stratton Sagar have more than doubled, and the numbers on the large tank in the Patan Tahsil have gone up by 749, or 71 per cent. At the same time, the numbers relieved on the petty works administered by purely Civil Agency have fallen from 243 to 83. Altogether, $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the population are now on State relief of one kind or another.

7. As in Kotah, the totals of the gratuitous lists have fallen. Last month a large decrease was reported from the two poor-houses in the Chaoni and Patan. During April, as will be seen from the following table, the numbers in Patan fell still further, while in the Chaoni they rose by as much as 213 per cent.

The other figures call for little comment, as no accurate account has been given of gratuitous village relief :—

Agency.	March.	April.
Poor-house, Patan	571	534
„ Chaoni	191	598
Orphanage	144	131
His Highness's poor-house	56	68
Village relief	730 ?	112 ?
Total	1,692	1,443

8. The general condition of the State and people is better than that of Kotah, but distress is spreading. The Dewan's remarks about fodder and water are almost identical with those in his March report, but the tone is somewhat more depressed. The account of the harvest is meagre, but the influx of the new grain on the market seems to have caused a temporary fall in prices. Statistics regarding the cattle are promised in the report for the current month.

Enclosure in No. 174.

Letter from Major C. G. F. Fagan, Political Agent in Kotah, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, No. 1262, dated Kotah, the 19th May, 1900.

I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Agent to the Governor-General, the Monthly Famine Reports furnished by the Kotah and Jhalawar Darbars for the month of April, 1900.

Kotah.—The total number of persons in Kotah on relief works and on gratuitous relief during the month was reported to be respectively, 27,130 and 9,228, as against 21,569 and 9,827 in March last. The number of labourers on the earthwork of Baran-Kotah Railway on 30th April, 1900, was 8,550, as against 4,352 on 31st March last. The increase shows the extent to which the pinch of famine is being felt by the people at this time. The total earthwork done up to 22nd April, 1900, was 7,235,000 cubic feet. The rate of wages has been raised during the month from 5 to 6 annas per 100 cubic feet for all banks up to 10 feet. For banks 10 to 20 feet 8 annas are given, and banks from 20 to 30 feet 10 annas.

The number of deaths from starvation or its after effects is reported to be 1,775, as against 975 in March last; of these, 922 are among the local inhabitants, and 853 among immigrants. The physique of the people is deteriorating and the general suffering increasing.

No emigration among the people of the country has taken place.

General condition is bad.

Food stock is sufficient.

The rabi outturn of the Kotah State is estimated at not more than two annas, and that of the Jhalawar State reported to be about $3\frac{1}{4}$ annas in the rupee.

Jhalawar.—The number of persons in Jhalawar on relief works and on gratuitous relief is reported to be 3,712 and 1,443 respectively, as against 2,583 and 1,692 reported in March last.

The condition of the people, though far from satisfactory, is scarcely as bad as might have been expected.

Cattle suffer generally from scarcity of fodder.

Scarcity of drinking water is ...

The deaths from starvation are reported to be 692, as against 286 in March last; of these, 531 occurred among local residents, and 161 among immigrants.

Skeleton maps in duplicate for Kotah and Jhalawar are enclosed.

Annexure.

Remarks by Raghwal Das, Dewan, Kotah State, to accompany Famine Statement for month ending 30th April, 1900.

Private relief.—The number in the poorhouse in the city of Kotah, where grain is doled out chiefly to *pardah nashin* women, rose from 515 in the last month to 745. Private charity in the district is kept up and relieves 2,000 persons.

Village and poorhouse relief.—The poorhouses started at Ghatoli and Mandana were maintained and relieved 450 persons. The numbers in the poorhouse at Baran have much increased. There were 825 inmates on the 30th, the highest number reached during the month being 865. A weekly selection is made, and all persons found able-bodied are struck off the House Register and drafted to the railway work. The monthly grants made to the district officers were devoted to the relief of 3,410 persons during the month. The Revenue Superintendent reported a large gathering of destitutes at Khandpur, and on his recommendation the monthly grant of Rs. 200 was raised to Rs. 450.

Relief camp at (Ganeshpal) Kotah had 885 inmates on 30th April, 1900, and the orphanage and cripples' house, 313.

The famine wanderers about Kotah were sent to the railway earthwork to earn their daily bread. They did not stay on and escaped, on the first opportunity they got, to resume their wandering life. To keep these at work, a camp has been established on the railway line, to which all the abled-bodied of them are sent. They are given here cooked food, and their wages credited to the camp. They do very little work, but the experiment has the great sanitary advantage of keeping the city free from their presence.

In the poor-houses the inmates were allowed the same rate of rations as was reported last month.

General character of relief works.—Taccavi, wells and other civil and relief works were pushed on, employing on them 18,580 persons. The earthwork of the Baran-Kotah Railway has made fair progress, the attendance on it being 8,550 on the 30th April. This is an increment of 100 per cent. over the last month, and shows the extent of the pinch of famine felt by the people at this time. The State Engineer reports that the total earthwork done up to the 22nd April was 7,235,000 cubic feet. This represents progress during the month of about 4,285,000 cubic feet, and the work is proceeding at the rate of nearly $1\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of earthwork per day.

Earthwork has been completed in the following chainage from Baran :—

45,500 to 72,300=	26,800 feet
42,700 to 44,000=	1,300 "
44,300 to 45,000=	700 "
	28,800 feet,

or about $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

Earthwork is in progress in chains—

93,700 to 99,300=	5,600 feet
5,000 to 7,000=	2,000 "
9,700 to 11,000=	1,300 "
160,000 to 161,000=	1,000 "
184,000 to 192,000=	8,000 "
206,000 to 210,000=	4,000 "
	21,900 feet,

or about 4 miles.

The rate during the month has been raised from 5 annas to 6 annas per 100 cubic feet for all banks up to 10 feet. For banks 10 to 20 feet, 8 annas is given, and banks from 20 to 30 feet, 10 annas.

Physique of the people is deteriorating and the general suffering increasing. His Highness was in camp for 19 days during the month, and visited the northern and central portions of the State.

The number of deaths reported was 1,775. They were either due to starvation direct or to its after effects. Of these 922 are among the local inhabitants and 853 among immigrants. Every endeavour is made to induce and encourage local people to resort to the railway earthwork, but so far with not much success.

Food-stock is sufficient.

Grain is imported freely, and the quantity brought in was equal to that of the last month, viz., 39,266 maunds.

General condition is decidedly bad.

No emigration among the people of the country has taken place.

Rabi harvesting is finished, and the outturn is not estimated at more than 2 annas in the rupee in the area sown. The rainfall has done no good.

No. 175.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. C. Wyllie, C.I.E., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General, Rajputana, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 2,541 F., dated Abu, the 21st June 1900.

In continuation of my letter, No. 2,338 F., dated the 30th May, 1900, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statements* of the Kotah and Jhalawar States for the month of May, 1900, together with the Political Agent's covering letter, No. 1,470, dated the 9th June, 1900.

2. The following table gives the numbers on relief for each month since operations began in November, 1899 :—

KOTAH.

Months.	Works.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Per cent.
November	1,500	1,000	2,500	·34
December	4,370	2,278	6,648	·92
January	13,462	4,332	17,794	2·47
February	20,207	5,077	25,284	3·51
March	21,569	9,827	31,396	4·36
April	27,130	9,228	36,358	5·05
May	24,930	9,153	34,083	4·73

Last month, owing to the cessation of harvest operations, the numbers on relief works advanced by over one quarter. During May these have declined by 8 per cent. The decrease is attributed by the Political Agent to the return of people to their fields in anticipation of the monsoon and to the high mortality which has been aggravated by the cholera epidemic. Pending the result of the correspondence regarding a further Government loan, the Darbar have been forced to borrow eight lakhs in the open market for purposes of the administration and famine relief. The numbers on the railway works have risen by 38 per cent. to nearly 12,000. The persons employed on the other works increased by 8 per cent. during April, but in the month under report they have fallen by 29 per cent. from 18,580 to 13,112. Rapid progress has been made with the railway earthwork, and between one-fourth and one-third of the line has been finished. The wages have again been slightly raised, for which the reason is not given.

3. The numbers on gratuitous relief are said to have slightly fallen; but as it is not clear on what system these figures are compiled, a comparison with

previous figures is not of much value. The Dewan's report gives the following numbers under this head :—

No.	Agency.	Numbers relieved in	
		April.	May.
1	Village relief	3,410	4,091
2	Poor-house, Kotah	745	682
3	„ Ghatoli	450	?
4	„ Mandana		
5	„ Baran	825	1,015
6	„ Antah	—	571
7	„ Jagpura	—	?
8	Sadabarts of Jagirdars	2,000 ?	580
9	Relief Camp, Ganeshpal	885	1,404
10	Orphanage and cripples' home	313	?
11	Balitah Camp—destitute workers	?	894
12	„ dependants and sick	?	424
	Total	8,628	9,661

Against this, the famine statement shows a total of 9,153. A reference has been made to the Political Agent on the subject. No returns appear to have been sent in from the new poor-house at Jagpura or from the Ghatoli and Mandana institutions, while the orphanage is not mentioned. Depôts have been established along the main lines of traffic for the relief of returning emigrants and their cattle. Certain numbers are fed daily, but no details have yet been received.

4. Cholera visited the State during the month, but was not of the virulent type experienced in Tonk, Shahpura, and Mewar. The total mortality it caused is returned at 450 persons, but this is probably below the mark. The condition of the people is said to be unsatisfactory. Food imports have risen enormously, the total for the month being 67,880 maunds. Nothing is said as to the cattle, but Rs. 1,30,000 have been sanctioned for the purchase of seed and bullocks. This sum has been shown, and probably erroneously, as part of the famine expenditure during the past month. Prices have risen. Enclosed with this is an extract from a demi-official letter recently received from the Political Agent in reply to a request for information from the Honorary Secretary to the Central Committee of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund, Calcutta.

5. The following table shows the fluctuations in the numbers on relief in Jhalawar during the last seven months :—

Months.	Works.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Per cent.
November	400	250	650	·40
December	700	800	1,500	1·00
January	1,155	769	1,924	1·28
February	2,351	2,127	4,478	2·98
March	2,583	1,692	4,275	2·85
April	3,712	1,443	5,155	3·43
May	3,567	2,730	6,297	4·19

The numbers on relief works have fallen by about 150. Owing to the cholera half of the workers on the Mandliakheri tank ran away, most of whom appear to have taken refuge on the petty works under civil agency, as the total employed in this way rose from 83 in April to 1,074 in May. On the Stratton Sagar the numbers fell by nearly 200, but this project must be nearly finished.

6. The increase of 89 per cent. in the number of people on gratuitous relief is due to improved organization. The wanderers and beggars in and about the Chhaoni and Patan City have been brought under control, and the indiscriminate and demoralizing distribution of small grain doles has been checked. The numbers in receipt of village relief appear to have risen from 113 to nearly 500.

7. The cholera epidemic was fortunately not severe and except on one work, appears to have little affected the general arrangements. The general health and condition of the people are good.

In two or three parganas there is a deficiency of grain, and some of the inhabitants, who are Sondhias, exhibit a reluctance to go on the works. The promised details regarding the mortality among the cattle have not been furnished, but complaints continue of an insufficiency of fodder.

Enclosure in No. 175.

Letter from Major G. F. Fagan, Political Agent, Kotah, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, No. 1470, dated Jhalrapatan, the 9th—11th June 1900.

I have the honour to submit for the information of the Honourable the Agent to the Governor-General, the monthly famine reports furnished by the Kotah and Jhalawar Darbars for the month of May, 1900.

Annexure.

KOTAH.

The total number of persons on relief works and on gratuitous relief during the month was reported to be respectively 24,930 and 9,153 as against 27,130 and 9,228 in April last.

The decrease in the numbers is partly due to the fact that, in view of the approach of the monsoon, the people are returning to their fields and partly to deaths and also to revision of the lists of grain recipients.

The number of labourers on the earthwork of Baran-Kotah Railway was 11,818 as against 8,550 reported in last month. The total earthwork done from 1st to 22nd May, 1900, was 4,179,259 cubic feet, and stone bank 141,949 cubic feet.

The rate of wages has been raised during the month from 6 to 6½ annas per 100 cubic feet.

In addition to the poor-houses and kitchens reported in last month, three more were opened at the Durrah, Antah, and Jagpura during the month, and also depôts for the relief of returning immigrants and their cattle on all the main roads of the State.

The Provincial Committee, Rajputana, of the Indian Charitable Relief Fund, have allotted Rs. 28,000 to this State for the relief of the poor.

His Excellency the Prime Minister of Nepal has graciously presented a gift of 700 maunds paddy for the benefit of the famine-stricken people of this State. Rs. 85,559 have been spent during the month on various relief works. His Highness has had to sanction a further amount of Rs. 1,30,000 for the purchase of plough bullocks to replace those that have died, and also for providing cultivators with grain and implements of husbandry to enable them to resume cultivating operations on the breaking of the monsoon.

The total expenditure during the month was Rs. 2,30,527, as under :—

	Rs.
Gratuitous...	11,968
Relief works	85,559
Takavi for purchase of bullocks, seeds, &c....	1,30,000
Total	2,30,527

The condition of the people is unsatisfactory.

No emigration among the people of the country has taken place.

The number of deaths from starvation and cholera was reported to be 3,565 among immigrants as well as local people, against 1,775 reported in the previous month.

Cholera, which was prevalent throughout the State, is, happily, now abating, and it is hoped will soon disappear.

Food stuffs are insufficient; 67,880 maunds of grain have been imported, as against 39,226 maunds last month. To encourage importation His Highness has temporarily removed all import duties on grain.

Lieutenant C. A. James, 26th Baluchistan Regiment, has been appointed Famine Officer in the Kotah and Jhalawar States, and reported his arrival here on 23rd May, 1900.

A separate detailed report on the famine operations has already been submitted to your office under cover of this office letter, No. 1434 G., dated 5th instant.

JHALAWAR.

The number of persons in Jhalawar on relief works and on gratuitous relief is reported to be 3,567 and 2,730, as against 3,712 and 1,443, respectively, reported in April last. The sudden increase in the numbers of gratuitous relief is due to the fact that no poor are now allowed to wander in search of private charity, and all who come from outside are at once admitted into the poor-houses.

The number of orphans has risen from 131 to 159.

Cholera made its appearance in the State during the month, and caused a certain amount of mortality; but, happily, the disease is now disappearing.

The cultivators are engaged in ploughing their fields.

The deaths from starvation and cholera are reported to be 571 among local residents and immigrants, as against 692 in last month.

Fodder is scarce, and cattle suffering in consequence.

Food grain is imported from North-Western Provinces.

The State is providing food and fodder to the Marwar immigrants who are now returning to their homes.

The Minister of Nepal has presented 200 maunds of paddy for the relief of the distressed.

The Rajputana Provincial Committee of the Indian Charitable Relief Fund have also allotted Rs. 10,000 to this State to alleviate the suffering of the poor.

Skeleton maps in duplicate for Kotah and Jhalawar are enclosed.

No. 176.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. C. Wyllie, C.I.E., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, to the Secretary of the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 2892 F., dated Abu, 23rd July, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 2541 F., dated the 31st of June, 1900, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Report of the Kotah and Jhalawar States for the month of June, 1900, together with the Political Agent's covering letter No. 340 C., dated the 13th July, 1900.

2. The following table gives the numbers on relief in the Kotah State during the last eight months :—

Months.	Works.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Percentage.
November, 1899	1,500	1,000	2,500	34
December, „	4,370	2,278	6,648	92
January, 1900	13,462	4,332	17,794	247
February, „	20,207	5,077	25,284	351
March, „	21,569	9,827	31,396	436
April, „	27,130	9,228	36,358	505
May, „	24,930	9,153	34,083	473
June, „	19,316	10,311	29,627	412

In my review of the April Famine Statement, I reported a rise of one-quarter in the number of persons on works, while last month I had to report a decline of 8 per cent. in May due to a curtailment of civil agency works. During June the number on works has still further declined by nearly one-quarter in spite of rapidly increasing distress. The continued curtailment of civil agency projects is chiefly responsible for this regrettable state of affairs, but the numbers employed on the railway have also fallen by 13 per cent. The causes assigned by the Darbar and Political Agent for the decline in May were the return of cultivators to their fields and the cholera epidemic, but I fear the main reason was the desire, which is now openly expressed, to diminish expenditure in consequence of want of funds. The Political Agent in his opening remarks states that the people deprived of employment on the works have been thrown on to gratuitous relief. This explanation is obviously inadequate seeing that, while 5,614 persons have been turned off the works, only 1,158, or just over one-fifth, have been added to the gratuitous lists. Even were the explanation correct, it would indicate a very faulty famine administration. As I have recently been obliged to point out to the Political Agent in connection with the Darbar's application for an additional Government loan, they cannot divest themselves of their responsibility for the lives of their subjects, simply because they have not received all the pecuniary assistance they asked for. No one in Kotah, however, appears to have realised the extreme gravity of the policy that has been adopted, and I felt it necessary to impress on all concerned the mistakes which have been committed.

3. Although the numbers on gratuitous relief have risen by 12 per cent., it is apparent from the remarks under this head appended to the Famine Statement that the aid given fell short of what was required. The total of the numbers gratuitously relieved at the different centres again does not agree with the total, 10,311, show in the Famine Statement. This is evident from the following table in which the various details for the three past months are brought together :—

N	Agency.	Numbers relieved in		
		April.	May.	June.
1	Village relief	3,410	4,091	3,234
2	Poor-house, Kotah	745	682	733
3	" " Ghatoli	450	?	?
4	" " Mandana			
5	" " Baran			
6	" " Antah	825	1,015	1,191
7	" " Jagpura	—	571	1,152
8	Sadabarts of Jagirdars	—		
9	Relief Camp, Ganeshpal	2,000 ?	580	?
10	Orphanage and Cripples' Home	885	1,404	2,921
11	Belita destitute workers	313	?	?
12	" dependants and sick	?	834	1,342
		?	424	470
	Total	8,628	9,661	11,453

No mention has been made of the poor-houses at Ghatoli and Mandana, of the orphanage in the city itself, or of the numbers relieved by the Sadabarts of

Jagirdars. In the remarks appended to the Dewan's statement, it is said that private charity is fast shrinking and that very few Jagirdars distribute relief to destitute people on their jagirs. From this it would seem that the Jagirdars and private individuals are following the indefensible example of the State authorities in curtailing their operations just at the time when distress was most acute. I am glad to say, however, that the above table shows that the numbers on gratuitous relief have really increased by as much as 1,792 or 18 per cent. In fact, if the jagir figures are eliminated, the increase is 2,372 persons or 26 per cent. The only branch of state gratuitous relief which shows a diminution is village relief. The Darbar, therefore, are not deserving of quite so much blame as the remarks appended to the Dewan's statement and Major Fagon's review would seem to indicate.

4. Cholera still lingers in the State, but the deaths from this disease and from starvation and sunstroke have fallen from 13,565 in May, to 4,266 in June. If these figures are correct, they are hard to reconcile with the Political Agent's description of the condition of the people. The first signs of suffering among the cattle were reported in April, but no mention was made of them in the May Report. The Dewan now states that they are dying for want of fodder, and arrangements are being made to import plough bullocks. Imports of grain have almost doubled during the month under review, but prices have risen appreciably. Fortunately since the report was written all parts of the State have received ample rain.

5. The following table shows the fluctuations in the numbers on relief in the Jhalawar State during the last eight months :—

Months.	Works.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Percentage.
November, 1899	400	250	650	·40
December, "	700	800	1,500	1·00
January, 1900	1,155	769	1,924	1·28
February, "	2,351	2,127	4,478	2·98
March, "	2,583	1,692	4,275	2·85
April, "	3,712	1,443	5,155	3·43
May, "	3,567	2,730	6,297	4·19
June, "	4,177	2 453	6,630	4·42

The numbers on works which showed a slight decrease in May have again risen by 17 per cent. Many persons who were driven away by the cholera panic have returned. Labour on the Mundliakheri tank which was stopped by cholera has been resumed, and on the last day of June the workers had increased to 2,202. The numbers employed on petty civil agency works have fallen by nearly 40 per cent. to 654.

6. The total of persons relieved gratuitously has fallen by 10 per cent. owing to the deportation from the poor-houses of 400 Kotah inhabitants. The poor-house appears to be the only present adopted form of gratuitous relief. There are 4 institutions of this kind in the Chaumehla and 2 at the Chaoni and Patan; these latter contain 1,654 inmates. There are no fewer than 237 orphans in the city orphanage. Village relief by which 113 people were supported in April and 500 in May appears to have been abandoned.

7. Cholera has almost entirely disappeared in Jhalawar. The general health of the people is reported good, but at the same time the death-rate has doubled, an exact converse of the state of affairs reported from Kotah. The early rain showers of June tempted the cultivators of one tahsil on the extreme south to begin cultivation, but it is feared that these crops have been lost.

The number of orphans has risen from 159 to 237. These are taught to do light works, such for instance, as manufacturing mats, baskets, &c.

3. The numbers on gratuitous relief have steadily risen since April. They increased by only 3 per cent. in July, but the month's total is the highest on record. The Political Agent has not answered my inquiries as to the apparent

discrepancies in last month's figures under this head. Adhering to the old figures, the following table shows the details accurately :—

Agency.	April.	May.	June.	July.
Village relief...	3,410	4,091	3,234	3,726
Kotah poorhouse	745	682	733	929
Antah ...	—	571	1,152	1,069
Baran ...	825	1,015	1,191	1,837
Dara and Jagpara ...	—	—	410	142
Ghatoli and Mandana ...	450	—	—	—
Jagir Sadabarts ...	2,000?	580	?	?
Relief Camp Caneshpal Orphanage and Cripples' Home.	1,198	1,404	2,921	2,594
Balita destitute workers ...	—	894	1,342	350
Balita dependants and sick ...	—	424	470	
Total ...	8,628	9,661	11,453	10,647

If these figures are correct, the numbers on gratuitous relief have really fallen by 7 per cent. Relief to people at their own homes has been extended as probably it was found necessary to bring on to the village lists a large number of those people who left the camps at Ganeshpal and Balita. In a recent communication received from the Political Agent, the poorhouses are said to be five in number while there are no fewer than 21 relief kitchens in different parts of the State. The latter are not referred to in the accompanying report, and nothing is said as to the numbers in the poorhouses at Atru and Khanpur. The total, therefore, on gratuitous relief is probably larger than that given in the above table.

4. The people who left the works or poorhouses for their villages were given enough food to enable them to reach their homes and the different Nazims have been instructed to relieve necessitous cases by gifts of bullocks, seed, and implements. It is not stated whether preliminary lists were prepared. The Local Committee of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund have received altogether Rs. 1,22,000, of which Rs. 80,000, or two-thirds are to be devoted to starting poor cultivators afresh in life. No details are given of the expenditure already made. His Highness presided over a public meeting for the purpose of raising subscriptions for the purchase of medical comforts and blankets for the destitute, with the result that nearly Rs. 12,000 were raised. Distress is said to be still acute, but the rain has been abundant and grass must be springing up everywhere, and the prospects are good.

5. The numbers on relief in the Jhalawar State are given below :—

Months.	Works.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Percentage.
November, 1899 ...	400	250	650	40
December " ...	700	800	1,500	100
January, 1900 ...	1,155	769	1,924	128
February " ...	2,351	2,127	4,478	298

Months.	Works.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Percentage.
March, 1900 ...	2,583	1,692	4,275	285
April " ...	3,712	1,443	5,155	343
May " ...	3,567	2,730	6,297	419
June " ...	4,177	2,453	6,630	442
July " ...	1,678	2,784	4,462	297

The workers have decreased by nearly two thirds, the total being lower than any recorded since January. The rains have been favourable, and every work except the Stratton Sagar shows a large decrease. The numbers on petty works under Civil Agency have fallen from 654 to 205. The persons relieved gratuitously have increased by 13 per cent., and now largely exceed those on the works. The number of orphans supported by the State has also risen.

6. The condition of the people appears to have improved. Cholera still lingers, but the cases are few. Agricultural operations are going on vigorously, and grazing must now be available for the cattle. The report states that those who require seed and bullocks are being so assisted by the Darbar, but no details are furnished. The system of cheap grain shops, which was alluded to in last month's report, is said to have proved a great success. A public meeting for the collection of subscriptions to the charitable fund was held at Jhalrapatan, also a sum of Rs. 3,386 was realised. The crop prospects are excellent everywhere.

Enclosure in No. 177.

From the Political Agent, Kotah, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, Abu, No. 2169, dated Kotah, the 4th August, 1900.

I have the honour to submit for the information of the Honourable the Agent to the Governor-General, the monthly famine reports furnished by the Kotah and Jhalawar Darbars for the month of July, 1900.

Annexure.

KOTAH.

The total number of persons on relief work and on gratuitous relief on the last day of the month was reported to be, respectively, 15,623 and 10,647, as against 19,316 and 10,311 in June.

The decrease in the numbers, as already explained in last month, is mainly due to the fact that the civil works that were in progress have been nearly completed.

The number of labourers on the earthwork of the Baran-Kotah Railway was 10,380, as against 10,623 reported last month.

On account of the general good rain which has fallen, some of the destitutes of the cultivating classes who were gratuitously fed, and others who were working on relief works, have returned to their villages to resume cultivation. The Nazims of the districts have been instructed by the Darbar to supply destitute cultivators with free gifts of bullocks, seed, and implements of agriculture.

The Provincial Committee, Rajputana, of the Indian Charitable Relief Fund have made a further allotment of Rs. 22,000 during the month. The total amount up to the end of July thus placed at the disposal of the State is Rs. 1,02,000. Out of this sum the Local Committee have allotted a further sum of Rs. 20,000; which sum, together with the allotment of Rs. 60,000 made last month for the purchase of bullocks, seed, and implements for free distribution, amounts to Rs. 80,000. A meeting was held in the public gardens for the purpose of appealing for subscriptions to the fund for supplying extra medicines, medical comforts, and blankets for the famine stricken. His Highness and the leading Sirdars, Sahukars, and Officials subscribed a sum of over Rs. 11,795-8. More subscriptions are expected.

The number of deaths from starvation and its after effects was reported to be 3,955, as against 4,266 reported in the previous month.

The prices of food grain are slightly lower than in last month. The Darbar have granted a famine allowance, with effect from 1st July, 1900, to all State servants drawing salaries Rs. 10 and under, at the rate of Re. 1 per mensem. The sowars will get Rs. 2 per month extra; and those drawing less than Rs. 5 to get as much as to raise their pay to Rs. 5 per mensem.

Arrangements are being made by the Darbar to import grain from outside with a view to provide against the prices being unduly raised by the grain dealers.

The sowings of kharif crops are being pushed on.

JHALAWAR.

The number of persons on relief works and in receipt of gratuitous relief on the last day of July is reported to be 1,678 and 2,784 respectively, as against 4,177 and 2,453 reported in June last. The decrease of the number on the relief works is due to the return of cultivators to their fields in consequence of the setting in of the rains.

The number of orphans has risen from 237 to 292. Clothes are being made for these as well as for the inmates of the poorhouses.

The people are now busy in sowing kharif crop the State is providing seed and bullocks to those requiring them.

It is expected that the fodder difficulty, which is now at its worst, will cease to be felt in a few days, by which time grass will be available.

The opening of grain shops by the State has caused the prices of food grain to fall.

A similar meeting, as was held at Kotah, was held here for the purpose of raising funds to provide medical comforts, &c., for the poor, and a sum of Rs. 3,386 was subscribed. The number of deaths from starvation and other causes is reported to be 1,097, as against 1,226 last month.

Skeleton maps in duplicate for Kotah and Jhalawar are enclosed.

No. 178.

Letter from the Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 3318 F., dated Abu, the 19th September, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 3114 F., dated 16th August, 1900, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, letter No. 2427, dated 1st September, 1900, from the Political Agent, Kotah, forwarding reports on the relief operations in Kotah and Jhalawar during the month of August. The usual Famine Statements have not been furnished.

2. The numbers on relief of all kinds in the Kotah State during the last ten months are brought together below :—

Months.	Workers.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Percentage.
November, 1899	1,500	1,000	2,500	·34
December „	4,370	2,278	6,648	·92
January, 1900	13,462	4,332	17,794	2·47
February „	20,207	5,077	25,284	3·51
March „	21,569	9,827	31,396	4·36
April „	27,130	9,228	36,358	5·05
May „	24,930	9,153	34,083	4·73
June „	19,316	10,311	29,627	4·12
July „	15,623	10,647	26,270	3·65
August „	10,453	21,142	31,595	3·39

The State received heavy and general rain all through August, and one-third of the workers left for their fields. The total at the end of the month was less than any recorded since December last. Approximately two-thirds of workers were employed on the railway.

3. The numbers on gratuitous relief have nearly doubled. The total has risen in the Ganeshpal Camp, but the attendance has fallen off at all the other relief centres. Owing, however, to the somewhat tardy expansion of village relief, the figures under this head have increased by 246 per cent. to 15,321. The Political Agent reports that uncooked doles are now distributed in every village of the State. The Provincial Committee of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Funds have treated Kotah very generously, and the distribution of grants for the purchase of seed and cattle was evidently carried out during August. But no details have yet been given of the system followed in making the distribution of the aggregate amount disbursed up to date. I had occasion a few weeks ago to impress upon the various Local Committees the necessity for an equitable treatment of jagir villages. From the Political Agent's remarks it would appear that a sum of Rs. 20,000, or one-sixth of the total allotment, has been sanctioned for the jagir cultivators.

4. The numbers on relief in the Jhalawar State are given below :—

Months.	Workers.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Percentage.
November, 1899	400	250	650	·40
December „	700	800	1,500	1·00
January, 1900	1,155	769	1,924	1·28
February „	2,351	2,127	4,478	2·98
March „	2,583	1,692	4,275	2·85
April „	3,712	1,443	5,155	3·43
May „	3,567	2,730	6,297	4·19
June „	4,177	2,453	6,630	4·42
July „	1,678	2,784	4,462	2·97
August „	1,759	1,861	3,620	2·41

There has been little fluctuation in the numbers on works. The Political Agent states that the decrease in numbers is due to the people having left for their fields. As a matter, however, of fact, there has been a slight increase of nearly 3 per cent. as will be seen from the following table :—

Works.	July.	August.
Mandliakheri tank	988	970
Kishenpura „	270	520
Hatunia „	80	135
Stratton Sagar „	135	—
Gaonri „	—	90
Miscellaneous	205	10
Total	1,678	1,725

The civil agency works are practically closed.

5. The numbers in receipt of gratuitous relief have fallen off by one-third, chiefly owing to a systematic poor-house delivery. All able-bodied aliens have been sent to their homes. There are only 360 persons relieved by grain doles at their own homes. The cheap grain shops have been maintained by the State all through the month, and the fall in market prices is attributed to their operations.

6. This Agency has received more continuous and abundant rain than any other part of Rajputana, and a break is now urgently required. The maize has suffered not a little from flooding and damp, and ploughing for the rabi harvest is not yet possible. Fodder is ample everywhere. The condition of the people is said to be good in Jhalawar, and there is reason to believe that it has improved in Kotah. Cases of cholera are few and far between, but dysentery and diarrhoea are prevalent. The statement in the Kotah report that 2,307 deaths have been returned as due to starvation or its after effect is, I think, unreliable. These figures I take to represent the total number of deaths from all causes recorded in the State during August.

The Political Agent has been addressed on the point.

Enclosure in No. 178.

Letter from Major C. G. F. Fagan, Political Agent, Kotah, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, No. 2427, dated Jhalrapatan, the 1st September, 1900.

I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Honourable the Agent to the Governor-General, the Monthly Famine Reports furnished by the Kotah and Jhalawar Darbars for the month of August, 1900.

Annexure.

KOTAH.

Private charity.—The number of grain dole recipients in the Gowsal has further risen to 1,377, showing an increase of 50 per cent. over the number of the last month, due to intensity of distress among the poor residents of the city.

Village and poor-house relief.—Village relief has recently been much expanded and opened in every village, with a view to relieving all the destitutes at their homes by distribution of dry grain rations. The number in receipt of gratuitous relief at various poor-houses and kitchens is given below :—

Name of Poor-houses or Kitchens.	No. in receipt of gratuitous relief in July.	No. in receipt of gratuitous relief in August.	Remarks.
Antah poor-house	1,069	126	The number in the Jugpura poor-house being small, it has been incorporated with the village relief at that place.
Baran do.	1,837	297	
Ganeshpal, with one branch at Chaturpura and orphanage.	2,594	3,536	
Railway camp at Balita, Durrah, and Jugpura ...	350.	495	
Kitchens	142	15,321	
Village relief	3,726		
Total	9,718	19,765	

Some of the inmates of the two poor-houses at Antah and Baran have returned to their homes in consequence of the rains, others have been sent to their homes to be cared for under the village relief system.

Owing to the rapid increase in the numbers at the Ganeshpal Camp, a temporary branch has been opened at Chaturpura.

The Provincial Committee, Rajputana, has, in addition to Rs. 1,02,000 previously granted, allotted Rs. 20,000 during the month for the benefit of the destitutes of the State. Sanction has been accorded by the Local Committee to this sum being utilised in providing seed, bullocks and agricultural implements to the cultivators of the jagir and man villages.

General character of relief works.—The State Engineer reports that there were 2,849 persons working on relief works, and that the fall in their number is due to rain and to the departure of many to their homes for the purpose of ploughing and sowing their crops.

The railway has 7,604 men at work, and the progress up to the 15th has been as follows :—

—	Work completed during August.	Previously reported.	Total to 15th of August.
Earthwork	28,45,927	1,89,44,456	2,17,90,383
Stone bank	80,746	3,26,076	4,06,822
Ballast collection	39,460	73,028	1,12,488

Out of the 43½ miles of railway in the Kota States, 26½ miles have been completed and 8 miles are in progress.

2,307 deaths have been reported from starvation and its after effects.

Prices have somewhat improved. General distress is diminishing, but very slowly. Cultivators are being given seed grain, plough bullocks and implements of husbandry, and are busy with their work. The labourers in villages find some work in the fields and the destitutes are relieved gratuitously.

JHALAWAR.

Private relief.—The subscription referred to in the statement for the month of July 1900, has reached to Rs. 3,376. This amount will be applied to the providing of necessary medicines, medical comforts and clothing for the poor.

Poor-houses.—The two principal poor-houses at the Chaoni and the city of Patan contain, respectively, 357 and 192 inmates. The decrease in the numbers is due to the fact that, with the exception of such as are weak, or sick, all able-bodied persons belonging to foreign States have been sent to their homes, having first been provided with necessary clothing and expenses for the journey; and those belonging to this State have also been sent to their villages, where there is more than enough work for them in the shape of weeding and ploughing, &c. The principal Patels have, moreover, been supplied with money to enable them to help with food and clothing such of the villagers as may stand in need of assistance owing to illness or some other cause. The same procedure has been adopted with respect to the poor-houses at Pachpahar, Awar Dag and Gangdhar.

Relief works.—The following relief works have remained open during the month, and the numbers of the workers on the last day of the month (*i.e.*, 24th August 1900) are given against the name of each :—

Works,	Number.
1. Mundliakheri tank	970
2. Kishenpura tank	520
3. Hatunia tank	135
4. Gaonri tank	90
5. Miscellaneous	10

The decrease in the numbers is chiefly due to the fact that the people of the agricultural classes have left the works for their fields.

Condition of the people.—Cholera has almost disappeared, but there have been some cases of diarrhoea and dysentery. The general health of the people has been good.

The rainfall during the month has been very good and the crops are in excellent condition.

Prices current.—The State grain shops have remained opened during the month. These shops have been very successful, and have given great satisfaction to all classes of the people, and have, moreover, materially influenced the market rates of the food grain, which have fallen considerably during the month.

Fodder.—Grass is plentiful everywhere, and all difficulties regarding fodder have disappeared.

No. 179.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. C. Wyllie, C.I.E., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 2187 F., dated Abu, the 16th May, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 1775 F., dated the 12th April, 1900,* I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statement† of the Jaisalmer State for the month of April, 1900, together with letter No. 339 G., dated 7th May, 1900, from the Resident, Western Rajputana States.

2. The monthly fluctuations in the numbers on relief since October, 1899, are shown in the marginal table. The total on works has risen by 8 per cent. during the month under review, but the dependents have increased in a greater ratio than the workers.

Months.	Works.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Percentage.
1899.				
October ...	921	6	927	·8
November ...	1,162	14	1,176	1·01
December ...	1,689	47	1,736	1·50
1900.				
January ...	1,407	17	1,424	1·23
February ...	1,584	17	1,601	1·37
March ...	1,574	19	1,593	1·37
April ...	1,709	26	1,735	1·5

The new workers are still in a minority, so many of the male population having left for Sind with their cattle. The organization and scale of wages have undergone no change since the beginning of the famine. Jowar is the staple food-grain and has been chiefly imported from Sind. The great majority of the people are employed on works in and around the capital, but eight petty works are in progress in the outlying parganas.

3. Admissions to the poor-house are increasing, and preparations are being made to open an orphanage in case of necessity. But according to the Dewan a famine orphan is as yet a rarity in Jaisalmer.

4. The health in the State is good, and cholera is conspicuous by its absence. There was no rabi harvest of any kind, as irrigation from wells is impossible and the winter rains entirely failed. There were a few showers of rain in the beginning of April, which put some water into the tanks of one pargana near Jaisalmer and of another on the eastern border. The wells are holding out, but a continuous course of brackish water without the usual admixture of curds must injuriously affect the condition of the people. The food-stocks are sufficient and imports at present are said to be satisfactory.

* See page 441 of Command Paper No. 206, presented in 1900.
† Not printed.

5. Emigration continues on a small scale. The chief object now is to save the cattle. This month 530 persons and 660 cattle have left for Bahawalpur. The Resident furnishes approximate figures of the deaths among cattle, and the extent of emigration since the famine began. As the local Hakims were directed to stop emigration as far back as December, it is possible that large numbers of cattle shown as dead or still within the limits of the State are really grazing at the present moment on the banks of the canals in Sind and Bahawalpur having been secretly removed by their owners. 107,281 head of cattle were reported as having left for the neighbouring tracts during the famine of 1896-97, but up till the end of April last barely three-fourths of that total are returned as having emigrated. As the cattle which will come back on the arrival of the rains will be accompanied by droves of Sind animals from the mosquito-haunted districts, it will be a matter of difficulty to compute the losses in livestock arising from the famine.

Enclosure in No. 179.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel A. P. Thornton, Resident, Western Rajputana States, to the Famine Commissioner in Rajputana, No. 339 G., dated Abu, the 7th May, 1900.

I have the honour to submit the accompanying Famine Report of the Jaisalmer State for the month of April, 1900, together with a skeleton map showing that there has been no change in the affected area.

	Rs.
* Males	411
Females	684
Children	431
	1,526
Non-working	183
	1,709

2. The number of labourers on relief works has increased from 1,422 to 1,526,* and the number of non-working children was 183 as against 152 in the preceding month. The Dewan reports that the distress is growing deeper as the season advances.

3. Two works were completed and five new works were opened, making a total of 18 works in progress, on which 1,526 labourers were employed.

4. The total famine expenditure during the month was Rs. 5,423.

5. The poor-house at Jaisalmer maintained 28 persons during the month, of whom 1 left and 1 died. The expenditure during the month amounted to Rs. 68, making a total expenditure of Rs. 381 since the poor-house was opened.

Some 80 persons are fed by the Seths of Jaisalmer.

6. The health of the labourers on the relief works is said to have been generally good. The Dewan, however, reports that there were 4 cases of measles at the Amarsagar relief work, and were duly attended to by the Hospital Assistant. Otherwise the State was free from cholera and other epidemic diseases.

7. One death occurred in the poor-house at the capital, and 3 persons died on the relief works.

8. No deaths from starvation are reported from the Jaisalmer State.

9. Thirty-seven famine labourers received medical treatment during the month, of whom 30 recovered, 4 died and 3 remained under treatment at the end of the month.

10. Emigration continues to take place. 530 persons with 660 cattle left Jaisalmer during the month for the Bahawalpur State.

11. The following statement, received from the Dewan, shows approximately the number of cattle there were in Jaisalmer at the beginning of the

famine, the number which have died, the number emigrated, and the number still remaining in the State :—

Total Number at the beginning of the Famine.			Died or Emigrated.						Number still remaining in the State.		
			Died.			Emigrated.					
Cows, bulls, buffalos, and camels.	Sheep and goats.	Total.	Cows, bulls, buffalos, and camels.	Sheep and goats.	Total.	Cows, bulls, buffalos, and camels.	Sheep and goats.	Total.	Cows, bulls, buffalos, and camels.	Sheep and goats.	Total.
220,200	237,700	456,900	137,600	103,000	240,000	29,100	46,400	75,500	53,500	87,300	140,800
			62%	43%		13%	20%		25%	37%	

These figures are merely approximate.

12. The prices of food-grains have somewhat fallen as shown below :—

—				Rates in March.	Rates in April.
Wheat	...	...	...	7½ seers	8½ seers
Bajra	...	...	...	7½ "	7½ "
Jowar	...	...	...	8 "	8½ "

13. Some 22 cents of rainfall was measured at Jaisalmer during the month. Some rain has also fallen in the Parganas of Khaba, Bap and Fatehgarh ; at the latter place the rain brought some days' water-supply in the tanks and nadis.

14. There has been no change in the rates of wages.

15. Food-stocks and imports are reported to be sufficient.

16. Drinking water in sufficient quantities is obtainable in the large villages and towns.

Annexure.

Remarks to accompany Famine Statement for April, 1900.

1. *Private relief.*—Eighty poor are fed by the Sahukars in the town.
2. *Village and poor-house relief.*—Nil.
3. *General character of relief works.*—Excavation of tanks, constructing and improving roads, collecting rubble stone and kankhar, and drawing water from wells and general repairs.
4. *Physical condition of people.*—The health of the persons under relief was generally satisfactory. The district was free from cholera or any other epidemic diseases. Four cases of measles were seen at Amarsagar relief work, which were duly attended to by the Hospital Assistant.
5. *Deaths (if any) from starvation.*—None.
6. *Food-stocks.*—Generally satisfactory.
7. *Importation of grain.*—Generally satisfactory.

8. *General condition and prospects of affected area.*—Intensity of distress growing day by day. There were little showers measuring 22 cents. at the capital, and the Parganas of Khaba and Bap had also 3 and 4 cents. From the Fatehgarh Pargana, however, a fair fall of rain was reported on the 16th and 17th, which gave some days' supply of water to the tanks and nadis in the pargana.

As noted in previous reports, no crops of any kind are standing in the State. Rabi crops are sown only in the depressions which were all dry this year. They are not sown here on wells which are too deep, and it is much expensive to obtain water from them for sowing purposes.

9. *Changes of rates in wages.*—No changes.

The wages are paid in cash and are given below, together with the equivalents of grain in British chittacks :—

Class.	Pice.	Grain Equivalents.
Mates	8	14·6
Men diggers	7	12·8
„ carriers	6	10·10
Women with infants	7	12·8
„ alone... ..	6	10·10
„ old and infirm	5	9·1
Children above 12	5	9·1
„ between 7 and 12	4	7·3
„ below 7	3	5·5

56 pice = a Jaisalmer rupee.

Prices reckoned on jowar.—The prices per kaldar rupee in Government seers stand as below :—

—							Seers.
Wheat	...	...	...	...	...	...	8½
Bajra	...	...	...	...	...	...	7½
Jowar	...	...	...	...	...	...	8½

When the rates were fixed the prices were calculated at 8 seers of jowar per rupee but, as the grain now sells ½ seer more, the coolies get a little more than that originally reckoned for the pice paid to them.

10. *Emigration or Immigration and cattle.*—The number of persons emigrated during the month was 530, making the total emigration 40,370.

None of the emigrants was deported back by the State, nor had any one voluntarily returned during the month.

The cattle are in great straits. They have considerably deteriorated in physique. 137½ thousand head of cows, oxen, and buffalos and camels are estimated to have died from starvation up to the end of March last. The number estimated to be existing now is 53½ thousand, of which 660 cattle were removed this month to foreign countries. The number of cattle removed up to date is 29,381 head.

No. 180.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. C. Wyllie, C.I.E., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 2,143 F., dated Abu, the 9th June, 1900.

In continuation of my letter, No. 2,187 F., dated the 16th May, 1900, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India,

the Famine Statement* of the Jaisalmer State for the month of May, 1900, together with letter, No. 424 G., dated 4th June, 1900, from the Resident, Western Rajputana States.

2. There has been very little change during the month, either in the numbers in receipt of the different kinds of relief or in the relative proportions of men, women, and children. The programme of relief works has been expanded, and now includes the clearing of culturable lands. The "karins" are being taken in hand, and if Jaisalmer receives even a moderate rainfall, the harvest should be larger than any that has been reaped for some years. The scale of wages remains the same for all those workers who are not paid at contract rates. The

number of works in the outlying parganas has increased from eight to eleven.

3. The health of the State continues good, and no deaths from starvation have been reported. The cholera epidemic, which caused such heavy mortality during May in many of the other Rajputana States, failed to penetrate into the desert.

4. The distinctive feature of the month was an abnormally heavy fall of rain in the south-west and central portions of Jaisalmer. This has improved the water-supply, and enabled agricultural operations to be commenced in isolated tracts. Food-stocks are sufficient, and the import trade has not yet ceased. Rain fell all along the Bahner Road, thus facilitating transport. Prices, however, show a slight tendency to rise, and will probably go higher in June. Emigration has practically ceased, as travelling now involves no little hardship. In the famine of 1896-97, 25,143 people were said to have emigrated. This year the returns show 40,470 emigrants, or 35 per cent. of the population, but the actual total is probably larger.

Enclosure in No. 180.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel A. P. Thornton, Resident, Western Rajputana States, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, No. 424 G., dated Abu, the 4th June, 1900.

I have the honour to submit the accompanying Famine Report of the Jaisalmer State for the month of May, 1900, together with a skeleton map, showing the affected area.

2. The distress continues, and the famine-affected area remains unchanged except in the marginally-noted parganas, which were favoured with a rainfall during the month, and where the difficulties of securing drinking-water have been mitigated.

The Dewan reports that the agricultural operations have been commenced in these parganas. Ploughs are worked by men who do not possess camels.

The number of labourers on relief works has decreased from 1,526 to 1,512, while the number of non-working children has increased from 183 to 221 on the last day of the month under report.

* Not printed

Three works were completed, and four new works opened during the month, making a total of 19 works in progress, on which 1,512 labourers were employed.

The total famine expenditure during the month was Rs. 5,385.

The number of persons receiving gratuitous relief from the State on the 25th May, 1900, was 28 against 26 in the preceding month. The cost of this relief is stated by the Dewan to be Rs. 84. The total expenditure under this head since the establishment of the poor-house at Jaisalmer amounted to Rs. 465.

The Seths of Jaisalmer continue to feed 80 destitute persons.

The health of the labourers on the relief works is said to have been generally good, and the State remained quite free from cholera and other epidemic diseases.

Five persons died on the relief works and one in the poor-house.

No deaths from starvation are reported from the Jaisalmer State.

Forty famine labourers received medical treatment during the month, of whom 21 were cured, 6 died, and 13 remained under treatment at the end of the month.

Emigration has almost ceased, only 100 persons with 530 cattle left Jaisalmer during the month, and 20 persons returned to Jaisalmer of their own accord from the adjoining Sind districts.

The prices of food-grains have risen as shown below:—

	Rates in April.	Rates in May.
Wheat	8½ seers	7½ seers
Bajra	7½ "	7½ "
Jowar	8½ "	8 "

The rates of wages remain unchanged.

The food-stocks are reported to be sufficient.

The table below shows the movement of food-grains and hides during April, 1900:—

	Food-grains.	Hides worth.
Imported	Mds. 14,202	Rs. 11
Exported	Nil.	5,081

The State has received during the month the second instalment of Government famine loan of Rs. 25,000.

Annexure.

Remarks by the Dewan, Jaisalmer, to accompany Famine Statement for May, 1900.

(1.) *Private relief.*—Eighty persons are fed by the Sahukars in the town.

(2.) *Village and poor-house relief.*—Nil.

(3.) *General character of relief works.*—Excavation of tanks, constructing and improving roads, clearing of jungle bushes to make the culturable soil fit for the plough, drawing water from wells and other miscellaneous labour.

(4) *Physical condition of people.*—Generally satisfactory. District free from cholera or other epidemic diseases.

(5) *Deaths (if any) from starvation.*—None.

(6) *Food-stocks.*—Sufficient.

(7) *Importation of grain.*—Generally satisfactory.

(8) *General condition and prospects of affected area.*—No improvement in the distressed area, except in the following parganas :—

- (1) Devikot.
(2) Ramgarh.
(3) Bap.

- (4) Khabha.
(5) Jaisalmer.
(6) Khuiala.

The Devikot and Ramgarh Parganas were favoured with fair showers on the 14th and 19th, measuring 60 cents. and 1-inch, respectively. In Bap and Khabha, although the rains were measured 6 and 9 cents. on the 13th and 19th, several of the villages under them had a fair rainfall. Similarly the Jaisalmer itself did not measure even a cent., but several of the villages under it got nice showers, so much so that the Jaisalmer tank itself received a good supply of water. The Khuiala Pargana also was favoured with little showers, and the agricultural operations have been commenced in all these parganas. The supply of water in the tanks and nadis has mitigated the sufferings of the people, and the water is within easy reach of the villagers. Most of the wells have been closed.

The kharif sowing is carried on by camels. Those who do not possess even camels employ themselves as animals in tilling their lands.

No rabi crops are standing anywhere, but the large karin "Masurdi" in Khabha has received water which will enable the rabi crops being sown on the sowing time.

9. *Changes of rates in wages.*—No changes have taken place. The labourers are paid in cash. The scale of wages, as usual, is given under, together with the equivalents of grain in British chittacks :—

Class.	Pice.	Chittacks.
Mates	8	14·6
Men diggers	7	12·8
" carriers	6	10·10
Women with infants	7	12·8
" alone	6	10·10
" old and infirm	5	9·1
Children above 12... ..	5	9·1
" between 7 and 12	4	7·3
" below 7	3	5·5

56 pice—a Jaisalmer rupee. Prices are reckoned on jowar.

Prices are as under.

	Seers.
Wheat	7½
Bajra	7½
Jowar	8

10. *Emigration or immigration and cattle.*—The emigration has almost ceased, only 100 men were reported to have emigrated during the month. The total number of emigrants up to date is 40,470.

None of the emigrants was deported back by the State, but 20 persons have voluntarily returned this month from Thar and Parker.

Cattle are very deficient and poor, but their condition will improve when grass has grown up in the tracts favoured with rains. Bullocks for agricultural purposes are scarce.

The removal of cattle to outlying districts for pasture was not in much progress during the month; only 530 head were taken away, making the total of 29,911.

No. 181.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. C. Wyllie, C.I.E., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 2819 F., dated Abu, the 13th July, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 2143 F., dated the 9th June, 1900, I have the honour to forward for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statement* of the Jaisalmer State for the month of June, 1900, together with letter No. 528 G., dated the 5th July 1900, from the Resident, Western Rajputana States.

2. The marginal table shows that the numbers on relief have fallen lower than during any other month since relief operations were first started in October. I regret to say that a marriage party from Marwar introduced cholera into the capital, and the epidemic quickly spread through the city and famine works. This caused a complete panic, as the disease has hitherto been unknown in Jaisalmer. The death figures are not yet available, but it is feared they will be high. Seven of the works close to the city were entirely abandoned. Fortunately

Months.	Works.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Percentage.
1899.				
October	921	6	927	·8
November	1,162	14	1,176	1·01
December	1,689	47	1,736	1·50
1900.				
January	1,407	17	1,424	1·23
February	1,584	17	1,601	1·37
March	1,574	19	1,593	1·37
April	1,709	26	1,735	1·50
May	1,733	28	1,761	1·51
June	611	16	627	·54

the outlying works were very little affected.

3. Good rain fell in June in five parganas, and the people promptly took advantage of it to sow some kharif crops. These after germinating have begun to wither owing to the absence of further showers. The cattle have benefited somewhat by the rain. 178 persons are reported to have returned to their villages, but I think this is an under-estimate, because information received from Bhawalpur shows that a large number of emigrants, most of whom belong to the Bap and Nokh Parganas, have been tempted homewards by the accounts of rain or the appearance of clouds. There is, however, no general tendency among the emigrants yet to return. They cannot risk bringing droves of cattle belonging to themselves and their Sind friends to the Jaisalmer pasture-lands until the monsoon has fairly broken. Owing to the disorganisation in the public offices by cholera, the accounts received from the State are very meagre.

Enclosure in No. 181.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel A. P. Thornton, Resident, Western Rajputana States, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, No. 528 G., dated Mount Abu, the 5th July, 1900.

I have the honour to submit the Famine Report of the Jaisalmer State for the month of June, 1900.

The Officiating Dewan reports that owing to severe outbreak of cholera in Jaisalmer city, almost all the relief workers and muster clerks have left the place, the public offices have become disorganised and the bazaar shops closed.

* Not printed.

The Maharawal and his family members have left the fort and encamped at a garden called Mul Sagar, 5 miles distant from Jaisalmer.

The number of labourers on relief works on the 25th June was 523, as compared with 1,512 in the preceding month. 88 dependents were also maintained on the works. The expenditure during the month amounted to Rs. 5,134.

The number of persons receiving gratuitous relief from the State was 16 against 28 in May last, but the amount spent in maintaining them is not given.

The parganas of Bap and Nokh have received good rain measuring 1 inch and 40 cents in each during the month. Small showers have also fallen in the parganas of Fatehgarh, Mayajlar and Nachna, but more rain is urgently wanted to keep up the kharif crops lately sown.

The condition of cattle is said to have somewhat improved in the districts where rain has fallen.

People have been prohibited from drinking water from tanks, and wells have been re-opened for them.

The rates of wages remain unchanged.

The food stocks are reported to be satisfactory, but the information regarding the movement of food grains and hides is not available.

178 persons are said to have voluntarily returned to their homes.

The Seths of Jaisalmer continue to feed some 80 destitute persons.

No deaths from starvation were reported during the month.

The Hospital Assistant being engaged in cholera cases has not been able to furnish the usual statement of mortality on the relief works. But from a statement received from Captain Grant, Officiating Residency Surgeon, Western Rajputana States, it appears that between the 21st and 25th June, no less than 389 deaths have occurred in Jaisalmer city from cholera, and I have asked him whether he can detach another Hospital Assistant to Jaisalmer to assist the one in charge of the dispensary there.

As there has been no change in the affected area, the usual map has not been sent.

Annexure.

Remarks to accompany Famine Statement for June, 1900.

- (1) *Private relief.*—Some 80 persons are fed by the Sahukars in the town.
- (2) *Village and poorhouse relief.*—Nil.
- (3) *General character of relief works.*—Excavation of tanks, constructing and improving roads, clearing of jungle bushes to make the culturable soil fit for the plough, drawing water from wells, and other miscellaneous labour.
- (4) *Physical condition of people.*—Very bad. Cholera having broken out in the town, hundreds fell victims to the dire disease.
- (5) *Deaths (if any) from starvation.*—None.
- (6) *Food stocks.*—Generally satisfactory.
- (7) *Importation of grain.*—Generally satisfactory.
- (8) *General condition and prospects of affected area.*—The only prosperous parganas are of Bap and Nokh, which have had a good fall of rain during the month to the measure of 1 inch and 40 cents. Scanty showers have also fallen in the parganas of Fatehgarh, Mayajlar, Mohangarh and Nachna during the month, but heavy showers are badly wanted to improve the whole affected area. High winds are blowing day and night since a week.

The kharif crops sown lately are withering, except in Bap and Nokh where they are flourishing.

No rabi crops are standing in the territory.

(9) *Changes of rates in wages.*—No changes have taken place. The scale of wages are the same as reported in previous month.

(10) *Emigration or Immigration.*—The emigration did not take place during the month.

178 persons have, however, voluntarily returned, making the total of 198 as having returned up to date.

Cattle.—Cattle are very deficient and poor. Their condition has somewhat improved in the tracts favoured with rains.

Physique of the people.—Cholera has broken out in the town, and has done and is doing much loss of life. Relief workers have absconded in the district and a great consternation prevails.

No. 182.

Letter from the Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 3063 F., dated Abu, the 9th August, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 2819 F., dated the 13th July 1900, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statement* of the Jaisalmer State for the month of July 1900, together with letter No. 674 G., dated the 3rd August 1900, from the Resident, Western Rajputana States.

2. The numbers in receipt of relief of all kinds during the last ten months are brought together in the marginal table. The report for last month was written while the cholera was at its height. During July the epidemic largely abated, and the result is seen in a rise of 48 per cent. in the numbers on works. The total, however, is still lower than any recorded since operations were first started in October 1899. The Hospital Assistant reports that the recorded deaths from cholera amounted to 891. These were returned from the city as well as from the works, and it is feared that they fall far short of the actual total. The new admissions on the works were all people who had fled in the panic. The following table shows the percentages of men, women and children on the works during each of the last three months :—

Months.	Works.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Percentage.
1899.				
October	921	6	927	8
November	1,162	14	1,176	1.01
December	1,689	47	1,736	1.50
1900.				
January	1,407	17	1,424	1.23
February	1,584	17	1,601	1.37
March	1,574	19	1,593	1.37
April	1,709	26	1,735	1.50
May	1,733	28	1,761	1.51
June	611	16	627	54
July	882	50	932	71

	Class.	May.	June.	July.
Men		27	36	29
Women		46	39	45
Children		26	24	26

* Not printed.

These figures so far as they go show that the panic was greatest among the women and children. They also show that the panic has subsided as the various classes have resumed their normal proportions. As the numbers are still 89% below the May total, it would seem that the people themselves take a more hopeful view of the future than the Dewan does and are beginning to resume their normal occupations.

3. The total number on gratuitous relief is the largest on record, and the Dewan reports that, in addition to the 50 persons directly maintained by the State, 105 are relieved by charitable funds collected locally. This is the first mention of this kind of relief, but it is possible that it is identical with the gratuitous doles hitherto described as given by the City Sahukars.

4. Meteorological conditions were as unfavourable as they possibly could be during July. The only moderate fall of rain was reported from the Dewa Pargana, but the returns given in the remarks appended to the statement must be incomplete, as the Dewan mentions that the freshly sown crops in Nokh and Bap were still alive. During the month hot westerly winds prevailed all over the State, and effectually withered the young bajra or choked it with sand. The grass seems to have fared somewhat better, as the Resident says that pasture is now available in parts. Food-stocks are said to be sufficient; the decline in June of nearly 13% in grain imports mentioned by the Resident is ascribed to the transport difficulties. Although the rainfall was very slight, the water-supply is said to have improved. I regret to notice that the condition of the people on relief works is said to have much deteriorated; the Resident is being addressed on the subject; the condition of the inhabitants of the State generally is good. Emigration has ceased and 375 persons are recorded as having returned during the month. From information received from the Bhawalpur State, the total given ought apparently to be larger. 30 head of cattle have come back to the single pargana of Nokh. Cattle are everywhere deficient, but no account has been given of the condition of those in the State. The report contains no allusion to the grants from the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund, to the consignment of Nepal rice, or to the way in which these are being utilised.

Enclosure in No. 182.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel A. P. Thornton, Resident, Western Rajputana States, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, No. 674 G., dated Abu, the 3rd August, 1900.

I have the honour to submit the Famine Report of the Jaisalmer State for the month of July 1900.

The total rainfall up to the end of July 1900 has been as under :—

		May.	June.	July.	Total.
Jaisalmer Circle	...	—	—	0.55	0.55
Devikot	"	0.60	—	0.30	0.90
Khabha	"	0.09	—	0.40	0.49
Ramgarh	"	1.0	—	0.30	1.30
Dewa	"	—	—	1.50	1.50
Bap	"	0.06	1.40	0.10	1.56

The agricultural operations had been commenced in almost all the circles in May, but, owing to the want of rains in June and the prevalence of high

winds, the crops sown in parts withered, or were buried in sand. The crops in Nokh and Bap Parganas are, however, reported to be in fair condition. The want of rain is keenly felt and improvement in the situation cannot be expected until the monsoon opens freely.

The outbreak of cholera reported last month subsided in the middle of July. The Dewan reports that the number of deaths according to the Hospital Assistant at Jaisalmer, from the 21st June to 15th July 1900, was 891. The town and the neighbouring villages are reported to be now free from the epidemic which is somewhat prevalent in the Nokh Pargana.

Generally the physique of the people is according to the Dewan now satisfactory. Diarrhoea and dysentery are, however, prevailing to some extent.

The Hospital Assistant, being engaged in cholera cases, and subsequently absent on duty with His Highness the Maharawal on his way back to the Mayo College, has been unable to furnish the usual statement of mortality on the relief works. The Dewan remarks that the physique of the relief workers, owing to continued labour, has been much deteriorated.

Males ..	...	...	...	...	229	The number of labourers on relief works on the 25th July 1900 was 781 as compared with 523 in the preceding month.
Females ..	...	...	...	...	354	
Children ..	...	...	...	...	198	
Total ..	...	...	...	...	781	

The number of non-working children also increased from 88 to 101.

The famine expenditure during the month was Rs. 2,834.

The number of persons receiving gratuitous relief from the State was 50 against 60 in the previous month. Of these 9 were orphans (4 boys and 5 girls). The cost of this relief is stated by the Dewan to be Rs. 177.

105 persons were also maintained on village doles from the funds collected locally.

There were 15 relief works in progress during the month.

The aggregate amount spent on relief measures up to the end of July 1900 was Rs. 42,397 (Jaisalmer currency).

Pasture is obtainable in some parts of the State, and the removal of the cattle to the neighbouring districts has now ceased.

Emigration has altogether ceased. 375 persons returned during the month.

The water supply has much improved by the recent rains.

There has been no change in the rates of wages

The food-stocks are sufficient.

The table given below shows the movement of food-grains and hides :—

	Food-grains in Maunds.			Hides worth Rupees.		
	April.	May.	June.	April.	May.	June.
Imported	14,202	11,275	9,828	11	—	—
Exported	—	—	—	5,081	1,796	747

The fall in the importation is said to be due to the difficulty in securing transport.

Practically there has been no change in the affected area, and the usual map has, therefore, not been sent.

Annexure.

Remarks by Rawatmal, Officiating Dewan, Jaisalmer, to accompany Famine Statement for July, 1900.

1. Private relief.—105 persons are under relief out of the funds collected locally.
2. Village and poor-house relief.—Nil.
3. General character of relief works.—Excavation of tanks, constructing and improving roads, watering trees, removing nuisance from the streets, drawing water from wells and other miscellaneous labour.
4. Physical condition of people.—Cholera prevailing in Nokh Pargana. In other parts of the country generally satisfactory. Cholera disappeared from the town of Jaisalmer.
5. Deaths (if any) from starvation.—Nil.
6. Food-stocks.—Generally satisfactory.
7. Importation of grain.—Generally satisfactory.
8. General condition and prospects of affected area.—The rains fallen from May to July are given below :—

	May.	June.	July.	Total.
Jaisalmer Circle	—	—	0.55	0.55
Devikot " " " "	0.60	—	0.30	0.90
Khabha " " " "	0.09	—	0.40	0.49
Ramgarh " " " "	1.00	—	0.30	1.30
Dewa " " " "	—	—	1.50	1.50
Bap " " " "	0.06	1.40	0.10	1.56
	1.75	1.40	3.15	6.30

The above is sufficient to explain the condition of the distressed area.

The agricultural operations were commenced nearly in all the circles in May, but the rains have not fallen in June, and the high winds having blown tremendously, the young crops, which were sown in parts, withered or buried in sand. The crops of the Nokh and Bap Parganas were, however, a little better. In Dewa 1½ inch of rain has fallen in July, but in other circles from 10 to 55 cents only have fallen.

Unless it falls freely in the near future, the condition of the distressed area is not expected to improve. High winds have been blowing all these days, except on the 13th and 14th July when Dewa has had 1½ inch of rain, but at the other registering stations the rain has been poor. The season is advancing and the time for kharif sowings is passing. Every one is anxious for a sufficient and heavy rain which it is sanguinely hoped Providence will send soon and all the anxiety removed.

9. Changes of rates in wages.—No changes have occurred in the scale of wages. The labourers, as usual, are paid in cash, and the grain equivalents are as given under :—

Class.	Pice.	Chittacks.
Mates	8	14.6
Men diggers	7	12.8
" carriers	6	10.10
Women with infants	7	12.8
" alone	6	10.10
" old and infirm	5	9.1
Children above 12	5	9.1
" between 7 and 12	4	7.3
" below 7	3	5.5

56 pice = a Jaisalmer rupee. Prices are reckoned on jowar. The prices are as under :—

	Seers.
Wheat	7½
Bajra	7½
Jowar	7½

10. Emigration or Immigration.—The emigration has altogether ceased, but, as the rains are holding back, it is likely to take place again. The number of persons who returned voluntarily during the month was 375, making the total of 573.

Cattle are deficient, but in some parts they now obtain grass for pasture. Bullocks for agricultural purposes are scarce. The removal of the cattle to neighbouring districts has ceased. Thirty head of cattle were taken back this month in Nokh Pargana.

No. 183.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. C. Wyllie, C.I.E., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 2197 F., dated Abu, the 17th May, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 1809 F., dated the 14th April, 1900,* I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statements† of the States of Jaipur and Kishangarh for the month of April, 1900, together with the covering letter of the Resident, No. 1620, dated 5th May, 1900

2. The following table shows the fluctuations in the numbers in receipt of both kinds of relief during the last seven months in Jaipur :—

Months.	Works.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Percentage.
October, 1899	7,000	48,732	55,732	1.9
November " " " "	25,400	Not reported	25,400	—
December " " " "	33,338	7,017	40,355	1.4
January, 1900	35,340	24,928	60,268	2.1
February " " " "	41,961	32,212	74,173	2.6
March " " " "	42,700	37,432	80,132	2.8
April " " " "	54,515	25,663	80,178	2.8

The workers have increased by 27 per cent. The figures show the numbers on works on the last day of the month under report. This marked rise is due to the completion of harvest operations over the greater part of the State. The Darbar, with the foresight which has been so marked a feature of the administration since the beginning of the famine, have extended works into the less severely stricken tahsils. These consist chiefly of a development of the great irrigation system which has been steadily growing for so many years. This has involved the addition of one sub-overseer and several clerks and work agents to the Public Works Department establishment. In two Nizamats also new petty works under local officers have been opened. The Rewari-Phalera Railway Extension is now split up into two charges, each under an Engineer Officer. These employ 6,770 people. The numbers on this work have fallen off by 14 per cent. The harvest is later in this part of the State, and probably next month's returns will show a marked increase. The numbers in the relief camps

* See page 452 of Command Paper No. 206, presented in 1900.

† Not printed.

under Rao Bahadur Dhanpat Rai have risen by 18 per cent. to 7,829 during April, so that the provision for the weakling gangs is keeping pace with the growing demand.

3. The totals of numbers on gratuitous relief are somewhat difficult to analyse. The statement shows a decrease of 31 per cent. In March the total included 30,751 persons relieved from private Sadabarts leaving a balance of only 6,681. In April the number on private relief has fallen to 14,774, so the balance dependent on the State has risen to 10,889. 25,663 persons are shown as in receipt of gratuitous relief on the last day in April. If those helped by the Sadabarts are excluded, the balance is 10,889, which appears to be made up of the persons relieved by the Relief Committee at their own homes, on the Rewari-Phalera Railway, and in the various poor-houses. The following table gives the best comparison of the different gratuitous relief operations during March and April:—

Agency.	March.	April.
Jaipur Relief Committee	3,131	3,710
Village relief	463	557
Rewari-Phalera Railway	693	611
Poor-house, Jaipur	1,507	1,359
" Chagsu	161	50
" Sawai Madhopur	400	498
" Punwar	226	254
" Newai	100	100
" Jhunjhun	—	862
Raj Engineering Department	—	1,883
Total	6,681	9,884

Three new poor-houses have been opened, and apparently the Lalsot Institution has been closed.

4. Nearly half a lakh of rupees has been advanced as loans to cultivators for the improvement of wells, and purchase of seed. A cattle camp was established during the month close to the city. The health of the people is fair, and no epidemic is reported, but the inhabitants of the most acutely distressed tracts are falling off in condition. A large number of foreigners are returned as either on the works or begging in Shekhawati and Torawati. These are probably from Bikaner, Loharu, and Patiala.

5. The comparative numbers on relief works, and in receipt of gratuitous relief in the Kishangarh State since October 1899, are given below:—

Months.	Works.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Percentage.
October, 1899	5,412	1,600	7,012	5.3
November "	6,263	2,000	8,263	6.1
December "	6,685	2,233	8,918	6.6
January, 1900	6,240	3,037	9,277	6.9
February "	5,988	2,979	8,967	6.6
March "	6,598	3,615	10,211	7.5
April "	7,703	3,932	11,635	8.6

There has been a marked increase of 16 per cent. in the numbers on works, while those in receipt of gratuitous relief have risen by 8 per cent. Work has begun in the city lake, and on a tank near the city. These works would appear to be administered chiefly on the contract system. During the month a methodical revision of the gratuitous lists has resulted in an addition to the numbers relieved.

6. The returning emigrants are receiving attention, and the arrangements made to prevent suffering and mortality among this class are in accordance with the instructions on the subject which were issued to the Political Officers some time ago. The proposal to meet the expenditure from the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund grant has already been anticipated by me.

7. Now that threshing operations are over, a considerable number of cattle are out of work, and these are received freely in the State cattle camps which have been established at different centres where there is plenty of prickly-pear for them to eat. The April crop of pala has not been very good, and bhusa is now available to mix with the "thor." State agents have been busy purchasing cattle in Gwalior and Dholpur; and, if the animals are allowed to remain where they are until the rains, the enterprise will be very profitable.

8. An interesting account of the arrangements made for the provision of a good water-supply is given in the remarks appended to the statement. The spring level in the wells is sinking every day, but the wells are being deepened wherever possible. The responsibilities of the owners of endowed wells are being enforced, and the Darbar has established water posts on the main lines of traffic. Steps are also being taken to disinfect all the sources of water-supply. Generally speaking, the State arrangements are well in advance of the requirements of the situation, and the Darbar deserves credit.

Enclosure in No. 183.

Letter from G. R. Irwin, Esq., Resident in Jaipur, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, No. 1620, dated Jaipur, the 5th May, 1900.

I have the honour to submit copies of the Darbar Famine Reports for the month of April.

2. I can see nothing in them on which I can usefully comment. Such remarks as I had to make were submitted with my narrative report for last month.

Annexure.

JAIPUR STATE.

Remarks.

1. *Private relief.*—12,287 persons are employed on works in villages taken in hand by the Zamindars by the help of taccavi advances.

2. *Village relief.*—6,761 persons are receiving relief in grain and cash allowance as noted below:—

3,710 persons especially *pardah nashin* women, in cash through the Relief Committee.

525 persons incapable of doing any work, in grain, through the Nizamat Torawati at the Rewari-Phalera Railway; and

32 Khandar } in cash at the Rewari-Phalera Railway.

611 children }

1,883 persons, in cash, through the Raj Engineering Department.

3. *Poor-house relief.*—Cooked food is given to 3,123 persons in the poor-houses as noted below:—

1,359 in the poor-house attached to the Mayo Hospital

50 " at Chagsu.

498 " Sawai Madhopur.

254 " Punwar.

100 " Newai.

862 " Jhunjhun.

There are poor-houses also at Malpura, Toda Rai Singh, Hindown and Toda Bhim, the reports of which for April have not yet been received.

4. *General character of relief works.*—Earthworks.

5. *Physical condition of people.*—Generally fair, but in the tahsils of Toda Rai Singh, Sambhar, Danta Ramgarh and Phagi the people look emaciated.

6. *Deaths, if any, from starvation.*—One hundred and sixty-nine deaths took place during the month as noted below:—

Fifty-seven Jaipur subjects, 21 foreigners, 91 persons who could not be identified whether Jaipur subjects or foreigners.

7. *Food-stocks.*—Not sufficient, and grain is being imported into Jaipur towns and villages from outside.

8. *General condition and prospects of affected area.*—As reported in paragraph 8 of the Remarks for February last.

9. *Changes in rates.*—As mentioned in paragraph 9 of the Remarks for February last.

10. *Immigrants and Emigrants.*—About 4,000 immigrants in Nizamat Shekhawati and about 3,000 immigrants in Nizamat Torawati earn their livelihood by labour or by begging in different parts in the said Nizamats. 1,556 Jaipur subjects have left their houses in Shekhawati for works within or outside of this territory. 137 people, who had formerly left their villages, have come back to their homes in Nizamat Malpura.

11. *Other matters connected with famine.*—As mentioned in the report for February last.

KISHANGARH.

Remarks.

Lists of *parda nashin* and respectable paupers for gratuitous relief have been revised from village to village, and the result is a large increase in the numbers.

Kitchens: Sadabarts remain the same as before; so is the poorhouse.

The immigration of Marwaris and others is on the increase, and arrangements are being made for giving them relief at roadside halting places.

They are found to be generally in great destitution, and consequently those with cattle suffer great privations.

The Local Charitable Relief Fund is being utilised to give relief to these returning emigrants, but it would prove inadequate unless it is replenished by grants from the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund by recognising this as one of the valid objects of the fund, in consideration of the peculiar circumstances of Rajputana, where Native States' territorial jurisdiction changes every three or four stages.

Construction of 3 zenana bathing ghats on the banks of the big city lake has been taken in hand as relief works, as well as that of the Inspection Bungalow and of the European Guest-house.

The road from Kishangarh to Udaipur to be extended to Srinagar (Ajmer) is under construction.

The work of excavation of the Suraj Kund, a tank, near the city, that silted up owing to the breaching of the embankment of the big city lake 15 years ago, has also been taken in hand as a relief work.

The cattle preservation measures that were initiated some time ago have been kept up, and the number of cattle at various prickly-pear plantation centres is increasing. The cattle are given bran and bhoosa or pala mixed with the prickly-pear fodder.

The investigation and collection of natural products used as food and fodder are progressing.

The new wells sunk are now being built up pucca, and are being used for watering fodder crops.

The number of children in the orphanage is nearly the same as last month.

The working of the garnet mines is continued on the same principle as before.

Plough cattle are being purchased by Raj agents in the Dholpur and Gwalior districts.

The rabi harvest which was calculated to come up to 4 annas in the rupee has been found to have fallen short of the estimate by about 12 per cent., and the actual out-turn may be put down at 3½ annas.

doubled. The increase is largely confined to the people who are assisted in their own villages. Many workers of both sexes were thrown out of employment by the completion of some of the works on the programme. It was impossible to find other suitable projects close at hand, and as at the same time it was inadvisable to take the cultivators far from their homes at this season, the Darbar were forced to put them on subsistence rations. Close on 12 per cent. of the population of the State is now in receipt of relief of one kind or another.

6. As in Jaipur, considerable attention has been devoted to the invention of a workable hand-plough. I have seen a specimen, and it appears to be well adapted for its purpose. Its chief points are a crossbar which takes the place of the yoke and a wheel in front of the share. Large numbers of these ploughs have been made, and they are coming into general use. A new method of treating the "nil joar" as fodder has been so successfully followed in Kishengarh that I have suggested it for experiment in other States. The first crop is out about six weeks after sowing, and the plant, if irrigated, will then yield from eight to twelve cuttings at intervals of from five to six weeks. The seed appears to be in great demand, as it now fetches ten rupees a maund.

7. With their usual foresight the authorities have opened fodder depôts where the cultivators can purchase at favourable rates barley, bhusa mixed with dried kair stalks and prickly pear. The Darbar have been steadily purchasing both seed and cattle for advances to the villagers, but their operations have lately been curtailed owing to want of money. The Darbar have wisely resolved to make no advances of any kind until the monsoon rain reaches the State.

8. On the whole the condition of the people has been good. Cholera threatened to assume an epidemic form in Kishengarh, but was suppressed by vigorous measures.

During the month 6,469 returning emigrants with 2,791 head of cattle received food and fodder at the relief depôts at a total cost of Rs. 764-9-0. The average daily cost per man was one anna, and per animal two annas. The majority were in bad case.

Enclosure in No. 185.

Letter from G. R. Irwin, Esq., C.S., Resident at Jaipur, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, No. 2466, dated Jaipur, the 5th July, 1900.

I have the honour to submit, with my remarks, the famine reports for the month of June furnished by the Jaipur and Kishangarh Darbars.

Jaipur.

2. It will be noticed that the number on relief works in Jaipur as shown in the return has fallen by nearly 11,000 since the last monthly return was sent in. The decrease is mainly in Shekhawati, where the numbers at work under the Nazim have fallen by nearly 10,000, owing no doubt to the heavy showers of about a month ago which induced many people to start cultivating in their villages. No return has been received for the month from Torawati, where over 4,000 people were employed in May, so that the actual decrease in the whole State is probably less than 10,000. The labourers under the Public Works Department keep pretty steady. Sardar Bahadur Dhanpat Rai's camp is growing largely.

3. There is a discrepancy between the figures for gratuitous relief as shown in this and the last weekly return; the latter gives the average number receiving help during the week, while the monthly return gives as nearly as possible the figures for the last actual day of report.

4. I have made inquiries as to the sudden drop in the numbers of the inmates of the Jhunjhunu and Hindaun poor-houses.

5. The number of foreigners in Jaipur territory has gone down by nearly a half.
6. There are now nearly 800 animals in the cattle camp; almost double the number shown last month.
7. The other principal features of the month are the development of the arrangements for assisting returning emigrants and for the distribution of hand-ploughs: about 300 patterns have been sent out into all parts of the State.
8. In my narrative report I have referred to the state of the public health and the cholera epidemic.

Kishengarh.

9. The numbers on relief works have increased slightly and village doles have nearly trebled. The reasons are fully explained in the Darbar's report, the bulk of the increase occurred, I believe, just at the end of the month.
10. The distribution of hand-ploughs is being steadily pushed. Fodder difficulties are greatly aggravated by the delay in the arrival of the monsoon.
11. In the meantime detailed information is being systematically procured as to the people who will require and deserve help when the rains do come.
12. I see nothing else in the Kishengarh report calling for special comment.

Annexure.

JAIPUR STATE.

1. *Private relief*.—15,941 persons are employed on works in villages taken in hand by the zamindars by the help of Takkavi advances.
 2. *Village relief*.—8,597 persons are receiving relief in grain and cash allowance as noted below :—
 - 3,939 persons especially pardanashin women in cash through Relief Committee.
 - 399 persons in cash through the Raj Engineering Department.
 - 4,227 persons in grain through the Superintendent of the Jaipur Transport Corps.
 - 32 persons in grain through the tehsildar at Khandar.
 3. *Poor-house relief*.—Cooked food is given to 3,263 persons in the poor-houses as noted below :—
 - 1,468 in the Jaipur poor-house, attached to the Mayo Hospital.
 - 789 ditto ditto at Sawai Madhopur.
 - 344 ditto ditto „ Jhunjhunu.
 - 74 ditto ditto „ Hindaun.
 - 184 ditto ditto „ Todabhim.
 - 92 ditto ditto „ Moazzamabad.
 - 302 ditto ditto „ Pauwar.
- There are poor-houses also at Malpura, Toda Rai Singh, Chatsu, Niwai and Lalsot, the reports of which for June have not yet been received.
4. *General character of relief works*.—Earthworks.
 5. *Physical condition of people*.—Generally fair, but in the tehsils of Malpura, Sambhar, Dauta, Ramgarh and Hindaun the people look emaciated.
 6. *Deaths, if any, from starvation*.—335 deaths took place during the month as noted below :—
 - 135 Jaipur subjects.
 - 110 foreigners.
 - 90 persons who could not be identified whether Jaipur subjects or foreigners.
 7. *Food stocks*.—As mentioned in paragraph 7 of the remarks for May last.
 8. *General condition and prospects of affected area*.—As reported in paragraph 8 of the remarks for February last.
 9. *Changes in rates*.—As mentioned in paragraph 9 of the remarks for February last.
 10. *Immigrants and Emigrants*.—About 965 immigrants in Nizamat Shekhawati, and about 2,000 immigrants in Nizamat Torawati can earn their livelihood by labour or by begging in different parts in the said Nizamats.
- About 150 Jaipur subjects have left their homes in Sambhar for feeding their cattle in Dang.

250 people who had formerly left their villages have come back to their homes in Tehsil Niwai.

11. *Other matters connected with famine*.—As mentioned in the report for February last.

The cattle camp consists of 764 animals as noted below :—

	Number.
Agricultural bullocks	45
Cows	348
She buffaloes	26
Calves	330
She buffalo calves	15
Total	764

The animals are fed with 2,990 maunds of fodder, and 1,729 maunds of prickly pears mixed with it.

KISHANGARH.

Remarks for the month of June, 1900.

Delay in the setting in of the monsoon is causing anxiety.

The dry crops that were sown in May when there were slight showers of rain, as well as the grass that then grew, have perished for want of moisture.

There has been a great increase in the number of persons relieved under all heads especially under gratuitous relief in Sadabarta, village doles, &c.

The number of workers fell off during the 1st week of the month in consequence of the showers that had fallen in May, having stimulated agricultural operations which, however, got restricted soon afterwards, in the absence of further rains.

The numbers accordingly rose until the last week of June, when there was again a fall in numbers owing to some of the relief works having been closed on completion, and the resident workers not choosing to leave home to join other works still in progress.

This to a certain extent also accounts for increase in village doles and other methods of relief.

The relief works that are still in progress are now all nearing completion, and some of them would have been closed, were it not for extra grants made purposely for prolongation of work in the shape of extensions and improvements.

Some new projects have also had to be sanctioned so that these along with petty repairs to earthworks of irrigation bunds which have been undertaken wherever feasible and necessary in Khalsa villages, may help us in finding work at their homes for immigrants and for agriculturists hitherto employed on relief works.

The hand-ploughs that have been extemporised and found successful are now in general use in the absence of plough cattle; and with the aid of Bohras or failing them, with takavi or gifts, arrangements have been made for giving employment to a number of persons in tilling their own holdings or those of others on hire.

This number is daily increasing. Further improvements have been made in the hand-ploughs by steeling and sharpening the edges of the subsoiler and thus making it more efficient in cutting through the soil and the roots of grasses and weeds (*vide* accompanying sample).

Arrangements have been made for making and supplying free of cost hand-ploughs at various centres.

The seed of the "nil joar" fodder, which has been found to be the most useful of all green fodders, has been in great demand both from outside and locally in consequence of the delay in the rains, and has consequently risen in price from Rs. 6 a maund to nearly Rs. 10 a maund.

Arrangements have been made for opening cheap fodder shops in consequence of fodder having become almost unavailable for sale. Imported barley, straw as well as dried kair and dry prickly pear are the fodders kept for sale, the green prickly pear having been entirely used up except at certain places.

The number of immigrants passing through Kishangarh on their way to Marwar, Bikaner, &c., is increasing. Such of them as are destitute are fed and provided with fodder at the various depôts which were opened at various road-side places for the purpose and which are now kept up at the cost of the "Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund."

Lists have been compiled showing the requirements of broken down cultivators as regards supplying of cattle, seed, fodder, &c., for the whole State inclusive of jaghir and other alienated villages.

Advances of cotton seed in general and of cattle and fodder and food stuff in exceptional cases, have been made during the month.

A general distribution of cattle, seed, &c., will not be made until the rains set in.

Purchases of cattle, seed, food stuffs and fodder are in progress.

The markets are well stacked and the wholesale prices of food grains although higher than in the last month, compare favourably with those of Ajmer, Beawar, Jaipur and other neighbouring markets.

The cultivators have been allowed the free use of the fresh leaves of the Khejra and those of the Dhok (*Butosia Frondosa*), and these and the kair bush wherever available and supplemented with a little dry fodder in the shape of barley, straw or bran are now in general use.

The garnet mines are worked as briskly as before, the State taking a moiety of the outturn from the workers.

The new marble quarries are worked by experts who have taken a lease of the quarries. They employ famine labour under State supervision.

The mica quarries are being blasted and excavated at various places, thus giving employments to hundreds of persons.

The measures adopted for the preservation of cattle at certain centres are still in force.

Drinking water wells are still being deepened as the level of water in them goes on continually sinking from month to month.

The water posts are still kept up owing to the holding off of the rains.

Now that grain has suddenly risen in price and is selling much above its original cost price, the cheap grain shops are again coming into general demand.

Cholera raged in an epidemic form at Sarwar, having originated from the camp on the Nasirabad-Kekri Railway earthwork.

The Sanitary Officer was sent over to Sarwar when he undertook measures for disinfection and sanitation on a large scale and ultimately succeeded in putting the epidemic down.

The public health has been otherwise good.

The poor-house has been quite free from cholera.

No death from starvation has been brought to notice.

The emigration statistics for the month are as follows:—

Emigration.		Immigration.	
Men.	Cattle.	Men.	Cattle.
14	—	1,240	757

The approximate expenditure under all heads on famine relief during the month has been as follows:—

	Rs.
On relief works	34,866
On gratuitous and other relief	8,142
Total	43,008

No. 186.

Letter from the Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 3,086 F., dated Abu, the 14th August, 1900.

In continuation of my letter, No. 2,851 F., dated the 17th July, 1900, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Reports of the Jaipur and Kishangarh States for the month of July, 1900, together with the covering letter of the Officiating Resident, No. 2,968, dated the 4th August, 1900.

2. The following table shows the numbers on relief in the Jaipur State during the last ten months:—

Months.	Workers.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Percentage.
October, 1899	7,000	48,732	55,732	·19
November „	25,400	Not reported	25,400	—
December „	33,338	7,017	40,355	1·4
January, 1900	35,340	24,928	60,268	2·1
February „	41,961	32,212	74,173	2·6
March „	42,700	57,432	80,132	2·8
April „	54,515	25,663	80,178	2·8
May „	71,472	39,656	111,128	3·9
June „	60,596	49,993	110,589	3·9
July „	44,031	46,112	90,143	3·1

According to the above table, which gives the numbers of units of relief on the 25th July, the workers had fallen off by 27·3 per cent., but as the Resident points out, the returns from all the different centres had not been received when the statement was compiled, and any useful comparison with the totals of last month is impossible. This is true so far as the total for the whole State is concerned, but, if the statistics of the centres whose July returns were late are excluded from the totals of May and June, approximate estimate of the fluctuations can be obtained. This is given in the following table:—

Agency.	Work.	May.	June.	July.
Public Works Department	Western district	13,148	9,944	5,519
	Eastern and Central districts	11,191	12,455	7,025
	Jaipur city works	5,817	4,827	3,406
	Katli cut	—	1,581	1,325
	Tonk-Deoli Railway	—	652	—
	Rewari-Phalera	—	1,317	1,146
	Total	30,156	30,776	18,421
Civil	Nizamut Shekhawati	21,039	11,259	9,100
	„ Sambhar	810	504	1,446
	„ Malpura	4,122	3,441	3,425
	„ Sawai Madhopur	581	413	25
	Total under Nazims	26,552	15,617	13,996
Military	Transport lines camp	9,365	10,433	11,614
All	Grand Total	66,073	56,826	44,031

The Public Works Department works showed little change in June, but in July there was a drop of 40 per cent. On the Civil Agency works, on the other hand, the numbers fell by 40 per cent. in June, and by only 10 per cent. in July, while the number in the Transport lines camps have gradually but slowly risen during the quarter. Taking the works as a whole, there was a fall of 14 per cent. in June and of 21 per cent. in July. The land-owning classes were the first to leave the works, and the above figures would seem to indicate that they were chiefly employed on the Civil Agency works. The Transport lines camps were recruited from the lower strata of society, new admissions as a rule being destitute and emaciated. The first burst of the monsoon on the 8th and 9th July caused a drop on all works, but numbers began to increase rapidly as the subsequent break lengthened. On the second advance of the rain currents on the 28th July, there was another exodus which has been steadily maintained ever since.

3. The numbers on the gratuitous lists are shown as having fallen by 7 per cent. But it is difficult to ascertain, in the absence of any explanation by the Resident, how the total has been arrived at. The note in column 7 of the statement is not clear. In one part of that note it is said that 13,121 emigrants received relief, and in another that 11,241 persons were relieved in this way. Again, the statement gives the total of units relieved by the Local Committee as 3,876, while in paragraph 2 of the remarks this is said to be 3,953. All that can be safely assumed from the statement and remarks is that the sadabart numbers have fallen by one-third, that the persons relieved in poor-houses and the Transport lines camp have increased in much the same proportion, and that the number of rations issued to returning emigrants has more than doubled. Excluding the persons relieved by the Relief Committee or in the emigrant depôts, the total number on gratuitous relief would appear to have decreased by 20 per cent.

4. The condition of the people is generally fair, but in three tahsils the people appear to be much reduced. The recorded deaths, however, have fallen by 38 per cent. The remarks appended to the statement were evidently written before the last advance of the monsoon. Up to the 2nd August the northern corner of Shekhawati had been favoured with very little rain. But that tahsil has now received a heavy fall, and the prospects throughout the State are good. Grazing is available everywhere, and the large cattle camp has been closed. Nothing is said about the condition of the cattle, or the effect which the famine mortality will have on the area sown. No fresh cattle seem to have been imported by the State, and there is no sign as yet of any private import trade. Hand ploughs are being distributed as fast as they can be made.

5. The numbers on relief in the Kishangarh State during the last ten months are brought together in the following table:—

Months.	Workers.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Percentage.
October, 1899	5,412	1,600	7,012	5.3
November "	6,263	2,000	8,263	6.1
December "	6,685	2,233	8,918	6.6
January, 1900	6,240	3,037	9,277	6.9
February "	5,988	2,979	8,967	6.6
March "	6,598	3,615	10,211	7.5
April "	7,703	3,932	11,635	8.6
May "	9,255	3,769	13,024	9.6
June "	8,041	7,685	15,726	11.9
July "	6,707	9,858	16,565	12.5

The numbers on works have fallen by 16 per cent. The first rain fell on the 9th of June, and during the next few days all parts of the State received sufficient rain to enable agricultural operations to be started. During the break of ten days which followed many of the people who had left the works flocked back, and the figures given in the statement are evidently those recorded on the 25th July, when the second advance of the monsoon again reached Kishangarh. The numbers on gratuitous relief have increased by 22 per cent., so that the aggregate number on relief is the highest on record, and represents 12½ per cent. of the total population of the State. An interesting account is given in the remarks of the present position, and of the measures taken to restore the normal condition of affairs. All the old works have been closed. Those persons who still require assistance in the way of labour are set to clear and till the land. The exceptional success of the hand plough in this part of Rajputana shows how the prejudices and traditions of the cultivators can be overcome by patience and persistence. The administration is receptive and has shown a consistent desire to accept and put in practice any new suggestions. Syam Sunder Lal's latest device to overcome the deficiency of plough cattle is the employment of donkeys for ploughing. As was to be expected, the cultivators are opposed to such an innovation, but to overcome these prejudices concessions of one kind or another are given to all who will try the experiment. Kumhars are now ploughing plots of khalsa land as an example to others.

6. Although the greater part of the early bajra has died, the other kharif crops have germinated well and cotton is said to be above the average. The authorities anticipate that the area under cultivation for the next harvest will actually be above the normal. If this should happen, Kishangarh will occupy a unique position among the badly affected States of this province. Grazing is now available everywhere, and the last instalment from the Provincial Committee of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund, amounting to Rs. 20,000, was received in time to enable the Local Committee to buy a large additional number of cattle in the North-Western Provinces.

While the rain has brought back cheerfulness and hope to the bulk of the population, the straitened condition of the smaller jagirdars and the respectable poor has become more acute, and must remain so until the first crops ripen. The system of cheap shops has been extended from the capital to the outlying tahsils. Altogether the administration has shown a commendable appreciation of the requirements of the people and the State at this particular stage of the famine.

Enclosure in No. 186.

Letter from Captain L. Impey, Officiating Resident at Jaipur, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, No. 2968, dated Jaipur, the 4th August, 1900.

I have the honour to submit, with my remarks, the Famine Reports furnished for July by the Jaipur and Kishangarh Darbars.

2. The figures of labourers are incomplete, returns having been received from 4 Nizamats only. It is, therefore, not possible to make any useful comments upon these statistics.

Sardar Bahadur Dhanpat Rai's camp at one time during the month contained about 21,000 people. Cultivators have gone off relief works in large numbers I believe; it is the labourers who are waiting on till they can find employment in weeding and field work when the crops come up.

3. The remark in paragraph 8 that prospects "are discouraging for want of rain" is not now correct. There has been good and general rain in the last ten days or so, and prospects are excellent.

4. The cattle camp has, as previously reported, been broken up.

5. Prospects have materially improved during the last two or three days owing to good rain at Kishangarh itself and in the Rupnagar district, both of which had previously been rather short.

6. Thanks to an additional grant of Rs. 20,000 just received from the Central Famine Fund, a large number of additional bullocks, I think about 500, have been bought and are being bought in the North-Western Provinces and elsewhere, and in this respect prospects are much improved since this report came in.

7. The introduction of American maize sold at 16 seers per rupee is a great boon, and great gratitude is due to the Mission for the assistance so kindly given in this matter.

8. It is the non-labouring classes that now more especially require assistance, but I know the Darbar is doing its best for them.

9. The donkey experiment is interesting, and will, I hope, prove a success. It has worked encouragingly so far, and I have just heard that it has been thought worth while to import bigger and stronger donkeys than are locally procurable.

10. In Lawa also things are now most promising.

Annexure.

JAIPUR STATE.

Remarks.

1. *Private relief.*—1,057 persons are employed on works in villages taken in hand by the zamindars by the help of taccavi advances.

2. *Village relief.*—10,011 persons are receiving relief in grain and cash allowance as noted below: 3,953 persons, specially *pardah nashin* women, in cash through the relief committee, 232 persons in cash through the Raj Engineering Department, 5,826 persons in grain through the Superintendent of the Jaipur Transport Corps.

3. *Poorhouse relief.*—Cooked food is given to 4,261 persons in the poorhouses as noted below:—

2,112	in the Jaipur poorhouse attached to the Mayo hospital.
871	" " at Sawai Madhopur.
657	" " at Jhunjhun.
97	" " at Hindaun.
184	" " at Toda Bhim.
92	" " at Mozzamabad.
248	" " at Panwar.

There are poorhouses also at Malpura, Toda Rai Singh, Chatsu, Newai and Lalsot, the reports of which have not yet been received.

4. *General character of relief works.*—Earthworks.

5. *Physical condition of people.*—Generally fair, but in the tahsils of Danta Ramgarh and Toda Rai Singh the people look emaciated.

6. *Deaths, if any, from starvation.*—206 deaths took place during the month as noted below:—

146 Jaipur subjects.
26 foreigners.

34 persons who could not be identified whether Jaipur subjects or foreigners.

7. *Food stocks.*—As mentioned in paragraph 7 of the Remarks for May last.

8. *General condition and prospects of affected area.*—As reported in paragraph 8 of the Remarks for February last. Prospects for the kharif crops appear to be discouraging for want of rain.

9. *Changes in rates.*—As mentioned in paragraph 9 of the Remarks for February last.

10. *Immigrants and emigrants.*—No reports about immigrants were received from the Nazims. However, the Nazims have reported that emigration of the Jaipur subjects has ceased owing to the commencement of rains and employment in agricultural operations.

257 people who had formerly left their villages have come back to their homes in Tahsil Newai.

11. *Other matters connected with famine.*—As mentioned in the Report for February last. The cattle camp consisted of 861 animals on 16th July as noted below:—

	Number.
Agricultural bullocks	102
Cows	358
She-buffalos	30
Calves	353
She-buffalo calves	18
Total	861

The animals were fed with 617 maunds of fodder with 1,539 maunds of prickly pear mixed with it.

The cost of feeding from 29th April to 16th July 1900 has been Rs. 9,426-15-3.

KISHANGARH.

Remarks for the month of July, 1900.

Distress which had become acute in June last, went on intensifying with the prolongation of the drought till the 9th July, when showers set in, and made a sudden change in the situation for the better.

The showery weather lasted till the 15th and was followed by clear weather up to the 25th, from which date the weather has been continuously showery.

The numbers on relief fluctuated in consonance with the rains rising towards the latter part of each interval of clear weather and falling with the setting in of the rains and consequent stimulation of agricultural operations.

The numbers will now, it is expected, steadily decline, as the rainfall has up to this time been heavy enough for agricultural operations continuing long enough.

The rainfall has been general, varying from 2½ inches, the lowest in Kishangarh to 6½ inches, the highest in Sarwar.

All the regular relief works have been completed and closed.

The workers and their dependents have now been all drafted to their homes, and put to work either on (1) the repairs and earthwork of tanks and bunds which had been kept in reserve for this special purpose, or (2) on the clearance and tillage of land by means of hand ploughs, or (3) are put on the village dole or kitchen. The total number of persons relieved is now nearly 13½ per cent. of the total population of the State.

The rainfall, though not heavy enough and with longish breaks, has been very opportune and general.

The poor-house inmates have been sent home (with valedictory gifts), where they are put on village doles preparatory to being given a fresh start in life.

Hand ploughs have become very popular, and there is a great demand for them everywhere.

Thousands of them are now in use. They are supplied in large numbers, free of cost, from the manufactories started at head-quarters of parganas, and are also made and sold by village carpenters.

Ploughing and sowing have been carried on on a very extensive scale, the area already sown is reported to be above the average of normal years, whilst ploughing is still in progress.

The crops are all coming up very well, excepting the early dry sowings of May, most of which failed to survive the long spell of dry and hot weather, which obtained till the 9th of July.

The cotton crop is both extensive and thriving.

There was great scarcity of fodder, for which special arrangements had to be made to sell below the cost price at various centres.

These arrangements are still in force, but will soon have to be terminated.

The chain of depôts that were started for the support of foreign immigrants *en route* and patronised by the Indian Charitable Famine Fund have been doing very useful work. The numbers are now declining. The necessity for keeping up the depôts will, it is hoped, cease by the end of August.

The charitable relief operations carried on for the relief of broken down cultivators and artisans, and for giving them a fresh start in life, have proved very beneficial, and have evoked feelings of gratefulness for the British Government in every corner of the State.

Grants from the fund have been given in kind, and of these not too much at a time, so that with special arrangements for constant supervision by travelling supervisors there is left but little chance for abuse.

The measures for the preservation of cattle have been kept up. Now, however, the difficulty is over, as there is ample grazing at the various centres where they are collected.

Notwithstanding the great improvement in prospects and spirits that has been brought about by the rains, distress among the respectable people and among the jagirdars has not come to an end, on the contrary it has grown more severe.

The jagirdars, such of them as are not quite destitute, but have kept up their appearances and have been able to hold their own with taccavi or advances from their Bohras under Darbar's guarantee, now present a great difficulty as both these sources are now getting nearly exhausted.

Attempts are, however, being made to provide for them to the utmost.

The petty and broken down jagirdars have been, and are even now living on allowances on a low scale which is only slightly better than the famine scale. The markets are well stocked. Grazing is now available all over the State.

The bullocks that have been purchased in the North-Western Provinces and other places are on the road and will arrive here in a week or so when they will be distributed to deserving cultivators.

Arrangements have been made for the sale of American maize by Missionary Agency at 16 seers per rupee at certain centres, the Darbar defraying the cost of transport and other incidental expenses, and otherwise helping the agents.

The recipients of charitable grants, and all the poorer classes are greatly benefitted by this institution.

Public health has been good. There has been no cholera among workers or poor-house inmates, and but stray cases in the mofussil.

Donkey ploughs have been fitted up and set to work at several places as an experimental measure.

Various inducements have been offered for their adoption in the shape of concessions and prizes as well as free gifts of animals for drawing the ploughs.

The people will not take to them readily, as there is a general socio-religious prejudice against the animal, but it is hoped that the lower menial classes like Dhobis, Kumhars, Balais, Chamars, &c, may eventually come to adopt them; and then, with some improvements in its breed, the economic value of this useful and quiet animal will come to be generally realised in this part of the country, subject, as it is, to precarious and deficient rainfall.

The emigration statistics are as follows :—

Emigration.		Immigration.	
Persons.	Cattle.	Persons.	Cattle.
63	1	340	432

The bulk of the cattle emigrated has yet to come back home.
No deaths reported from starvation.

No. 187.

Letter from the Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 3,298 F., dated Abu, the 15th September, 1900.

In continuation of my letter, No. 3,086 F., dated 14th August, 1900, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Reports of the Jaipur and Kishangarh States for the month of August, 1900, together with the covering letter of the Officiating Resident, No. 3,398, dated 8th September, 1900.

2. In the following table the numbers on relief in the Jaipur State during the last eleven months are brought together :—

Months.	Workers.	Gratuitously relieved.	Total.	Percentage on Population.
October, 1899	7,000	48,732	55,732	·19
November „	25,400	Not reported	25,400	—
December „	33,338	7,017	40,355	1·4
January, 1900	35,340	24,928	60,268	2·1
February „	41,961	32,212	74,173	2·6
March „	42,700	57,432	80,132	2·8
April „	54,515	25,663	80,178	2·8
May „	71,472	39,656	111,128	3·9
June „	60,591	49,993	110,584	3·9
July „	44,031	46,112	90,143	3·1
August „	22,697	45,870	68,567	2·4

The workers have fallen by nearly one-half, the total being the lowest on record excepting that for October, 1899, when operations were first taken in hand. The Officiating Resident gives the number of workers last month as 46,112, but the statement forwarded with his report for July contains the figure quoted in the above table. The details of the various works during the last four months are as follows :—

Agency.	Work.	May..	June.	July.	August.
Public Works Department.	Western district	13,148	9,944	5,519	2,729
	Eastern and Central districts...	11,191	12,455	7,025	3,325
	Jaipur City works	5,817	4,827	3,406	1,451
	Katli cut... ..	—	1,581	1,325	—
	Tonk-Deoli Railway	—	652	—	748
	Rewari-Phalera Railway	—	1,317	1,146	—
	Total	30,156	30,776	18,421	8,253
Civil	Nizamath Shekhawati	21,039	11,259	9,100	6,418
	„ Sambhar	810	504	1,446	550
	„ Malpura	4,122	3,441	3,425	425
	„ Sawai Madhopur	518	413	25	—
	Total under Nazims	26,552	15,617	13,996	7,393
Military	Transport lines camp	9,365	10,433	11,614	7,051
	Grand Total... ..	66,073	56,826	44,031	22,697

The decrease has been most rapid on the civil agency works and especially in the Malpura Nizamat. The transport lines work on which the weakling gangs are employed naturally shows the least proportionate change.

3. The numbers on gratuitous relief are very nearly as large as in July. The explanation of the details given in column 7 of the statement is not easy to follow, and the Resident's letter throws no light on the matter. It appears, however, that the total includes 24,108 emigrants passing through Jaipur on their way to their homes in Western Rajputana. It is not clear, however, whether the figures given represent the number of meals or doles issued to such people or the actual number of aliens relieved. The report from the emigrant relief depôts in Alwar and the Eastern Rajputana States for the same period show that the returning emigrants were very few in number, and this is confirmed by the returns from the receiving depôts in Marwar. In previous reports the numbers are given as 5,635 for June and 13,121 for July. As the return movement was at its height in the month of June, it is difficult to believe that nearly 25,000 people returned in August. The details of the various branches of gratuitous relief are given below :—

Agency.	May.	June.	July.	August.	Difference per cent.
Sadabarts	27,752	32,498	20,851	10,919	-47.6
Poor-houses	3,879	3,263	4,261	2,342	-45.0
Transport corps	1,371	4,227	5,826	4,759	-18.3
Relief Committee	4,076	3,939	3,953	3,742	-5.3
Rewari-Phalera Railway ...	840	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	1,738	431	232	—	—
Emigrants	—	5,635	13,121	24,108	+45.5
Total	39,656	49,993	48,224	45,870	-4.9

The sale of grain at privileged rates by the Darbar to all within municipal limits at Jaipur has ceased.

4. The numbers on relief in Kishangarh since October last are as follows :—

Months.	Workers.	Gratuitously relieved.	Total.	Percentage on Population.
October, 1899	5,412	1,600	7,012	5.3
November „	6,263	2,000	8,263	6.1
December „	6,685	2,233	8,918	6.6
January, 1900	6,240	3,037	9,277	6.9
February „	5,988	2,979	8,967	6.6
March „	6,598	3,615	10,211	7.5
April „	7,703	3,932	11,635	8.6
May „	9,255	3,769	13,024	9.6
June „	8,041	7,685	15,726	11.9
July „	6,707	9,858	16,565	12.5
August „	—	7,421	7,421	5.6

The relief works were gradually closed during August and the total of persons in receipt of gratuitous relief fell by nearly one-quarter. The relief units as a whole have declined by more than 50 per cent., the total being only slightly above the lowest on record. Had it not been for an influx of professional beggars and destitute people of all kinds to share in the free distribution of food made on the occasion of the death of the late Maharaja, the total would have been even less. The authorities were forced to re-open the poor-house, and the hospitals were filled.

5. The emigrant relief depôts have also been closed after proving of the greatest benefit. Cheap grain shops have been a feature of the relief administration in Kishangarh since the very beginning of the famine, and within the last two months the system was extended to outlying parts of the State with the help of the American Missionaries who, in response to an application from the Kishangarh Local Charitable Committee forwarded through this office, generously contributed Rs. 5,000 towards this object. The Darbar have succeeded in importing a larger proportion of fresh cattle than perhaps any other State in the province.

6. The prospects in both Jaipur and Kishangarh are very bright. The earlier kharif staples will soon be on the market, and, thanks, to abundant rain, a good harvest is assured. A few showers towards the end of September should enable a larger area than usual to be put under rabi crops.

Enclosure in No. 187.

From Captain L. Impey, Officiating Resident in Jaipur, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, No. 3598, dated Jaipur, the 8th September, 1900.

In continuation of the correspondence ending with letter No. 2968, dated 4th August, 1900, from this office, I have the honour to submit the Famine Reports of the Jaipur and Kishangarh States for the month of August, 1900.

2. The number of persons shown on relief works in Jaipur is 22,697, as against 46,112 in last month's return, which, moreover, was not complete. The timely showers that fell during the month induced a large number of the labouring classes to return to agricultural pursuits. There was a decrease of 5,630 in the numbers employed at the relief work at Jaipur, and since the report was received many labourers have left the transport lines camp, and there are now only about 2,000 persons employed on this work.

3. Gratuitous relief was afforded to 45,870 people. It is not possible to compare the figures, as the returns are incomplete. The numbers in the poor-house at Jaipur City have fallen during the month from 2,112 to 1,770.

4. The condition of the people is improving. The bajra crop is fast approaching maturity, and directly this grain is placed on the market, the fall in prices will materially improve the situation. Grazing is available everywhere, and the cattle are gradually recovering their normal condition. There is no information available to show the mortality that has taken place among the herds. Satisfactory accounts have been received of the crops throughout the State, and the recent heavy falls of rain will enable the zamindars to bring a large area of land under cultivation for the "rabi."

5. In Kishangarh the relief works have been closed. Gratuitous relief was given, by means of doles, to 7,421 persons. The poor-house was emptied of its inmates, the worst cases being transferred to the Relief Hospital and the orphans sent to the city orphanage, while people who were unable to support themselves were placed on the village lists. It has, however, been found necessary to reopen the poor-house, as a number of destitute and emaciated persons were attracted to Kishangarh from the surrounding country by the feast given to the populace during the funeral ceremonies of the late Chief.

6. A sum of Rs. 5,000 was most liberally placed at the disposal of the Local Charitable Relief Committee by the American Mission. The money sent is being expended in the sale of cheap grain at 25 per cent. below the market price.

7. Grass is plentiful, and over 1,600 bullocks have been imported for the use of cultivators, while 1,000 more will be purchased shortly.

8. The crops in Kishangarh are doing well except in the Sarwar district, where some damage is reported to have occurred through excessive rain.

Annexure.

JAPUR STATE.

1. *Private relief.*—6,968 persons are employed at works in villages taken in hand by the zamindars by the help of taccavi advances.

2. *Village relief.*—8,501 persons are receiving relief in grain and cash allowance as noted below :—

3,742 persons, especially pardah nashin women, in cash through the Relief Committee.

4,759 persons in grain through the Superintendent of the Jaipur Transport Corps.

3. *Poor-house relief.*—Cooked food is given to 2,342 persons in the poor-houses as noted below :—

1,770 in the Jaipur poor-house attached to the Mayo Hospital.

392 " poor-house at Jhunjhun.

90 " " at Muzamabad.

90 " " at Panwar.

There are poor-houses also at Hindown, Toda Bhim Sawai Madhopur, Malpura, Toda Rai Singh, Chatsu, Newai, and Lalsot, the reports of which have not yet been received.

4. *General character of earthworks.*—Relief works.

5. *Physical condition of people.*—Generally fair.

6. *Deaths, if any, from starvation.*—89 deaths took place during the month as noted below :—

30 Jaipur subjects.

8 foreigners.

51 persons who could not be identified whether Jaipur subjects or foreigners.

7. *Food stocks.*—As mentioned in paragraph 7 of the Remarks for May last.

8. *General condition and prospects of affected area.*—The kharif crops are generally in good condition and prospects appear to be favourable.

9. *Changes in rates.*—As mentioned in paragraph 9 of the Remarks for February last.

10. *Immigrants and Emigrants.*—Immigration and emigration have ceased. 300 people who had formerly left their villages have come back to their homes in Tahsil Malpura.

11. *Other matters connected with famine.*—As mentioned in the Report for February last.

KISHANGARH.

Remarks.

There have been no regular relief works in operation during the month. They were closed last month, and the workers who had still to be employed were put on work on petty repairs to tanks and embankments or on tilling lands with hand ploughs.

The crops are in very flourishing condition, and the rains have been very opportune and general during the whole of the month, so that agricultural operations have been going on apace, and this has practically given employment to the people who were maintained on the relief works and to a good many of those who were put on village doles and kitchens.

The numbers relieved thus went on fast, declining from week to week, until towards the end of the month there were left none among the workers to provide for, whilst there were as many as 4,721 of them on the 2nd of August, 1900.

The numbers on doles, kitchens, &c., and other gratuitous relief have come down from 10,401 in the first week of August to 7,421 on the last day of the month.

The poor-house was also broken up towards the end of the third week, and the inmates were sent away to their homes with valedictory gifts to be employed in their own trades or put on village doles, and the sick among them were sent to the Relief Hospital, while the orphans were made over to the orphanage. The Nukta ceremony, however, attracted a large number of paupers, a good many of whom have been lingering at the capital, and these have had to be taken charge of and put into the poor-house, which has thus had to be re-started. Weeding is now giving employment to large numbers of people in villages all over.

Hand ploughs continue to be of great service to broken down cultivators and other agriculturists who are not fit for keeping up plough cattle. The cheap fodder shops have not been working during the month, as pasturage is ample and there has been no need for purchase of dry fodder.

The depôts for the provision of food and fodder to returning emigrants have now been closed. They have done very useful work, and there seems to be no necessity for keeping them open any longer, the few emigrants, who pass on their way back being provided from State or other Sadabarts at roadside villages or towns.

Ploughing for dry rabi (gram) has also commenced on a large scale, as the late rains have wet the ground, and facilitated its being broken up.

In consequence of an arrangement recently arrived at with the American-Indian Famine Relief Committee at Bombay, arrangements have been made for opening cheap grain shops at central towns and tahsils all over the State, where food-grain will be sold at 25 per cent. below the market price. These shops will be of great help to poor cultivators and village artizans and menials, especially as the cheap shops maintained by the Methodist Mission for sale of American maize have been closed.

The relief that has had to be given to petty jagirdars in the shape of monthly allowances on a scale hardly better than the famine scale has been continued during the month.

The inferior food-grains that grow wild in the jungle are now being generally used by the poorer classes, and those who have returned home from the poor-houses, &c.

The grains are now fast ripening. There are several kinds of them. Those most common are called in the vernacular—

Sawan, Koari Koora, Malicha Makra, Bharut, Chhiki, Kalpunchi.

Arrangements have been made for collection of all the various food-grains and grasses that grow wild and are used as human food.

These grains are either used by themselves or in combination with barley or bejhar.

Plough cattle are being purchased on a large scale by the Local Indian Famine Charitable Relief Committee at various places in the North-Western Provinces, and in Haraoti, &c.

Over 1,600 bullock have been already purchased and given away, and a thousand more will be purchased during the month of September and the first week of October, thus bringing up the number of cattle to be purchased and given away to nearly 2,500.

The supply of bullocks is a novel feature of the present famine, and will go a long way towards restoring prosperity to the people.

Rabi seed will soon have to be distributed by the Indian Famine Charitable Committee (to destitute cultivators) which is preparing for it.

No. 188.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. C. Wyllie, C.I.E., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 2210 F., dated Abu, the 19th May, 1900.

In continuation of this office letter, No. 1882 F., dated 22nd April, 1900,* I have the honour to forward for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statement† of the Bikaner State for the month of April, 1900, together with the Political Agent's covering letter, No. 1328, dated the 9th May, 1900.

2. The numbers in receipt of both kinds of relief during the past seven months are shown in the marginal table. The figures representing workers

* See p. 471 of Command Paper, No. 206, presented in 1900.

† Not printed.

Months.	Works.	Gratui- tous.	Total.	Per- centage.
1899.				
October...	15,852	3,507	19,359	2.32
November ...	23,007	5,848	28,855	3.46
December ...	27,600	7,263	34,863	4.19
1900.				
January ...	27,264	7,546	34,810	4.18
February ...	30,043	8,163	38,206	4.59
March ...	26,843	5,961	32,804	3.94
April ...	29,690	7,101	36,791	4.42

crease has taken place on the city extension scheme and the works on the new palace outside the city. No new work has been opened during the month. A project was framed for the relief of the destitute on the Hissar border to prevent them from crowding the relief centres in that district, but the water supply was defective, so the Sohawa camp has been re-opened after being closed for nearly six weeks.

3. There has been a still larger proportionate rise of 19 per cent. in the numbers in receipt of gratuitous relief. The poor-houses account for one-fourth of this addition, so it is presumed that the remainder receive assistance at their own homes. One notable feature this month is the reduction in the number of persons hitherto dependent on private charity. A large proportion of these, the most useless section of the community, have been swept up by the State officials, and set to labour in one or other of the relief camps. The *pardah nashin* women also, who have hitherto been collected at various centres, have been given enough money to last them till the 7th of July, and have been allowed to go to their homes. This will be a very popular measure, and I do not think, under the present system of administration, it will be attended with any risk.

4. No other State, with the exception of Marwar, has had so much trouble or expense in connection with their emigrants in other provinces and States. During the month under review close on 1,000 people were brought back from various centres in the Delhi division of the Punjab, and the Darbar are only awaiting a communication from the Commissioner of Lahore to send an agent to convey back Bikaneris from Multan, Lahore and Amritsar.

5. The general health is reported to have improved with the warmer weather, and the epidemic of cholera, which has been attended with so much loss of life and dislocation of relief arrangements in other parts of Rajputana has hitherto spared this State. No account has been given of the yield of the rabi harvest, but it must have been very trifling. Beyond small isolated patches in the beds of tanks in the Churu Nizamat and on the edge of the Ghaggar canals no spring crops were sown. Nothing is said as to the fate of the cattle or the condition of those which survive, but large numbers have probably found their way into the Bahawalpur State.

Enclosure in No. 188.

Letter from the Political Agent, Bikaner, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, No. 1328, dated Bikaner, the 9th May, 1900.

I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Agent to the Governor-General, the Famine Statement, together with a rough map (in duplicate) of the affected areas of the Bikaner State for the month of April, 1900.

have risen by 2,847, or 10 per cent. The total has very nearly reached that of February which is the highest on record. These figures, however, do not agree with the detailed list given in Political Agent's covering letter. If the poor-house totals are excluded, the numbers on works show an increase of 3,724 persons. These, however, probably include dependents. The Palana Railway extension camps contain by far the largest numbers, but the greatest proportionate in-

2. The numbers relieved during the month compare as follows with those relieved in the past month :—

No.	Works.	March, 1900.	April, 1900.	Increase.	Decrease.
		Number of workers and on gratuitous relief.	Number of workers and on gratuitous relief.		
1	Gajner tank	3,950	3,763	—	187
2	Gajner road	2,054	2,046	—	8
3	Range and polo-ground	2,134	2,274	140	—
4	Railway earthwork	10,052	10,803	751	—
5	Repairs to Gajner road	618	548	—	70
6	Extension of City walls... ..	4,067	5,385	1,318	—
7	Hanumangarh fort	1,910	2,023	113	—
8	Suratgarh Railway Works	1,473	1,486	13	—
9	Railway earthwork at Mahajan... ..	621	723	102	—
10	New house, &c., at Chhapar	4,058	5,607	1,549	—
11	Repairs to fort walls at Sardarshahr	17	4	—	13
12	Ballast work at Delmera... ..	259	234	—	25
13	Bhinasar poor-house	716	914	198	—
14	Sheobari poor-house	225	290	65	—
15	Bhatinda Railway (contract work)	650	691	41	—
	Total	32,804	36,791	4,290	303

It will be observed that, while the numbers relieved during the month show a net increase of some 4,000 persons, the expenditure is considerably in excess of that incurred in the past month, having risen from Rs. 81,495-11 to Rs. 95,320-13-9. The increase is due mainly to the payment of Rs. 13,000 to the *pardah nashin* women, who have been sent to their homes with cash allowances calculated to keep them going up to the 7th of July.

3. About 1,000 emigrants have already been brought back from the Delhi Division of the Punjab and placed at Hanumangarh. Those at Delhi have been retained under the orders of the Commissioner, as owing to the existence of cholera among them, it is not considered safe to let them travel by rail. An official has been selected by the Darbar and is ready to start to bring back the emigrants from Lahore, Multan and Amritsar, and the Commissioner of Lahore has been asked to inform this office when the Darbar official should start and where he should halt.

4. Orders were given some time ago for the commencing of a new relief work near Rajgarh, a town close to the frontiers of Hissar and Shekhawati which is much infested with beggars ; but, owing to the water of the place being brackish, the idea was abandoned and orders were issued for the re-opening of the Sohawa camp which was closed in March.

5. No cases of death by starvation were reported during the month.

6. The health of the people during the latter part of the month was good, the sickness which prevailed at the commencement of the hot weather having now disappeared from all the famine camps.

7. The rainfall of the month was 1 inch 14 cents in Nizamat Reni, 11 cents in Nizamat Sujangarh, and 8 cents in Nizamat Suratgarh.

Annexure.

Remarks by Major W. H. B. Robinson, I.M.S., in charge Political Agency, dated Bikaner, the 9th May, 1900.

1. *Private relief.*—Private charitable relief has very much decreased during the month owing to a large number of people being employed on State relief works. The subscription list is still open.

2. *Village and poor-house relief.*—*Pardah nashin* women were paid in lump sum from 25th April to 7th July, 1900, and sent to their villages. The poor-houses at Sheobari and Bhinasar are still open, and old and infirm people are fed there.

3. *General character of relief works.*—A relief work was ordered to be opened at village Raitunda near Rajgarh; but, as the water in the wells there was reported to be brackish, the idea of opening a camp was given up, but the camp at Sohawa has been ordered to be re-opened instead.

Information as to the date on which the camp at Sohawa was opened is awaited.

No new work was opened during the month. Numbers and names of works in progress on the last day of the month—*vide* paragraph 2 of report.

4. *Physical condition of the people.*—The health of the people on the various relief works has much improved during the month, and their present condition is good. Six hundred and twenty-seven in-door and 4,392 out-door patients were treated during the month at the several relief camps, of whom 70 died.

5. *Death (if any) from starvation.*—Nil.

6. *Food stocks and importation of grains.*—Grain is being imported in large quantities, and the markets are well supplied.

7. *General condition and prospects of affected area.*—No change has taken place in general condition and prospects during the month under report.

8. *Changes in the rates of wages.*—No change has taken place in the rates of wages during the month under report.

9. *Emigration or immigration.*—An official was deputed to bring back Bikaner emigrants from the Delhi Division. About 1,000 people have been brought back, and steps are being taken to bring back emigrants from, Multan, Lahore, and Amritsar in the Punjab.

10. *Adequacy of food rations.*—Same as reported last month.

11. *Famine Fund and its expenditure.*—Amount expended during the month :—

	Rs.	a.	p.
A—Workers	76,426	14	0
B—Gratuitous relief	5,893	15	9
Paid to <i>pardah nashin</i> up to 7th July, 1900	13,000	0	0
Total	95,320	13	9

No. 189.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. C. Wyllie, C.I.E., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 2,513 F., dated Abu, the 16th June, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 2210 F., dated the 19th May, 1900, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India,

the Famine Statement* of the Bikaner State for the month of May, 1900, together with the Resident's covering letter, No. 7 C., dated the 11th June, 1900.

2. The marginal table contains the numbers in receipt of relief during the last eight months. The numbers on the works have risen by 7,146, or nearly one-quarter, chiefly in consequence of the bringing back of large drafts of distressed Bikaneri emigrants from the Punjab. This month's total is 22 per cent. higher than that of February which previously held the record. The Resident's letter contains a list of the works in progress for longer or shorter periods during May. Two additional works have been opened; while, on the other hand, the large railway camps on the Pailana coal-

Months.	Workers.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Percentage.
1899.				
October ..	15,852	3,507	19,359	2.32
November ..	23,007	5,848	28,855	3.46
December ..	27,600	7,263	34,863	4.19
1900.				
January ..	27,264	7,546	34,810	4.18
February ..	30,013	8,163	38,206	4.59
March ..	26,843	5,961	32,804	3.94
April ..	29,690	7,101	36,791	4.42
May ..	36,836	8,432	45,268	5.44

fields diversion have been permanently closed. The transfer of the 10,803 workers to various other works must have been a matter of some difficulty. Nearly half of them were sent to Gajner, and the others were divided between the city extension project and the new camp near the palace outside the city. The 6,000 persons deported by train from the Punjab at the request of that Government have for the most part been employed in the large camp at Hanumangarh. The organisation and scale of wages on the works remain the same.

3. The persons in receipt of gratuitous relief have increased by 18 per cent. This increase has been confined almost entirely to the dependents on works, but the attendance in poor-houses has also risen, so much so that the scope of private charity has contracted still further during the month under report.

4. The physical condition of the people is good, and the death-rate on the relief camps is remarkably low, amounting to only 13 per mille per annum. Cholera has been conspicuous by its absence, and small-pox has greatly diminished.

Rain fell in the north and east of the State, and sowings were begun in scattered villages, but the people were taken by surprise and some had not time to procure seed and bullocks. Hand ploughs are being made and taccavi lists are under preparation. Emigrants are voluntarily returning, but it is not stated whether they are accompanied by cattle.

Enclosure in No. 189.

Letter from Colonel H. A. Vincent, Resident in Bikaner, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, No. 7 C., dated Camp, Abu, the 11th June, 1900.

I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Agent to the Governor-General, the Famine Statement,* together with a rough map (in duplicate) of the affected areas of the Bikaner State for the month of May, 1900.

* Not printed.

2. The numbers relieved during the month compare as follows with those relieved during the past month :—

No.	Works.	April, 1900.	May, 1900.	Increase.	Decrease
		Numbers of workers and on gratuitous relief.	Numbers of workers and on gratuitous relief.		
1	Gajner tank	3,763	8,559	4,796	—
2	Gajner road	2,046	2,095	49	—
3	Range and polo-ground	2,274	2,970	696	—
4	Railway earthwork	10,803	—	—	10,803
5	Repairs to Gajner road	548	300	—	248
6	Extension of City walls	5,385	8,806	3,421	—
7	Hanumangarh Fort	2,023	7,824	5,801	—
8	Suratgarh Railway works	1,486	1,658	172	—
9	Railway earthwork at Mahajan ..	723	561	—	162
10	House and tank at Chhapar	5,607	6,539	932	—
11	Repairs to fort walls at Sardarshahr ...	4	25	21	—
12	Ballast work at Dulmera	234	276	42	—
13	Bhinasar poor-house	914	932	18	—
14	Sheobari poor-house	290	174	—	116
15	Bhatinda Railway (contract work) ...	691	876	185	—
16	New palace compound	—	2,999	2,999	—
17	New Sahwa tank	—	674	674	—
	Total	36,791	45,268	19,806	11,329

It will be observed that the numbers relieved show a net increase of 8,477 persons, which is due chiefly to the return of emigrants from the Punjab. The expenditure has nominally decreased, having fallen from Rs. 95,320-13-9 in April to Rs. 95,000-14-9 during the month under report, the reason being that, while the latter item includes the amount expended on the numbers increased during the month, the former includes the sum of Rs. 13,000 paid last month in a lump sum to the *pardah nashin* women for their maintenance up to the 7th of July.

3. The following is a list of the works re-opened and started during the month :—

(1) The camp at Sahwa in the Nohar Tahsil was re-opened on the 7th May.

(2) A new camp was formed near the Nathusar gate of the city on the 25th May.

(3) A new camp was formed near the palace on the 25th May.

The camps on the Surpura-Palana diversion were closed on the 25th May, as the scheme has been postponed. The people at the Deshnok and Palana Camps were transferred to Gajner, those at Rasisar to the Nathusar gate and those at Gharsisar to the new palace.

4. About 6,000 emigrants have already been brought back from the Punjab and more are being brought.

5. No cases of death by starvation was reported during the month.

6. The health of the people at the various camps was good throughout the month.

7. The rainfall of the month was 1 inch 97 cents in Nizamat Reni, 70 cents in Nizamat Sujangarh, 11 cents in Nizamat Suratgarh and 57 cents in Nizamat Bikaner.

Annexure.

Remarks by Col. H. A. Vincent, Resident in Bikaner, dated Camp, Abu, the 11th June, 1900.

1. *Private relief.*—Private charitable relief has decreased very much during the month, as all the people needing relief have been employed on the State relief works. The subscription list is still open.

2. *Village and poor-house relief.*—Old and infirm people are fed at the Sheobari and Bhinasar poor-houses.

3. *General character of relief works.*—The following works were re-opened and started during the month :—

(1) Camp at Sahwa in Nohar Tahsil re-opened on 7th May, 1900.

(2) A new camp near Nathusar gate to collect stone for city walls on 25th May, 1900.

(3) Camp at new palace to make compound wall opened on 25th May, 1900.

The camps on the Surpura-Palana diversion were closed on the 25th May, 1900, as the scheme has been postponed. The people at Palana and Deshnok have been drafted to Gajner, those at Rasisar to the Nathusar gate, and those at Gharsisar to the new palace.

Numbers and names of works in progress on the last day of the month—*vide* paragraph 2 of report.

4. *Physical condition of the people.*—The people employed on all the relief works are looking fit and strong. Three hundred and fifty-three indoor and 4,816 outdoor patients were treated during the month at the several relief camps, of whom 40 died.

5. *Death (if any) from starvation.*—Nil.

6. *Food-stocks and importation of grains.*—Markets well supplied. Importation of grain continues.

7. *General condition and prospects of affected area.*—Rain has fallen in the tahsils named on the margin. Where

Tahsil.	Number of villages in which rain fell.	Quantity of rain fell.
Bhadra	22	60 cents to 1 inch and 80 cents.
Surpura	60	80 cents to 3 inches.
Lunkaransar	14	1½ inches to 2½ inches.
Dungargarh	19	1 inch to 2 inches.
Churu	2	80 cents to 2 inches.
Suratgarh	2	10 to 30 cents.
Mirzawala	3	15 cents to 1 inch.
Ratangarh	27	50 cents to 1½ inches.
Bikaner	17	80 cents to 2 inches.
Tibi	1	20 cents.
Anupgarh	1	60 cents.
Sardarshahr	1	1½ inches.
Sujangarh	22	1 inch 30 cents to 4 inches.

it was sufficient, ploughing and sowing were commenced by such cultivators as possessed cattle and seed. Owing to the moisture lasting for three or four days only, and the cultivators not having cattle and seed ready, a small area only has been cultivated. Grass has grown in places where rain has fallen, which will provide food for the cattle for a time. The people have hitherto maintained themselves on relief works, and those that had emigrated are returning in the hope of early monsoon. Arrangements are also being made for distributing the grant received from the Indian Charitable Relief Fund and giving taccavi advances to cultivators, and to help them with seed, ploughs, and cattle as far as possible. Owing to the scarcity of cattle, hand ploughs are being introduced.

8. *Changes in the rates of wages.*—No change since last report.

9. *Emigration or immigration.*—About 6,000 people have been brought from the Punjab, and more are being brought back.

10. *Adequacy of food rations.*—No change has taken place since last report.

10. *Famine Fund and its expenditure.*—Amount expended during the month of May as detailed below :—

	Rs.	a.	p.
Workers	87,175	14	0
Gratuitous relief	7,825	0	9
Total	95,000	14	9

His Highness the Maharaja inspected the camp at Mahajan and the Railway camps, besides making frequent inspection of the camps at Bikaner. Relief works are going on satisfactorily.

No. 190.

Letter from the Agent to the Governor-General, Rajputana, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 2849 F., dated Abu, the 16th July, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 2513 F., dated the 16th June, 1900, I have the honour to forward for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statement* of the Bikaner State for the month of June, 1900, together with the Resident's covering letter No. 82 C., dated the 10th July, 1900.

2. The marginal table contains the statistics of persons in receipt of relief during the last nine months.

Months.	Workers.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Percentage.
1899.				
October ...	15,852	3,507	19,359	2.32
November ...	23,007	5,848	28,855	3.46
December ..	27,600	7,263	34,863	4.19
1900.				
January ...	27,264	7,546	34,810	4.18
February ...	30,043	8,163	38,206	4.59
March ...	26,843	5,961	32,804	3.94
April ...	29,690	7,101	36,791	4.42
May ...	36,836	8,432	45,268	5.44
June ...	33,149	13,948	47,097	5.68

It next attacked the railway construction works, where platelaying had, in consequence, to be stopped. It finally found its way to the Gajner works. The disease was not of a virulent type, and the authorities everywhere proved equal to the occasion, preventing anything like panic. The great trouble on the majority of the works has been the shrinkage of the water supply, but the recent rain should have largely removed this.

3. The numbers in receipt of purely gratuitous relief have risen by 65 per cent. The majority of the fresh additions to the lists are the destitute wanderers who were brought back from the Punjab or who returned voluntarily from Sind and Bhawalpur. The latest famine returns of the latter State show a decrease of several thousands in the total of foreigners in receipt of relief. The majority of these were said to be Bikaneris. Two new poor-houses have been opened at Churu and Rajgarh in the south-east of the State close to the Jaipur and Hissar borders. The totals in all the poor-houses have been much

* Not printed.

swollen by the removal of stray beggars from the city, and the drafting of infirm and sick dependants from the works.

4. The condition of the people is still described as good, but there has been increasing distress among the cattle. Scattered showers fell in different parts of the country, but were insufficient for agricultural operations. Imports continue, although there has been great difficulty in providing water for the railway engines, and the marked rise in prices is probably due as much to this fact as to the delay in the arrival of the monsoon.

Enclosure in No. 190.

From the Political Resident, Bikaner, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, Abu, No. 82 C., dated Camp, Abu, the 10th July, 1900.

I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Agent to the Governor General, the Famine Statement, together with a rough map (in duplicate) of the affected areas of the Bikaner State for the month of June, 1900.

2. The figures for this month compare as follows with those given in the statement for the preceding month :—

No.	Works.	May, 1900.	June, 1900.	Increase.	Decrease.
		Numbers of workers and on gratuitous relief.	Numbers of workers and on gratuitous relief.		
1	Gajner tank	8,559	6,315	—	2,244
2	Gajner road	2,095	1,968	—	127
3	Range and polo ground	2,970	2,717	—	253
4	Repairs to Gajner road (camp at Nal) ...	300	190	—	110
5	Extension of City walls	8,806	8,629	—	177
6	Hanumangarh Fort	7,824	5,377	—	2,447
7	Suratgarh railway works	1,658	1,586	—	72
8	Railway earthwork at Mahajan	561	979	418	—
9	House and tank at Chhapar	6,539	7,207	668	—
10	Repairs to fort walls at Sadar Shehr ...	25	61	36	—
11	Ballast work at Dulmera	276	246	—	30
12	Bhinasar poor-house	932	1,714	782	—
13	Sheobari poor-house	174	286	112	—
14	Bhatinda Railway (contract work) ...	876	1,046	170	—
15	New Palace compound	2,999	2,862	—	137
16	New Sahwa tank	674	1,582	908	—
17	Badopal tank	—	741	741	—
18	Rajgarh poor-house	—	2,500	2,500	—
19	Churu poor-house	—	1,091	1,091	—
	Total	45,268	47,097	7,426	5,597

It will be observed that the numbers relieved show a net increase of 1,829 persons, which is due to people having been brought back under arrangements from the Punjab, and to others having returned of their own accord from Sindh and Bhawalpur. Some cultivators also, who had left in hope of an early fall of rain in June, have returned to the works.

The expenditure has, in consequence of the increase in the number of relief workers, risen from Rs. 95,000-14-9 to Rs. 1,04,438-15-9, showing a net increase of Rs. 9,438-1-0 during the month under report.

3. The following is a list of the works opened and closed during the month :—

- (1) A new camp at Rampuria in the Suratgarh Tehsil was opened on the 2nd June, 1900, but had to be removed to Badopal owing to the appearance of cholera there.
- (2-3) Poor-houses were opened at Churu and Rajgarh.
- (4) Camp of repairs to the Gajner road was closed on the 20th June, but was re-opened on the 26th idem, and a camp formed at "Nāl."

4. No cases of death by starvation was reported during the month.

5. Generally speaking, the health of the people at various camps was good. Cholera has, however, made its appearance in some of the camps.

6. Food grains are being imported in large quantities, but owing to the holding off of the rain, prices have gone higher than in the last month.

7. Owing to a heavy fall of rain in few villages during the last month, cultivation was effected to some extent, but, for want of further rain, young crops are rapidly dying away.

8. The rainfall of the month was 37 cents in Nizamati Reni, 42 cents in Nizamati Sujangarh, 14 cents in Nizamati Suratgarh, and 7 cents in Nizamati Bikaner.

9. The distribution of the grant from the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund to broken-down cultivators is in progress, and Rs. 2,616 were spent under object IV. during the month under report.

Annexure.

Remarks.

1. *Private relief.*—Private relief has much decreased and people needing relief have been employed on the State relief works. The subscription list is still open.

2. *Village and poor-house relief.*—Besides the two poor-houses at Sheobari and Bhinasar, two more poor-houses were opened at Churu and Rajgarh.

3. *General character of relief works.*—The following works were opened and closed during the month :—

(1.) A new camp was opened on the 2nd June, 1900, at village Rāmpura, in the Suratgarh tehsil, but it was closed on the 22nd June, owing to the breaking out of cholera there, and the people were removed to Badopal, a village at a distance of fourteen miles in the Hanumangarh tehsil.

(2.) Camp of repairs to the Gajner Road was closed on 20th June, 1900, but owing to an outbreak of cholera at Gajner, a new camp was formed at "Nāl" on the 26th June, 1900, to detain there the people coming from Gajner.

Numbers and names of works in progress on the last day of the month, *vide* paragraph 2 of report.

4. *Physical condition of the people.*—The health of the people on different relief works was generally poor, excepting the outbreak of cholera at Gajner and Rāmpura. Four hundred and thirty-six indoor and 6,061 outdoor patients were treated during the month at the several relief camps, of whom 53 died.

5. *Death (if any) from starvation.*—Nil.

6. *Food stocks and importation of grains.*—There are no food stocks, but food grains are being imported in large quantities. Prices have risen in consequence of the holding off of the rains.

7. *General condition and prospects of affected area.*—Rain badly wanted. Cultivation was effected to some extent during the last month, but, for want of further rains, the young crops are dying away. The cultivating classes are still working at the famine camps. The rainfall of the month in the various tehsils is noted on the margin.

Bikaner	...	...	...	20 cents.
23 villages of Bikaner	...	...	...	From 23 cents to 1 inch.
4 " Lunkaransar	...	...	...	50 " 1 "
Sujangarh	...	...	...	64 cents.
Sardar Shehr	...	...	...	20 cents.
12 villages of Sujangarh	...	...	...	40 cents to 1 inch.
Ratangarh	...	...	...	85 cents.
16 villages of Ratangarh	...	...	...	50 cents to 1½ inches.
Churu	...	...	...	80 cents.
Nohar	...	...	...	1 inch 2 cents.
11 villages of Nohar	...	...	...	40 cents to 2½ inches.
4 " Bahadra	...	...	...	20 cents to 1½ inches.
Hanumangarh	...	...	...	26 cents.
Suratgarh	...	...	...	29 cents.
25 villages of Suratgarh	...	...	...	2½ cents to 10 cents.
Anupgarh	...	...	...	2 cents.

8. *Changes in the rates of wages.*—No change since last report.

9. *Emigration or immigration.*—Emigration has ceased, and people are returning in hope of the advent of monsoon.

10. *Adequacy of food rations.*—No change has taken place since last report.

11. *Famine fund and its expenditure.*—

	Rs.	a.	p.
Workers	91,771	4	0
Gratuitous relief	12,667	11	9
Total	1,04,438	15	9

General.—The relief works are going on satisfactorily. Officials have been sent out to distribute the money granted by the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Committee, and arrangements are also being made for "Taccavi" advances to cultivators. The increase at Bhinasar is chiefly due to the removal of stray beggars from the city as a sanitary precaution, and on account of the drafting of gratuitously fed and feeble persons without friends or relations from the various city camps.

The poor-houses at Rajgarh and Churu were opened to keep beggars wandering in and around these towns in organized camps. The local Seths are assisting in the expenses.

No. 191.

Letter from the Agent to the Governor-General, Rajputana, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 3125-F., dated Abu, the 17th August, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 2849-F., dated the 16th July, 1900, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the famine statement* of the Bikaner State for the month of July, 1900, together with the Resident's letter, No. 1995, dated 7th August, 1900.

* Not printed.

2. The numbers on relief of all kinds during the last ten months are brought together in the marginal table. A slight shower of rain fell in Bikaner

Months.	Works.	Gratui- tous.	Total.	Percentage on Population.
1899.				
October ...	15,852	3,507	19,359	2.32
November ...	23,007	5,848	28,855	3.46
December ...	27,600	7,263	34,863	4.19
1900.				
January ...	27,264	7,546	34,810	4.18
February ...	30,043	8,163	38,206	4.59
March ...	26,843	5,961	32,804	3.94
April ...	29,690	7,101	36,791	4.42
May ...	36,836	8,432	45,268	5.44
June ...	33,149	13,948	47,097	5.68
July ...	865	3,967	4,832	0.58

latest rain reports are very encouraging. Although the monsoon was so long delayed, the total fall since the 1st June is now nearly equal to the average. Four works are still kept open for necessitous cases. The eagerness of the people to leave is evinced by the fact that the city extension works, which it is most important should be pushed on, were abandoned, and it has been found necessary to employ ordinary labour at the usual contract rates. All the workers before leaving received one week's wages to enable them to make a fresh start.

3. The numbers in receipt of gratuitous relief have fallen by 71 per cent. As was explained, however, in the last report, the July total, which was two-thirds higher than that of June, was unduly swollen by the large numbers of destitute people who were either brought back from other provinces or returned of their own accord. As compared with May, the gratuitous figures have fallen by only slightly over one-half. On the 31st July there were still nearly 4,000 people on this branch of relief. In addition to the persons supported by the State in this way, 3,103 are fed at the expense of the rich bankers of Churu in the south-east. The doles are small and the recipients are chiefly professional beggars or wanderers. Even including this latter contingent the total of units on relief is the lowest on record since the operations began in October 1899.

4. The condition of the people is said to be good. Cholera has disappeared and the autumn fever has not yet made its appearance. The condition of the surviving cattle is still poor, but grazing is now available except in a few isolated villages. Food is freely coming into the country and all anxiety about the water supply is at an end. Altogether prospects are good. The report is silent as to the number of cattle available for agriculture and as to the efforts made to replace the recent heavy losses.

Enclosure in No. 191.

Letter from Colonel H. A. Vincent, Resident, Bikaner, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, No. 1995, dated Bikaner, the 7th August, 1900.

I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Honourable the Agent to the Governor-General, the famine statement, together with a rough map (in duplicate) of the affected areas of the Bikaner State for the month of July.

2. Owing to general rain in the greater part of the State, and consequent return of the people to their villages to resume cultivation, most of the relief works were closed during the month. A few are still maintained, the names of which, together with the numbers employed thereon and on gratuitous relief, are given in the following statement:—

No.	Works.	Number of		Total.
		Workers.	Gratuitous relief.	
1	New Palace Compound ...	504	94	598
2	Compound walls of houses of Private Secretary and Mir Munshi, Agency.	55	—	55
3	Repairs to Agarwala well at Sardar-shahr ...	35	—	35
4	Ballast work at Dulmera ...	271	40	311
5	Poor-house at Bhinasar ...	—	398	398
6	Poor-house at Sheobari ...	—	332	332
7	Poor-house at Churu ...	—	3,103	3,103
	Total ...	865	3,967	4,832

The numbers relieved accordingly fell from 47,097 in June to 4,832 in the month under report, and the expenditure from Rs. 1,04,438-15-9 to Rs. 95,538-13-3, including a week's ration given to the people when leaving for their homes.

3. No cases of deaths from starvation were reported during the month.

4. There were 4,048 out and 317 in-patients treated at the various camps during the month, of whom 36 are reported to have died.

5. The public health was good, no cholera cases having occurred after the 6th July.

6. The rainfall during the month amounted to 1 inch 22 cents. in Nizamut Bikaner, 1 inch 14 cents. in Nizamut Sujangarh, 2 inches 9 cents. in Nizamut Reni, and 1 inch 17 cents. in Nizamut Suratgarh.

7. No report has yet been received of the distribution during the month of the grants made to the Durbar by the Provincial Committee of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund.

Annexure.

Remarks.

1. *Private relief.*—A poor-house is kept open at Churu at the expense of the local seths, the late Rai Bahadur Bhagwandass and Seth Kanaya Lal Bagla. The number of persons gratuitously fed on the last day of the month was 3,103.

2. *Village and poor-house relief.*—Two poor-houses (1) at Bhinasar, (2) at Sheobari, are kept up by the State.

3. *General character of relief works.*—In consequence of there being a general fall of rain, people on works commenced to return to their villages of their own free will to

begin cultivation. The following works were closed during the month under report, on the dates noted against them :—

Works.	Dates.
1. Excavation of tank at Badupal	30th June.
2. Excavation of tank at Sahawa	16th July.
3. Camp at Nal	16th "
4. Suratgarh work	17th "
5. Sardargarh (opened temporarily on 1st July) ...	17th "
6. Ganga Rissala range and polo-ground	18th "
7. New Gajner road	18th "
8. Hanumangarh work	19th "
9. Chhappar work	20th "
10. Mahajan work	21st "
11. Gajner work	24th "
12. Poor-house at Rajgarh	28th "
13. City wall work	27th "

4. *Physical condition of the people.*—Good. People leaving the camps were given a week's ration to enable them to reach their villages.
5. *Death (if any) from starvation.*—Nil.
6. *Food stocks and importation of grains.*—Nothing worth mentioning since last report.
7. *General condition and prospects of affected area.*—Rain has fallen in the State, and cultivation is progressing. Much depends on the course the monsoon might take in future.
8. *Changes in the rates of wages.*—Nothing worth mentioning since last report.
9. *Emigration or Immigration.*—Emigration has ceased.
10. *Adequacy of food rations.*—Nothing worth mentioning since last report.
11. *Famine fund and its expenditure :—*

	Rs. a. p.
Workers	83,737 14 6
Gratuitous relief	11,800 14 9
Total	95,538 13 3

12. The relief-work has nearly been brought to a close. The poor-houses now open will be kept up for some time more till the work is over.

No. 192.

Letter from the Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 3284 F., dated Abu, the 13th September, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 3125 F., dated the 17th August, 1900, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statement* of the Bikaner State for the month of August, 1900, together with the Resident's letter No. 2290-58, dated the 5th September, 1900.

* Not printed.

2. Although the number of workers has increased, the relief works as such have all been closed.

Months.	Workers.	Gratui- tous.	Total.	Per- centage.
1899.				
October ...	15,852	3,507	19,359	2·32
November ...	23,007	5,848	28,855	3·46
December ...	27,600	7,263	34,863	4·19
1900.				
January ...	27,264	7,546	34,810	4·18
February ...	30,043	8,163	38,206	4·59
March ...	26,843	5,961	32,804	3·94
April ...	29,690	7,101	36,791	4·42
May ...	36,836	8,432	45,268	5·44
June ...	33,149	13,948	47,097	5·68
July ...	865	3,967	4,832	0·58
August ...	1,464	3,707	5,171	0·62

1,409 of the 1,468 labourers are employed on the city extension scheme (which the Darbar are very anxious to complete) at modified market rates. The numbers on gratuitous relief have declined very slightly. With the exception of a few orphans, all persons in receipt of this form of State aid are confined to the three poor-houses, and will be gradually drafted to their homes as they become fit to travel.

3. Cholera has re-appeared, and claimed 93 victims during the month. Otherwise the condition of the people appears to be

good. There has been ample rain all over the State, and the prospects generally are promising.

Enclosure in No. 192.

Letter from Colonel H. A. Vincent, Resident at Bikaner, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, No. 2290-58, dated Bikaner, the 5th September, 1900.

I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Honourable the Agent to the Governor-General, the Famine Statement, together with a rough map (in duplicate) of the affected areas of the Bikaner State for the month of August, 1900.

2. Sufficient rain having fallen in all the tahsils of the State, ploughing and sowing operations were carried on vigorously during the month.

3. The camp at the new palace compound was closed on the 31st July, and that at Dulmera on the 29th August.

4. There were only 1,464 workers, of whom 1,409 are employed on the new city wall, which will take about two months to complete.

5. The inmates of the poor-houses at Bhinasar, Sheobari, and Churu numbered 485, 235, and 2,956 respectively. The last-named is maintained by private charity. In addition to these, 47 orphans are in the Ganga Rissala lines. About one-third of the poor in the house at Bhinasar are fit to go to their homes, and it is proposed to give them from seven to fourteen days' rations, according to the distance they have to travel, to enable them to do so.

6. The total expenditure during the month amounted to Rs. 7,127-10-3.

7. No cases of deaths from starvation were reported during the month.

8. Two hundred and three out and fifty-six in-patients were treated at the Bhinasar poor-house, of whom two died.

9. There were 217 cases and 93 deaths from cholera in the Bikaner city and suburbs during the month.

10. The balance of the grants made to the Darbar by the Provincial Committee of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund amounted to Rs. 77,384 on the 1st July, 1900, Rs. 25,000 were received during the month, giving a total of Rs. 1,02,384. Of this, Rs. 45,391-2-5 were expended during the month, leaving a balance of Rs. 56,992-13-7 at its close. No report as to what amount was expended during the month of August has yet been received.

Annexure.

Remarks.

1. *Private relief.*—Private charitable relief decreased considerably during the month under report.

2. *Village and poor-house relief.*—Old and infirm people are fed at Bhināsar, Sheobari, and Churu poor-houses.

3. *General character of relief works.*—The camp of new palace compound was closed on 31st July, 1900, and that at Dulmera on 29th August, 1900.

The work of extension of city walls, started on contract from the 28th July, will be completed in about two months. Some orphans are being fed at the Ganga Rissala from the 1st August, 1900.

4. *Physical condition of the people.*—The people employed on relief works are looking fit and strong.

5. *Death (if any) from starvation.*—Nil.

6. *Food-stocks and importation of grains.*—Nothing worth reporting since last report.

7. *General condition and prospects of affected area.*—Sufficient rain has fallen in all the tahsils of the State. The cultivating classes have returned to their villages, and ploughing and sowing operations have been carried on vigorously. The grass has come up everywhere.

8. *Changes in the rates of wages.*—Nothing worth reporting since last report.

9. *Emigration and Immigration.*—Emigration has ceased.

10. *Adequacy of food rations.*—Nothing worth mentioning since last report.

11. *Famine fund and its expenditure.*—Amount expended during August, 1900, is as detailed below:—

	Rs.	a.	p.
Workers	6,428	10	3
Gratuitous relief	699	0	0
Total	7,127	10	3

No. 193.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. C. Wylie, C.I.E., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 2,198, dated Abu, the 17th May, 1900.

In continuation of my letter, No. 1,856 F., dated the 18th April, 1900,* I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statement† of the Bharatpur State for the month of April, 1900, together with the covering letter, No. 2,382, dated 10th May, from the Political Agent, Eastern Rajputana States.

* See page 460 of Command Paper, No. 206, presented in 1900.
† Not printed.

2. The marginal table gives the numbers in receipt of both kinds of relief during the last six months.

Months.	Workers.	Gratui- tous.	Total.	Per- centage.
1899.				
November ...	8,000	700	8,700	1.36
December ...	12,298	973	13,271	2.07
1900.				
January ...	10,288	1,332	11,620	1.81
February ...	10,816	943	11,759	1.84
March ...	8,546	1,019	9,565	1.50
April ...	12,341	1,007	13,348	2.09

The numbers on works, which fell so rapidly during March, have risen again by 44 per cent., and are now higher than they have been at any time during the famine. This increase was anticipated in my review of the operations during March. No particulars are given of the projects in hand, but these are mainly extensions of the large irrigation system which has been gradually developed during the past few years. 6,766 persons, or slightly more than half of the total number on works, are paid at contract rates. The average daily cost of relief per head on works comes to annas 1-8.4, but the expenditure on establishment, tools, and plant is evidently included. Last month the corresponding amount was annas 2-3.5. In the absence of any explanation, it may be assumed that this decline of 34 per cent. in the average wage is mainly due to the fact that the majority of the persons who left the works for the harvest and have now flocked back in increasing numbers were employed on task work. The contract labourers were not tempted away.

3. The total of the persons on gratuitous relief has remained fairly steady, but the numbers in individual poor-houses show great fluctuations. The three State poor-houses held 429 inmates in March. This total has fallen in April to less than half. In the remarks appended to the statement, the decrease is said to be due partly to some of the inmates having gone on the works and partly to others having gone to their fields. As harvest operations were over before the close of the month, the latter explanation can hardly be correct, and the returns from the private poor-house at Bharatpur, showing an increase of 26 per cent., would seem to indicate that many of those who left joined the institution at Bharatpur.

4. The condition of the people is described as generally good. Food-stocks are ample, and the rabi harvest has resulted in a fall of 1½ per cent. in wheat, 11 per cent. in barley, and of 2 per cent. in bejhar. The harvest is said to have been 11 annas in the rupee, or nearly three-quarters of the normal yield. The tanks are now all dry, but no shrinkage of well water is reported. The natural fodder has been exhausted, but there must be a good supply of straw from the cereals. Another hailstorm visited the State early in April, the affected area was, however, very small, and only slight damage was done to the tobacco and cotton.

Enclosure in No. 193.

Letter from Major C. Herbert, Political Agent, Eastern Rajputana States, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, No. 2,382, dated Bharatpur, the 10th May, 1900.

I have the honour to forward herewith copies of the Monthly Famine Statement and the Report under sections 15 and 16 of the Abstract Famine Code received from the Bharatpur State Council for the month of April, 1900.

2. Two copies of the skeleton maps are also attached.

Annexure.

Remarks by Sohan Lal, Rai Bahadur, Member and Secretary, State Council, Bharatpur, dated Bharatpur, the 8th May, 1900.

1. *Private relief.*—His Highness the Maharaja continued alms as reported before.
2. *Village and poor-house relief.*—There are three poor-houses as mentioned below, and they are maintained by contributions from temples received through His Highness and local subscriptions. The income and expenditure are shown below :—

Poor-houses opened in December last.	Amount contributed for 6 months at the rate of Rs. 75-8-11.	Local subscriptions up to 28th April.	Total.	Expenditure up to 28th April.	Balance.
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Dig	455 5 6	183 0 0	636 5 6	501 15 6	134 6 0
Weir	453 5 6	103 0 0	556 5 7	338 10 9	167 10 10
Kama	*377 12 7	738 8 0	1,116 4 7	770 4 0	346 0 7
Total	1,286 7 7	1,024 8 0	2,308 15 7	1,610 14 3	648 1 5

* For five months only.

(a) The number of persons in these poor-houses on the last day of the month was 201, and the amount spent in April is Rs. 368-4-8. The cause of this decrease is that persons after acquiring sufficient strength have gone either to relief works or to their fields.

(b) Cooked food is given to inmates, and $\frac{1}{2}$ seer flour and one chittack pulse (dal) are given to each *pardah nashin* woman at Kama : 49 is the number of such women getting gratuity.

(c) There is no sickness in poor-houses.

(d) The scale of rations allowed to inmates is the same as reported before.

There is also one poor-house at Bharatpur maintained by public donations. The number of inmates in this poor-house is 806.

3. *General character of relief works.*—All relief works are under the Public Works Department. Number on relief works is 12,341, and the expenditure for this month is Rs. 39,433. The number of persons paid on contract system and at rates higher than famine rates is 6,766. The scale of rations allowed to persons on works is the same as mentioned in the previous report.

4. *Physical condition.*—Generally good.

5. *Death, if any, from starvation.*—None, except one suspicious death in Tahsil Uchin.

6. *Food-stocks.*—There is no fear of grain being scarce, owing to the import of grain from outside and the rabi crop having been harvested.

Rates are given below in seers and chittacks per rupee :—

	Wheat	Grain.	Barley.	Bejhar.	Jowar.	Bajra.
	S. ch.	S. ch.	S. ch.	S. ch.	S. ch.	S. ch.
By end of March	11 13	12 8	14 14	14 3	12 0	11 0
" April	12 0	12 8	16 8	14 8	11 0	10 8

Rates for this month are nearly the same as for the last month.

7. *Importation of grain.*—Quantity of imported grain cannot be known for reasons mentioned in previous reports.

8. *General condition and prospects of affected area.*—The damage caused by hail in the last month was reported in the previous report. In this month hailstones fell in Tahsil Akheygarh, and damaged a little the tobacco and cotton crops.

9. *Change in rates of wages.*—No change.

10. *Emigration.*—None are reported to have emigrated.

11. *Other matters necessary for the information of the Darbar.*—Water has dried up in many ponds; drinking water for cattle is drawn from wells; fodder is scarce, but this deficiency will be made up by new straw.

The following table shows the produce of rabi crop :—

	Annas in a Rupee.
Dig	11
Kama	10
Kumher	11
Pahadi	10
Nagar	10
Bharatpur	12
Uchin	14
Rupbas	12
Biana	14
Bhusawar	12
Akheygarh	12

No. 194.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. C. Wyllie, C.I.E., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 2506 F., dated Abu, the 15th June, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 2198 F., dated 17th May, 1900, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statement of the Bharatpur State for the month of May 1900, together with the covering letter of the Political Agent, Eastern Rajputana States, No. 2823, dated 7th June, 1900.

2. The numbers on relief works have fallen by $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. during the month. No explanation has been given of this decrease; but it is more than probable that those who left the works had not come to an end of their resources and were not inclined to labour for a famine wage. This impression is borne out by the rise in the total of persons employed on contract work. Only 36 per cent. of the workers were paid at famine rates as compared with 46 per cent. during April. If distress were widespread or acute the number of contract workers would be small. The average cost of relief per head on works has risen by 20 per

cent. from Rs. 3-3-1 to Rs. 3-13-5, although prices have advanced by only 10 per cent. All these figures point to the fact that the famine in Bharatpur is principally one of high prices.

3. The numbers in receipt of gratuitous relief have risen by 20 per cent., but the aggregate is only 1,209. The number of inmates in all four poorhouses has also increased, the rise being largest in the private poorhouse at Bharatpur.

The relief of *pardah nashin* women has been extended to all the different tahsils. During May 166 persons of this class were assisted as compared with 49 in April.

4. No change for the worse in the condition of the people is reported. Prices have risen, but they are still well below the scale that prevailed from November to March. The yield of straw from cereals and pulses has been exceptionally poor, and my remarks on this subject last month appear to have been too sanguine. In many places the cattle are reduced to eating leaves, and are for the first time described as emaciated. Adequate arrangements have been made for the relief of returning emigrants in depôts established on the high roads leading from Gwalior and the trans-Jumna tract to the west.

Enclosure in No. 194.

From the Political Agent, Eastern Rajputana States, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, No. 2823, dated Bharatpur, the 7th June, 1900.

I have the honour to forward herewith copies of the Monthly Famine Statement, and the Report under Sections 15 and 16 of the Abstract Famine Code, received from the Bharatpur State Council for the month of May, 1900.

2. Two copies of the skeleton maps are also attached.

Annexure.

Remarks by Muhammad Rashid-ud-din, Member, for Secretary, State Council, Bharatpur.

(1) *Private relief*.—His Highness the Maharaja continued giving alms as reported before.

(2) *Village and poorhouse relief*.—There are three poorhouses as mentioned below, and they are maintained by contributions from temples received through His Highness and local subscriptions. The income and expenditure are shown below :—

Poor-houses.	Contributions from Temples.	Local subscription.	Total income up to end of May.	Expenditure till end of May.	Balance.
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Dig	528 14 6	199 12 0	728 10 6	595 9 2	133 1 4
Weir	528 14 6	131 0 0	659 14 6	487 11 3	172 3 3
Kama	528 14 6	1,031 8 2	1,560 6 8	979 8 0	580 14 8
Total	1,586 11 6	1,362 4 2	2,948 15 8	2,062 12 5	886 3 3

The number of persons in these poorhouses 224 and 82 *pardah nashin* women were given relief. The total expenditure of this month amounted to Rs. 507-0-9.

In Kama 49 *pardah nashin* women were supplied with 9 chittacks of grain each.

Rs. 2,000 have been sanctioned by the Council for maintenance of *pardah nashin* women, and the amounts written below have been allotted for tahsils for one month :—

	Rs.		Rs.
Dig	28	Oochein	270
Kama	107	Rupbas	86
Pabadi	3	Biana	133
Nagar	40	Bhusawar	28
Kumher	50	Akheigarh	14
Bharatpur Pargana	20	Bharatpur City	212

In Bharatpur the work of distribution has begun, and from the 19th to 25th May, 1900, 35 women have been given Rs. 2-5-6 each for one month. Regarding other tahsils report will be made next month. Bharatpur poorhouse is maintained by public donations. The number of inmates is 936, and total cost for this month is Rs. 1,078.

(b) Cooked food is given to the inmates.

(c) There is no sickness in poorhouses, only one old man named Badam died at Bhusawar of some chronic disease and old age.

(d) The scale of rations allowed to inmates is the same as reported before.

(3) *General character of relief works*.—All relief works are under the Public Works Department; the number of persons on these works is 11,508, and the expenditure for this month amounted to Rs. 44,199. The number of persons paid on contract system and at rates higher than famine rates is 7,427.

The scale of rations in chittacks or in case of cash the amount and the grain equivalent :—

(a) Men, 2 annas = 26 chittacks at market rate.

(b) " 1½ " = 19½ " "

Women, 1½ " = 16½ " "

(c) Men, 1½ to 1 = 16½ and 13 chittacks at market rate.

Women, 1 anna = 13 " "

Boys and girls, 0-0-9 = 9½ " "

(4) *Physical condition*.—Generally good.

(5) *Death, if any, from starvation*.—None.

(6) *Food-stocks*.—The same as reported before.

Rates are given below in seers and chittacks per rupee :—

	Wheat.	Gram.	Barley.	Bejhar.	Jowar.	Bajra.	Gojra.
	S. ch.	S. ch.	S. ch.	S. ch.	S. ch.	S. ch.	S. ch.
April	12 0	12 8	16 8	14 8	11 0	10 8	12 0
May	11 0	11 0	14 0	13 0	11 0	11 0	12 0

In this month grain sold dearer than in the previous month.

(7) *Importation of grain*.—The same as reported before.

(8) *General condition and prospects of affected area*.—No change.

(9) *Change in rates of wages*.—No change.

(10) *Emigration*.—None are reported to have emigrated.

(11) *Other matters necessary for the information of the Darbar*.—Water has dried up in ponds. It is taken from wells. Fodder is insufficient, as enough *bhusa* was not produced in rabi harvest. In some places green leaves, &c., of trees like *dho* are given to cattle for eating, and this has emaciated them.

No. 195.

Letter from the Agent to the Governor-General, Rajputana, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 2,839-F., dated Abu, the 15th July, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 2,506-F., dated the 15th June, 1900, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statement* of the Bharatpur State for the month of June, 1900, together with the covering letter of the Political Agent, Eastern Rajputana States, No. 3,263, dated the 4th July, 1900.

* Not printed.

2. From the marginal table which gives the statistics for the past eight months it will be seen that the decline of relief workers which began in May has continued. The numbers fell during the month under review by nearly 16 per cent. The tendency is for the cultivating classes to leave the works for their fields. The percentage of labourers employed on a strictly famine wage is only 33 compared with 36 in May and 46 in April. Even the contract workers have begun to leave the works.

The numbers in receipt of gratuitous relief have fallen by one third to the lowest total recorded since December last. In the monthly famine report the number of persons in poor-houses is returned at 806, but the appended remarks furnish the following details.

	Number.
Outlying poor-houses	210
Bharatpur poor-house	442
Relieved by spinning	154
Total	806

The decrease is confined almost entirely to the Bharatpur Poor-house, where the numbers have fallen by more than half.

4. The general condition of the people of the State and at all relief centres is good, but distress among the cattle has increased. The Political Agent reports that many of the animals not actually used for domestic or field purposes have died from want of food. There are no complaints of scarcity of water and the recent heavy rain must have partially filled the tanks and raised the water level in the wells.

Enclosure in No. 195.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel C. Herbert, Political Agent, Eastern States, Rajputana, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, Abu, No. 3,263, dated Bharatpur Agency, the 4th July, 1900.

I have the honour to forward herewith copies of the monthly Famine Statement and the report under sections 15 and 16 of the Abstract Famine Code received from the Bharatpur State Council for the month of June, 1900.

2. I would add that there has been considerable mortality lately, I hear, among the village cattle though the plough cattle are in fairly good case.

3. Two copies of the skeleton maps are attached herewith.

Annexure.

Remarks by Sohan Lal Rai Bahadur, Member and Secretary, State Council, Bharatpur.

(1) *Private relief*.—The same as reported before.

(2) *Village and poor-house relief*.—There are three poor-houses maintained by contributions from temples and local subscriptions. The income and expenditure up to the end of June, 1900, are shown below :—

Poor-houses.	Contributions from temples.	Local subscriptions.	Total income.	Expenditure.	Balance.
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Dig	528 14 6	208 6 0	737 4 6	713 13 11	23 6 7
Weir	528 14 6	131 0 0	659 14 6	616 10 0	43 4 6
Kama	528 14 6	1,091 8 2	1,620 6 8	1,245 10 11	374 11 9
Total	1,586 11 6	1,430 14 2	3,017 9 8	2,576 2 10	441 6 10

The number of persons in poor-houses was 210 on the 30th June, 1900.

Rs. 2,000 were sanctioned for maintenance of pardanashin women requiring relief. They are given Rs. 0-1-3 each per day. The account showing money allotted and spent and balance is given below :—

Serial number.	Tahsil.	Allotment.	Expenditure up to 30th June.	Balance.	Number of females relieved.
		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	
1	Bharatpur	20 0 0	10 7 0	9 9 0	6
2	Dig	28 0 0	2 13 0	25 8 0	6
3	Kama	107 0 0	60 2 3	46 13 9	25
4	Kumher	51 5 0	15 10 6	35 10 6	9
5	Rupbas	86 0 0	47 9 9	38 6 3	15
6	Biana	133 9 6	45 12 3	87 13 3	19
7	Akhegarh	24 0 0	10 4 6	13 11 6	4
8	Uchain	273 0 0	92 14 3	180 1 9	45
9	Nagar	110 0 0	23 4 6	86 11 6	10
10	Bhusawar	28 0 0	21 14 0	6 2 0	10
11	Bharatpur City	512 0 0	347 10 9	164 5 3	5
	Total	1,372 14 6	678 6 9	694 7 9	154

Spinning work is taken from these women. Bharatpur poor-house is maintained by public donations, young persons are given 15½ chittacks, and boys 5½ chittacks each. The total monthly cost is Rs. 671-1-9 and the number of inmates is 442.

(b) Cooked food is given to the inmates.

(c) There is no sickness in poor-houses.

(d) The scale of rations allowed to inmates is the same as reported before.

(3) *General character of relief works*.—All relief works are under the Public Works Department. Number of persons on relief works is 9,688. The total cost for this month is Rs. 39,688. The number of persons paid on contract system and at rates higher than famine rates is 6,513. The decrease in number is due to the fact that many men have most probably gone to till their lands.

The scale of rations in chittacks, or in case of cash the amount and the grain equivalent.—The same as previously reported.

(4) *Physical condition*.—Generally good.

(5) *Death, if any, from starvation.*—None.

(6) *Food-stocks.*—The same as reported before.

Grain rates are given below :—

	Wheat.	Gram.	Barley.	Bejhar.	Jwar.	Bajra.	Gojra.
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
In May ...	11 0 0	11 0 0	14 0 0	13 0 0	11 0 0	11 0 0	12 0 0
In June ...	11 3 0	11 0 0	14 0 0	13 3 0	9 0 0	8 0 0	12 0 0

There is not much difference.

(7) *Importation of grain.*—The same as reported before.

(8) *General condition and prospects of affected area.*—No change. Rain is badly wanted.

(9) *Change in rates of wages.*—No change.

(10) *Emigration.*—None are reported to have emigrated.

(11) *Other matters necessary for the information of the Durbar.*—The same as reported before.

No. 196.

Letter from the Agent to the Governor-General, Rajputana, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 3105-F., dated Abu, the 15th August, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 2839-F., dated the 15th July, 1900, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the famine statement* of the Bharatpur State for the month of July, 1900, together with the covering letter of the Political Agent, Eastern Rajputana States, No. 3939, dated the 7th August, 1900.

2. The marginal table gives the numbers in receipt of relief during the last nine months. The

Months.	Works.	Gratui- tous.	Total.	Percentage on Population.
1899.				
November ...	8,000	700	8,700	1.36
December ...	12,298	973	13,271	2.07
1900.				
January ...	10,288	1,332	11,620	1.81
February ...	10,816	943	11,759	1.84
March ...	8,546	1,019	9,565	1.50
April ...	12,341	1,007	13,348	2.09
May ...	11,508	1,209	12,717	1.99
June ...	9,688	806	10,494	1.60
July ...	6,185	589	6,774	1.06

* Not printed.

3. The numbers in receipt of gratuitous relief have fallen by one quarter to the lowest total on record. The numbers relieved by the different institutions during the last two months are as follows :—

	June.	July.
Outlying poor-houses ...	210	203
Bharatpur poor-house ...	442	177
Spinning and weaving ...	154	209
Total ...	806	589

The decrease has taken place only in the Bharatpur poor-house. The majority of the inmates of this institution have throughout been aliens.

4. Prices rose during the month, but will probably fall slightly during August. The condition of the people is good, but nothing is said as to the cattle. The second advance of the monsoon gave good rain, but it was partial, and more is urgently wanted in the northern tahsils of Pahari and Nagar. The State grass preserves also are by no means flourishing.

Enclosure in No. 196.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel C. Herbert, Political Agent, Eastern Rajputana States, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, No. 3939, dated Bharatpur Agency, the 7th August, 1900.

I have the honour to forward herewith copies of the monthly famine statement, and the report under sections 15 and 16 of the Abstract Famine Code, received from the Bharatpur State Council for the month of July, 1900.

2. Two copies of the skeleton maps are attached herewith.

Annexure.

Remarks by Sohan Lal, Member and Secretary, State Council, Bharatpur, dated Bharatpur, the 4th August, 1900.

(1) *Private relief.*—Nil. His Highness the Maharaja stopped giving alms on the 29th June, 1900.

(2) *Village and poor-house relief.*—There are three poor-houses, as reported previously. The expenditure in this month was Rs. 743-3-0. The number of inmates on the last day was 203. The number of "pardanashin" women who got relief was 209 in all tahsils, and the expenditure incurred up to the 28th July was Rs. 1,342-3-6. The number of inmates of the Bharatpur poor-house is 177. (b.) Cooked food is given to inmates. (c.) There is no sickness in poor-houses. (d.) The scale of rations allowed to inmates is the same as reported before.

(3) *General condition of relief.*—The number on relief works is 6,185. The cost of relief works for July is 24,077. The number of persons paid on contract system, and at rates higher than famine rates, 2,940. The decrease in number is due to the fact that many men have gone to work on their fields. The scale of rations in chittacks, or in case of cash, the amount and the grain equivalent, the same as reported before.

(4) *Physical condition.*—Generally good.

(5) *Death, if any, from starvation.*—The Uchain Tehsil reported that two persons died of starvation.

(6) *Fodder stocks.*—The same as reported before.

Grain rates are given below in seers and chittacks :—

	Wheat.	Gram.	Barley.	Bejhar.	Jwar.	Bajra.	Gojra.
	S. ch.	S. ch.	S. ch.	S. ch.	S. ch.	S. ch.	S. ch.
By the end of June ...	11 3	11 0	14 0	13 3	9 0	8 0	12 0
By the end of July ...	11 0	10 8	13 8	13 0	6 0	8 0	12 0

In July rates were higher.

(7.) *Importation of grain.*—The same as reported before.

(8.) *General condition and prospects of affected area.*—Rains have set in and no damage has been caused.

(9.) *Change in rates of wages.*—No change.

(10.) *Emigration.*—None are reported to have emigrated.

(11.) *Other matters necessary for the information of the Darbar.*—Water is now available in ponds for animals, on account of rainfall ; grass is growing up.

No. 197.

Letter from the Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 3299 F., dated Abu, the 15th September, 1900.

In continuation of my letter, No. 3105 F., dated 15th August, 1900, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statement* of the Bharatpur State for the month of August, 1900, together with the covering letter from the Political Agent, Eastern Rajputana States, No. 4516, dated 7th September, 1900.

2. The marginal table gives the numbers on relief during the last ten months. The decrease in the number of workers noted last month has been maintained. The total by the end of August had fallen by nearly one-third, and was the lowest on record. The report contains no explanation of the reason why there are still so many applicants for relief on works, while the numbers supported gratuitously are so insignificant, and the general condition and the prospects of the country and of the people are so favourable. It is hard to reconcile paragraph (h) of the report with the presence of over 4,000 people on the works.

Months.	Workers.	Gratui- tous.	Total.	Per- centage.
1899.				
November ..	8,000	700	8,700	1.36
December ...	12,289	973	13,271	2.07
1900.				
January ...	10,288	1,332	11,620	1.81
February ...	10,816	943	11,759	1.84
March ...	8,546	1,019	9,565	1.50
April ...	12,341	1,007	13,348	2.09
May ...	11,508	1,209	12,717	1.99
June ...	9,688	806	10,494	1.60
July ...	6,185	589	6,774	1.06
August ...	4,384	135	4,519	0.70

3. Ample and general rain was received during the closing days of August and the first week in September, and the agricultural situation is satisfactory.

* Not printed.

Enclosure in No. 197.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel C. Herbert, Political Agent, Eastern Rajputana States, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, No. 4516, dated Bharatpur, the 7th September, 1900.

I have the honour to forward herewith copies of the Monthly Famine Statement and the Report under sections 15 and 16 of the Abstract Famine Code for Native States, just received from the Bharatpur State Council for the month of August, 1900.

2. Two copies of the maps are attached herewith.

Annexure.

Remarks by Sohan Lal, Member and Secretary, State Council, Bharatpur, dated the 6th September, 1900.

1. *Private relief.*—Nil.

2. *Village and poor-house relief.*—There were three poor-houses as previously reported. They were maintained by contributions from temples and local subscriptions.

(a) The number of inmates on the last date was 51, and the cost for August amounted to Rs. 299-9-2½.

The number of *pardah nashin* women who get relief was 84, and the expenditure incurred in giving relief during August was Rs. 431-7-0.

Grant of gratuitous relief to destitute persons in poor-houses and to *pardah nashin* women has been discontinued from 1st September, 1900.

(b) Cooked food was given to inmates.

(c) There was no sickness in poor-houses.

(d) The scale of rations allowed to inmates was the same as before.

3. *General conditions of relief.*—The number on relief works was 4,384.

The cost of relief works for August was Rs. 14,827.

The number of persons paid on contract system and at rates higher than famine wages 814.

The scale of rations in chittacks or in case of cash the amount and the grain equivalent.—The same as reported before.

4. *Physical condition.*—Generally good.

5. *Death, if any, from starvation.*—None.

6. *Fodder stocks.*—The same as reported before.

Grain rates are given below in seers and chittacks for the month under report and the previous one :—

	Wheat.	Gram.	Barley.	Bejhar.	Jowar.	Bajra.	Gojra.
	S. ch.	S. ch.	S. ch.	S. ch.	S. ch.	S. ch.	S. ch.
By the end of July ...	11 0	10 8	13 8	13 0	6 0	8 0	12 0
By the end of August...	11 8	11 4	15 4	13 8	9 0	10 5	12 8

Grain was comparatively cheaper during the month under report.

7. *Importation of grain.*—The same as reported before.

8. *General condition and prospects of affected area.*—The same as reported before.

9. *Change in rates of wages.*—No change.

10. *Emigration.*—None were reported to have emigrated.

11. *Other matters necessary for the information of the Darbar.*—Fodder and water are sufficient. The area affected by famine has been reduced as much as the effect has disappeared.

No. 198.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. C. Wyllie, C.I.E., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 2205 F., dated Abu, the 18th May, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 1928 F., dated the 25th April, 1900,* I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statements† of the Banswara and Partabgarh States and of the Kushalgarh Chiefship for the month of April, 1900, together with the covering letters of the Resident and Assistant Resident.

2. *Banswara*.—The following table shows the numbers on works and in receipt of gratuitous relief in Banswara during the last six months :—

Months.	Works.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Percentage of Population.
November, 1899	191	50	211	·09
December „	432	78	510	·24
January, 1900	576	100	676	·31
February „	1,565	237	1,602	·75
March „	3,764	410	4,174	1·97
April „	4,103	565	4,668	2·21

The total on works has risen by 9 per cent. during the month, and Lieutenant Drummond's remarks would seem to imply that additional works have been opened. The works consist of tanks, wells and buildings, and from the Darbar's remarks it would appear that a certain section of the population maintain themselves by the collection and sale of jungle products. The numbers in receipt of gratuitous relief have gone up by 38 per cent., but no description is given of its character. Those who are not inmates of the poor-house in the city are probably relieved by daily doles of grain.

3. For the first time the people are reported as being affected in their physical condition by the famine. Nothing is said about the cattle. The account of the harvest is very meagre, but the total yield cannot have been at all large. Grain-stocks are said to be insufficient. I have already asked the Resident to organise a regular transport service from Mandsaur *via* Partabgarh. If necessary, the military authorities will be asked to lend animals.

4. *Partabgarh*.—The following table gives the numbers on relief in this State since December, 1899 :—

Months.	Works.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Percentage of Population.
December, 1899	1,982	35	2,017	2·29
January, 1900	2,248	73	2,321	2·63
February „	1,815	108	1,923	2·24
March „	2,188	159	2,347	2·71
April „	4,051	219	4,270	4·85

* See page 488 of Command Paper No. 206, presented in 1900.
† Not printed.

The increase of 85 per cent. in workers is much more marked than in Banswara, in spite of a temporary reduction owing to cholera on the Deolia tank. More than half the workers on this project went to their homes or joined other works. The Sagthali tank, which was begun during the month, has the largest number of workers. Of the total on works, 1,000 are said to be engaged in sinking wells, but in the remarks appended to the statement it is noted that more than double that number are employed in these operations. The balance are probably sinking or deepening wells with the help of recoverable loans.

5. The numbers in receipt of gratuitous relief have increased by one-quarter. These are all accommodated in one or other of the three poor-houses. The wealthier bankers are reported as relieving about 500 persons a day by the distribution of small grain doles.

6. No account has been given of the results of the harvest; but, as the railway is fairly accessible, dealers are freely importing grain, and there is, I think, no fear of the supply running short. The Resident and Assistant Resident both certify that the Darbar are making a genuine effort to relieve distress, and from my knowledge of the Maharawat I believe this to be true. No accounts have been given this month of the condition of the people or the cattle, but the deaths among "beggars," presumably due to insufficient food, are said to have decreased.

7. *Kushalgarh*.—The numbers on relief in this small Chiefship since November are given below :—

Months.	Works.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Percentage of Population.
November, 1899	425	300	725	2·33
December „	400	300	700	2·25
January, 1900	250	300	550	1·77
February „	300	250	550	1·77
March „	275	270	545	1·75
April „	275	270	545	1·75

No change in the numbers on relief works has been reported, but the statistics are not of much value. The description of the condition of the people given in the remarks is not very clear, considering the reports of the previous three months on the same subject.

8. Since the submission of the last reports a Special Famine Officer has been appointed, and Lieutenant Patterson has already joined. His reports of the condition of affairs as seen on the spot will be awaited with interest. The Darbar's account of Banswara, on which Lieutenant Drummond's report is based, is unreliable and must be accepted with caution.

Enclosure in No. 198.

Letter from Captain A. F. Pinkey, Resident in Mewar, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, No. 1080, dated Udaipur, the 10th May, 1900.

I have the honour to forward a copy of a letter No. 1166, dated 8th May, 1900, with enclosures, from the Assistant Resident in Mewar, submitting the Famine Statements for the States of Banswara, Partabgarh, and the Chiefship of Kushalgarh for the month of April, 1900.

2. The Assistant Resident observes that he has no personal knowledge of the situation in these States, but he considers that the Partabgarh Darbar are making a genuine effort to cope with the famine and provide adequate relief.

3. This uncertainty about the actual condition of things, especially in Banswara, will, I trust, now be shortly dispelled and some light thrown on the situation by Lieutenant Patterson, who has lately been appointed on famine duty in these States and will proceed to Partabgarh and Banswara in a day or two.

Annexure I.

Letter from Lieutenant A. B. Drummond, Assistant Resident in Mewar, to the Resident in Mewar, No. 1166, dated, the 8th May, 1900,

I have the honour to forward the Monthly Famine Statements with maps in triplicate relating to the States of Banswara and Partabgarh and the Chiefship of Kushalgarh.

2. The numbers on relief works given by the respective Darbars are as shown below :—

	February.	March.	April.
Banswara	1,565	3,764	4,103
Partabgarh	1,815	2,188	4,051
Kushalgarh	300	275	275

The increase in numbers in Banswara is slight, though from the Statement for March it would appear that a considerable number of additional works have been started; in Partabgarh the increase is considerable and is probably due to the opening to famine relief work of the Sagthali tank and a number of petty works. The figures from Kushalgarh call for no particular comment. I am not in a position to offer any comments on the information given by the Darbars concerned, as, owing to my presence in Dungarpur in the present state of affairs being absolutely necessary, I had no opportunity of personally inspecting the famine relief operations in the other States under my charge. The Partabgarh Darbar are making a genuine effort to cope with the famine and to provide adequate relief, but I am unable to comment on the figures given by the Banswara Darbar. The Kushalgarh Chiefship is less affected than either of the above States, owing to the grass crop affording an opportunity to the Bhils there of earning a livelihood. The information called for in the First Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General's letter No. 1354 F. of 21st of March has not been furnished by the Kushalgarh and Partabgarh Darbars, though they were instructed by my predecessor to include the information in their reports. Their attention will again be drawn to this matter. It would undoubtedly be most beneficial if a Special Famine Officer could be deputed to superintend famine relief measures in Banswara and Partabgarh, especially in the former State, and I believe the Darbars concerned would co-operate freely, and in any case I am sure that the Partabgarh Darbar would welcome any such assistance.

Annexure II.

Remarks by Lieutenant A. B. Drummond, Assistant Resident in Mewar, to accompany the Famine Statement of the State of Banswara for the month ending the 30th April, 1900.

(a) *Private relief.*—In the town 20 buildings are being erected; one tank and a well are being deepened. In the district 127 wells, 11 baoris, and 12 tanks are being deepened. Nineteen buildings, five thanas, one school, one ghata and a temple are being repaired.

(b) *Village and poor-house relief.*—The poor maintain themselves by selling grass, fuel, wood and other forest products and on relief works and charity.

(c) *General character of relief works.*—Tanks and wells.

(d) *Physical condition of the people.*—The physical condition of the people is being affected.

(e) *Death (if any) from starvation.*—None.

(f) *Food-stock.*—The quantity of grain in stock is said to be half of the quantity required.

(g) *Importation of grain.*—Grain is being imported.

(h) *General conditions and prospects of affected area.*—Whole area is affected. Cultivation is reported to be four annas in a rupee in some places.

(i) *Changes in rates of wages.*—No change reported.

(j) *Emigration or immigration.*—Both to a certain extent.

(k) *Other matters.*—None.

NOTE.

I.—Male labourers get 1 anna Imperial which can procure 12 chittacks, or 24 ozs. of grain.

Female labourers get $\frac{3}{4}$ anna Imperial which can procure 9 chittacks, or 18 ozs. of grain.

Boy or girl gets $\frac{1}{2}$ anna Imperial which can procure 6 chittacks, or 12 ozs. of grain.

II.—Workers are not paid on a contract system.

Annexure III.

Remarks by Lieutenant A. B. Drummond, Assistant Resident in Mewar, to accompany the Famine Statement of the State of Partabgarh for the month ending the 30th April, 1900.

(a) *Private relief.*—In the town of Partabgarh and in Arnod some Sahukars distribute a handful of parched grain, jowar and makki; about 500 persons are relieved in this way. About 2,200 persons are employed on wells in the districts.

(b) *Village and poor-house relief.*—Poor-houses are located at Partabgarh, Sagthali and Dalote. The inmates number 219.

(c) *General character of relief works.*—In the district new wells are being sunk and old ones are being repaired and deepened. Tanks at Deogarh, Dalote, Ghutarsi and Sagthali are being deepened.

(d) *Physical condition of the people.*—Physical condition not bad.

(e) *Death (if any) from starvation.*—Forty-three deaths among beggars were reported during the month.

(f) *Food-stock.*—Grain is being imported in a sufficient quantity.

(g) *Importation of grain.*—Grain is being imported by Sahukars and grain dealers.

(h) *General conditions and prospects of affected area.*—The poor are employed on relief works and the number is increasing. Wells will be sunk in every village.

(i) *Changes in rates of wages.*—Grain is given to the labourers instead of money, and it is given in the following scale :—

	Chittacks.
Male	12
Female... ..	10
Boy or girl	6

(j) *Emigration or immigration.*—Emigrations none.

(k) *Other matters.*—None.

Annexure IV.

Remarks by Lieutenant A. B. Drummond, Assistant Resident in Mewar, to accompany the Famine Statement of the Chiefship of Kushalgarh for the month ending 30th April, 1900.

(a) *Private relief.*—None.

(b) *Village and poor-house relief.*—Cooked food is distributed in the poor-house at Kushalgarh.

- Wells and buildings.
- (d) *Physical condition of the people.*—Is being slightly affected now.
- (e) *Death (if any) from starvation.*—Some have died through starvation (number not given).
- (f) *Food-stock.*—Not sufficient.
- (g) *Importation of grain.*—Grain is being imported.
- (h) *General conditions and prospects of affected area.*—General condition not good, and will remain so till the coming of rains.
- (i) *Changes in rates of wages.*—None.
- (j) *Emigration or immigration.*—Both are prohibited, but do take place to some extent.
- (k) *Other matters.*—None.

No. 199.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. C. Wyllie, Esq., Agent to the Governor-General, Rajputana, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 2494-F., dated Abu, the 15th June, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 2205-F., dated 18th May, I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statements* of the Banswara and Pertabgarh States and of the Kushalgarh Chiefship for the month of May, 1900, together with the covering letters† of the Resident and Assistant Resident.

2. The following table shows the number on work and in receipt of gratuitous relief in Banswara during the last seven months.

BANSWARA.				
Months.	Workers.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Per cent.
November, 1899	191	50	241	·09
December "	432	78	510	·24
January, 1900	576	100	676	·31
February "	1,565	237	1,802	·75
March "	3,764	410	4,174	1·97
April "	4,103	565	4,668	2·21
May "	4,743	765	5,508	2·61

The total on works has risen by 15 per cent. The works are all tanks and wells, but Lieutenant Patterson confirms the Darbar's report of last month as to the benefit the people have derived from the collection and sale of jungle products. All the forests have been thrown open to the Bhils, who find ready markets for wood and grass in Pertabgarh, Banswara, and the stations on the railway which are accessible to them. Mr. Patterson began his inspections in Banswara in the middle of May. He found, as was only to be expected in the absence of European supervision, that a good deal of speculation had been going

* Not printed.

on, and he had to reorganise the works. Wages were raised, a proper system of accounts introduced, and daily payments insisted upon. The good result of these measures is evident from the rise in numbers on the works in spite of the cholera, which was at its worst during Lieutenant Patterson's tour. The disease was of the same virulent type as in the rest of the hilly tracts.

3. The numbers on gratuitous relief have risen by 35 per cent., but as in the case of the workers, the increase has been really greater, as a certain proportion of the units recorded in previous returns existed only on paper. The kitchens and the central poor-house were found by Lieutenant Patterson to be hot-beds of cholera. They were thoroughly disinfected and all refuse was burnt. Mr. Patterson found that a philanthropic Parsee gentleman of Bombay had sent an agent into Banswara to make free distribution of grain. The agent had been much hampered in various ways, but with the help of the Assistant Resident a systematic distribution has now been organised. It is satisfactory to read that the Darbar are making genuine efforts to mitigate distress, and that lists are being prepared with a view to the issue of takavi advances. Cattle in the hills appear to be plentiful and to be in fairly good condition, owing to the available pasture. I have to thank the Bombay Military Authorities for their offer to lend mule transport to assist the grain traffic. I did not, however, avail myself of it because the Resident and Assistant Resident stated that local transport arrangements could be made, which would have the additional advantage of keeping a large number of agricultural cattle alive. There need be now no further anxiety regarding a sufficiency of grain supplies during the rains. The statement of the former Assistant Resident, Captain Peacock, that it was impossible to effect any decrease in crime until the ripening of the kharif harvest, has been entirely disproved in Banswara. The measures adopted on Colonel Thornton's initiative have been attended with much success. A large number of the worst Bhil offenders have been captured, and the whole State is now quiet.

4. The following table gives the numbers on relief in this State since December, 1899 :—

PERTABGARH.				
Months.	Workers.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Per cent.
December, 1899	1,982	35	2,017	2·29
January, 1900	2,248	73	2,321	2·63
February "	1,815	108	1,923	2·24
March "	2,188	159	2,347	2·71
April "	4,051	219	4,270	4·85
May "	4,020	528	4,548	5·16

A very slight decrease during May is reported among the workers. Lieutenant Patterson arrived on the 4th of May and spent the first fortnight on tour in the districts. He found the organisation on all the works quite satisfactory. Payments are made every day, the accounts are in good order, and there is some attempt to enforce sanitation. About five-sixths of the workers are employed on four large tanks, while the remainder are engaged in sinking and restoring wells.

The Darbar, have, moreover, persuaded some of the larger jagirdars to open works on their estates, which afforded employment to approximately 1,500 persons.

The numbers in receipt of gratuitous relief have more than doubled, owing chiefly to the extension of poor-houses and increased attendance at the hospitals.

Relief measures are both adequate and effective, and this success is largely due to the keen personal interest taken in all branches of famine administration by His Highness the Maharawat.

5. Cholera has also ravaged Pertabgarh, but, owing to better management on the part of the Darbar the mortality has been less than in Banswara. The condition of the people is on the whole fair, and the accounts of the cattle are as encouraging as those from Banswara. There is no anxiety about grain.

6. The numbers on relief in the chiefship since November are given below.

KUSHALGARH.

Months.	Workers.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Per cent.
November, 1899	425	300	725	2.33
December „	400	300	700	2.25
January, 1900	250	300	550	1.77
February „	300	250	550	1.77
March „	275	270	545	1.75
April „	275	270	545	1.75
May „	295	280	575	1.85

There has been very little change since April. The workers are chiefly employed in the construction of new buildings, which indirectly afford relief to large numbers of Bhils who bring in materials from the jungles. Many others make a livelihood by the collection and sale of wood and grass. A good mango crop was unfortunately spoilt by the monkeys. There is sufficient grain, and fodder is plentiful. The Chief continues to do well.

Enclosure 1 in No. 199.

Letter from Captain A. F. Pinhey, Resident, Mewar, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, Abu, No. 1338, dated Udaipur, the 4th June, 1900.

I have the honour to forward the Famine Statements and the Narrative Famine Report for the States of Banswara and Pertabgarh and the Chiefship of Kushalgarh for the month of May, 1900, received from the Assistant Resident for Banswara and Pertabgarh.

2. A further detailed report from myself on the condition of relief measures in Banswara and Pertabgarh will be forwarded shortly, based on information collected during my recent tour in those States.

Enclosure 2 in No. 199.

Letter from Lieutenant S. B. Patterson, Assistant Resident, Banswara, to the Resident in Mewar, dated Banswara, the 31st May, 1900.

I have the honour to forward herewith Famine Statements for the month of May for the States of Banswara and Pertabgarh and the Chiefship of Kushalgarh. I also forward a Narrative Diary for the month.

2. I have no records to show how many persons were in receipt of relief during the months of April and May. I am, therefore, unable to comment on a rise or fall in numbers. The numbers on the works are, however, now increasing, and this increase should continue till the rains break.

3. No deaths have been reported as being due to starvation. It is difficult to say whether such deaths have or have not occurred. Cholera of a virulent type has been raging through the three States, and it has been impossible, in this weather, to tell from the state of the corpse the cause from which the person died. That is in the case of bodies found lying about, of which I have come across a few.

4. I am forwarding, under a separate cover, an application for the sum of Rs. 15,000, on behalf of the Banswara State, from the Calcutta Indian Famine Relief Fund Committee. I have also explained the objects of this relief fund to the Chief of Kushalgarh, and expect an application for an amount from him shortly.

Annexure I.

Remarks by Lieutenant S. B. Patterson, Assistant Resident, to accompany the Famine Report (Banswara) for month ending 31st May, 1900.

- (a) *Private relief.*—Poor people are fed by sahuikars. Mr. Adamjee Peerbhoy of Bombay is distributing a large quantity of grain in the State.
- (b) *Village and poor-house relief.*—Central poor-house in Banswara. Kitchens at Bongra, Hulinger and Pipalkunt.
- (c) *Character of works.*—Tanks and wells.
- (d) *Physical condition of people.*—Poor.
- (e) *Death from starvation (if any).*—None reported.
- (f) *Food stock.*—Over four-fifths of required quantity is now in the State.
- (g) *Importation of grain.*—Balance required is being imported and is coming into the State in large quantities.
- (h) *Condition and prospects.*—Condition unchanged.
- (i) *Changes in wages.*—Men's wages increased to three annas. Women and children in proportion.
- (j) *Emigration or immigration.*—None reported. Many deaths from cholera.
- (k) *Other matters.*—Cattle in jungle tracts in fair condition. In other tracts poor. Fodder supply in jungle tracts fair.

Annexure II.

Remarks by Lieutenant S. B. Patterson, Assistant Resident, to accompany Famine Statement (Pertabgarh) for month ending 31st May, 1900.

- (a) *Private relief.*—Two thousand persons are employed on wells and buildings. I saw many of these works while in the State.
- (b) *Village and poor-house relief.*—Poor-houses are located at Pertabgarh and Dalote.
- (c) *General character of relief works.*—Tanks and wells.
- (d) *Physical condition of people.*—Fair.
- (e) *Death from starvation.*—None reported.
- (f) *Food stock.*—Sufficient.
- (g) *Importation of grain.*—Grain is being imported as required.
- (h) *General condition and prospects.*—
- (i) *Change in rates of wages.*—None.
- (j) *Emigration and immigration.*—None reported.
- (k) *Other matters.*—Cattle are in poor condition in plains and in fair condition in jungle tracts. A fair supply of fodder remains in the jungle tracts. Many deaths from cholera have taken place during the month.

Annexure III.

Remarks by Lieutenant S. B. Patterson, Assistant Resident, to accompany Famine Statement (Kushalgarh) for month ending 31st May, 1900.

- (a) *Private relief.*—A few sahuikars distribute grain.
- (b) *Village and poor-house relief.*—A poor-house in Kushalgarh.
- (c) *General character of relief works.*—Buildings and wells.
- (d) *Physical condition of people.*—Poor.
- (e) *Death (if any) from starvation.*—None reported.
- (f) *Food stock.*—Nearly sufficient.
- (g) *Importation of grain.*—Grain required is fast being imported.
- (h) *General condition and prospects.*—Unaltered.
- (i) *Change in wages.*—None.
- (j) *Emigration or immigration.*—None reported.
- (k) *Other matters.*—Condition of cattle is fair. Cholera has been raging during the month.

No. 200.

Letter from the Agent to the Governor-General, Rajputana, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 2841 F., dated Abu, the 15th July, 1900.

1. In continuation of my letter No. 2494 F., dated the 15th June, 1900, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statements* of the Banswara and Pertabgarh States, and of the Kushalgarh Chiefship for the month of June, 1900, together with the Assistant Resident's covering letter No. 75, dated 5th July 1900. The statements have come direct from the Assistant Resident, and I have not been able to send them to the Resident for remarks because of the delay thus involved.

2. The following table gives the numbers on relief in Banswara during the last nine months :—

Months.	Works.	Gratuitions.	Total.	Percentage.
November, 1899	191	50	241	·9
December „	432	78	510	·24
January, 1900	576	100	767	·31
February „	1,656	237	1,602	·75
March „	3,764	410	4,174	·97
April „	4,103	565	4,668	2·21
May „	4,743	765	5,508	2·61
June „	5,525	984	6,509	3·07

The workers have risen by 16 per cent. during June. Cholera has entirely disappeared and the Assistant Resident was able to expand the works. The new organisation is working well and has successfully stood the strain of the recent epidemic. The subordinate staff is still both weak and inefficient, but the Kamdar has loyally co-operated with Lieutenant Patterson. No large projects have been undertaken, and there is little fear of the rains doing any damage to an unfinished tank. The Bhils in the jungle tracts have continued to make a living by the sale of forest produce, but this source of labour is almost exhausted.

* Not printed.

3. The numbers in receipt of gratuitous relief have risen by nearly one-third. The large central poorhouse at the capital and the kitchens at selected centres are all working well, and relief is really reaching the people. Crime has been reduced to normal proportions, and the serious punitive measures employed in Dungarpur for the suppression of dacoit hands have not been found necessary. In consequence of complaints that raids were being made into the Panch Mahals country by the Chilkari Bhils in the extreme south, the police force has been strengthened and a relief work has been opened at Chilkari itself. The Assistant Resident has made a complete tour of the State and reports that previous estimates of the mortality have been exaggerated. This will, however, probably form the subject of a separate report.

The cattle appear to be deteriorating, even in the hilly tracts, more rapidly than during the previous famine months, but if good rain falls soon they will recover. Grain is still being freely imported, and both the State and the Banniahs have given comparatively liberal assistance to cultivators in the shape of advances.

4. The relief statistics of the Pertabgarh State for the last eight months are brought together below :—

Months.	Works.	Gratuitions.	Total.	Percentage.
December, 1899	1,982	35	2,017	2·29
January, 1900	2,248	73	2,321	2·63
February „	1,815	108	1,923	2·24
March „	2,188	159	2,347	2·71
April „	4,051	219	4,270	4·85
May „	4,020	528	4,548	5·16
June „	4,265	516	4,781	5·43

There has been a slight rise in the numbers on works. Four large tanks are approaching completion and should be ready before heavy rain comes. There has been little fluctuation in the returns of gratuitous relief. The figures do not include a large number of people who are relieved by private charity, but represent only the inmates of the poorhouses.

Cholera has entirely disappeared and the general condition of the people is good. The cattle, however, are rapidly falling off in condition and the fodder supply is dangerously short. The import of grain continues unchecked.

5. The numbers on relief in the small Chiefship of Kushalgarh are given below :—

Months.	Works.	Gratuitions.	Total.	Percentage.
November, 1899	425	300	725	2·33
December „	400	300	700	2·25
January, 1900	250	300	550	1·77
February „	300	250	550	1·77
March „	275	270	545	1·75
April „	275	270	545	1·75
May „	295	280	575	1·85
June „	295	270	565	1·85

There has been practically no change in the administration of famine relief or in the general situation except that, as elsewhere, the cattle are feeling keenly the effects of the prolonged drought.

Enclosure in No. 200.

Letter from Lieutenant S. B. Patterson, Assistant Resident, Banswara and Partabgarh, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, Abu, No. 75, dated Partabgarh, the 5th July, 1900.

I have the honour to forward herewith the monthly Famine Statement*, with a report of the States of Banswara and Partabgarh and the Chiefship of Kushalgarh, for the month ending 30th June, 1900.

Annexure.

Remarks by Lieutenant S. B. Patterson, Assistant Resident, to accompany Famine Statement of States of Banswara and Partabgarh and the Chiefship of Kushalgarh, for month ending 30th June, 1900.

(a) *Private relief.*—None shown from Banswara, but I should judge that some 1,000 persons obtain private relief. In Partabgarh the numbers receiving private relief are 1,500.

(b) *Village and poorhouse relief.*—Poorhouses are established in the capitals and kitchens in central villages. Many make a livelihood by the sale of fodder, but this is only obtainable in jungle tracts and is now very scarce there.

(c) *General character of works.*—Tanks, wells, and buildings.

(d) Poor in all States, but best in Partabgarh.

(e) *Death from starvation.*—None.

(f) Sufficient grain is in all States.

(g) Grain is being imported.

(h) *Conditions are unchanged.*—No rain has fallen and prospects are undoubtedly gloomy.

(i) No change in rates.

(j) No emigration or immigrations reported.

(k) The condition of cattle in all States is now very poor, but least so in Banswara, where, owing to the jungle, there is more fodder. The supply of fodder is, however, greatly diminished, and it is now difficult to obtain. Great anxiety is felt in Banswara with regard to the recently imported cattle from Malwa. Cholera has disappeared from all States.

No. 201.

Letter from the Agent to the Governor-General, Rajputana, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 3122-F., dated Abu, the 17th August, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 2841-F., dated the 15th July, 1900, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the famine statements* of the Banswara and Partabgarh States and of the Kushalgarh Chiefship for the month of July, 1900, together with the Resident's covering letter dated the 8th August 1900.

* Not printed.

2. The following table gives the numbers on relief in Banswara during the last nine months :—

Months.	Workers.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Per cent.
November, 1899	161	50	211	·9
December „	432	78	510	·24
January, 1900	576	100	676	·31
February „	1,565	237	1,802	·85
March „	3,764	410	4,174	1·97
April „	4,103	565	4,668	2·21
May „	4,743	765	5,508	2·61
June „	5,525	984	6,509	3·07
July „	2,521	884	3,405	1·61

The workers have fallen by over one-half. The Assistant Resident reports that the fall would have been even more marked but for the fact that the statistics were necessarily compiled a few days before the close of the month. The work opened at Chilkari to stop the raiding across the border and accommodate the Bhils who had been brought back from the Panch Mahals, has proved very useful. The numbers on gratuitous relief have fallen by only ten per cent. Good rain has fallen all over the State.

3. The relief statistics of the Partabgarh State are brought together below :—

Months.	Workers.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Per cent.
December, 1899	1,982	35	2,017	2·29
January, 1900	2,248	73	2,321	2·63
February „	1,815	108	1,923	2·24
March „	2,188	159	2,347	2·71
April „	4,051	219	4,270	4·85
May „	4,020	528	4,548	5·16
June „	4,265	516	4,781	5·43
July „	757	424	1,181	1·34

The numbers on works have decreased by over four-fifths, the total being the lowest on record since operations began in December, 1899. The gratuitous lists have shrunk by only 17 per cent.

4. The following table shows the fluctuations in numbers on relief in Kushalgarh during the last nine months :—

Months.	Workers.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Per cent.
November, 1899	425	300	725	2·33
December „	400	300	700	2·25
January, 1900	250	300	550	1·77
February „	300	250	550	1·77

Months.	Workers.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Per cent.
March 1900	275	270	545	1.75
April „	275	270	545	1.75
May „	295	280	575	1.85
June „	295	270	565	1.85
July „	—	233	233	.45

The works have been closed entirely, and by the end of the month even gratuitous relief will be reduced to very narrow limits.

5. Good rain has fallen all over Banswara, Pertabgarh and Kushalgarh, and the people are busy in their fields. The tanks are not yet full, but are filling fast. The condition of the people is said to be improving in Pertabgarh, and this is doubtless the case in Banswara and Kushalgarh also. Grazing is available everywhere, so the cattle must be picking up strength. Takkavi loans have been given out and gifts from the charitable funds are being distributed. No details are furnished of the number of bullocks which are being imported. The cattle mortality was never so heavy as in Mewar and the hilly tracts.

Enclosure in No. 201.

Letter from Captain A. F. Pinhey, Resident, Mewar, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, No. 2072, dated Udaipur, the 8th August, 1900.

I have the honour to forward the famine statements of the Banswara and Pertabgarh States and of the Chiefship of Kushalgarh for the month of July, 1900.

2. The number of persons on relief works at the end of the month show a decrease of 3,004 in Banswara, 3,508 in Pertabgarh, and 270 in Kushalgarh, while the number in receipt of gratuitous relief show an increase of 70 in Banswara and a decrease of 92 and 42 in Pertabgarh and Kushalgarh, respectively, as compared with the figures for the preceding month.

3. Good rain is reported to have fallen throughout Banswara, Pertabgarh and Kushalgarh, and there should be no necessity for further relief works after the end of August.

Annexure.

Remarks by Lieutenant S. B. Patterson, Assistant Resident, Banswara and Pertabgarh, to accompany monthly Famine Statements for the States of Banswara, Pertabgarh and the Kushalgarh Chiefship for the month of July, 1900.

(a) *Private relief.*—Some 200 people are on private relief in Pertabgarh. Banswara returns show no private relief, but such relief does exist.

(b) *Village and poor-house relief.*—In Pertabgarh the central poor-house is at the Capital and Dalot. Kitchens at Sagthali and Damoter. In Banswara there are poor-houses in Banswara and Garhi. Kitchens in Kalinger, Bhongra and Loaria. The Kushalgarh poor-house is in Kushalgarh.

(c) *Character of works.*—Tanks, wells, and a few buildings.

(d) *Physical condition of people.*—Improving in Pertabgarh. I have not been able to judge in Banswara.

(e) No death from starvation reported.

(f) *Food stock.*—Sufficient.

(g) *Importation of grain continues in both States and Kushalgarh.*

(h) Conditions are favourable and prospects bright.

(i) No change in wages.

(j) *Emigration and Immigration.*—Emigrants who left the States in earlier stages of famine are returning and others passing through on return to Meywar, but in small numbers.

(k) 6½ inches of rain were registered in Pertabgarh during the month, and I should judge that about 2 inches more fell in the District. Banswara and Kushalgarh report good rain. The amount, though below the average, fell at such favourable times as to be of great benefit to cultivation though not to filling of tanks. Agricultural operations are in full swing. Takkavi advances have been made in all three States and cattle are being imported. Charitable relief money has and is being distributed.

There is now sufficient grazing for cattle and the mortality among them has considerably decreased. The decrease in numbers on relief works is smaller in Banswara than in Pertabgarh. I attribute this partly to the late opening of a new work at Chilkhari, which the Durbar are no doubt anxious to show on their returns. The report too from Banswara, in order to reach me in time for forwarding, has to be made out at an earlier date than that of Pertabgarh, and by that date so much rain had not fallen and agricultural operations had not commenced to such an extent.

No. 202.

Letter from the Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 3321-F., dated Abu, the 19th September, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 3122-F., dated the 17th of August 1900, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statements* of the Banswara and Partabgarh States and of the Kushalgarh Chiefship for the month of August 1900, together with the Resident's covering letter No. 3297, dated the 10th of September, 1900.

2. The following table gives the numbers on relief in Banswara during the last ten months, but as explained in my review of the May report, the returns up to April were by no means reliable :—

Months.	Workers.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Percentage.
November, 1899	161	50	211	.9
December „	432	78	510	.24
January, 1900	576	100	676	.31
February „	1,565	237	1,802	.85
March „	3,764	410	4,174	1.97
April „	4,103	565	4,668	2.21
May „	4,743	765	5,508	2.61
June „	5,525	984	6,509	3.07
July „	2,521	884	3,405	1.61
August „	—	825	825	.39

Relief works have now been closed altogether in Banswara. The total of persons in receipt of gratuitous relief has fallen by only 6 per cent. There are still over 800 persons assisted in this way. Four kitchens were opened in the State for the relief of people whom the closing of the works had turned adrift,

but who can find no means of subsistence until the ripening of the earlier kharif crops.

3. The numbers on relief in Partabgarh since December last are brought together in the following table :—

Months.	Workers.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Percentage.
December, 1899	1,982	35	2,017	2.29
January, 1900	2,248	73	2,321	2.63
February „	1,815	108	1,923	2.24
March „	2,188	159	2,347	2.71
April „	4,051	219	4,270	4.85
May „	4,020	528	4,548	5.16
June „	4,265	516	4,781	5.43
July „	757	424	1,181	1.34
August „	283	335	618	.70

A few people are still employed on road work and a few more are in receipt of cooked food in the central poor-house and outlying kitchens. But these will rapidly disappear, and by the end of the current month relief operations of every kind will have come to a close.

4. It is unnecessary to give the statistics of previous months for the Chiefship of Kushalgarh. The works were closed during July, and at the end of August there were only 100 persons in receipt of relief in the poor-house.

5. All the tracts covered by these reports have received more than the average rainfall for the season, while the standing crops have suffered from flooding on the low lands. The Assistant Resident reports that a little fine weather is now urgently required. Excessive damp and cold at nights have told on the poorer classes, and when the strong autumn sun reappears, a severe outbreak of malaria will almost certainly follow. Prices have fallen slightly and the import trade is much less brisk. The Assistant Resident reports a break in communications between Partabgarh and the Railway, but such an accident is not of so much moment now that various edible grass seeds and jungle products are available.

Enclosure in No. 202.

Letter from Captain A. F. Pinhey, Resident in Mewar, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, No. 3297, dated Udaipur, the 10th September, 1900.

I have the honour to forward the Famine Reports for the States of Banswara and Partabgarh and the Chiefship of Kushalgarh for the month of August, 1900.

2. Relief works have been closed in Banswara and Kushalgarh, while in Partabgarh only 283 persons are shown to be on relief works at the end of the month.

About 40 inches of rain is reported to have fallen in the States up to the 3rd of September, and the crops are doing well except on low-lying land where they have been slightly damaged owing to excessive rain.

Annexure.

Remarks by Lieutenant S. B. Patterson, Assistant Resident, Banswara and Partabgarh, to accompany Famine Statements of States of Banswara and Partabgarh, for the month of August, 1900.

(a) *Private relief.*—Ninety people are supported thus in Partabgarh. This does not include people who receive doles from the money publicly subscribed in augmentation of that allotted by the Central Committee.

(b) There are poor-houses in Banswara, Partabgarh and Kushalgarh. Four kitchens have been started in Banswara and four in Partabgarh. One in Kushalgarh.

(d) The condition of the people is improving.

(e) No deaths from starvation.

(f) Grain is sufficient and is being imported in Partabgarh and to a lesser extent to Banswara.

(h) About 40 inches of rain have fallen up to date (3rd September) and a break is urgently required. The crops are doing well, except on low-lying land where they are slightly swamped.

(j) People who emigrated are returning to the State, and people of other States are passing through. The latter, chiefly Marwaris, who receive a dole at the various centres.

(k) The condition of the cattle is now good. Fodder is ample. The general health is good, but the severe weather is undoubtedly telling on many, coming on the top of the recent severe famine. Food-grains for general consumption vary from 8 seers to the rupee in Banswara to 8.12 in Partabgarh. The rate would be more favourable in Partabgarh, but for the unfortunate break on the road at Mandsaur which prevents wheeled traffic.

No. 203.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. C. Wyllie, C.I.E., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 2207-F., dated Abu, the 18th May, 1900.

In continuation of this office letter No. 1807-F., dated 14th April 1900* I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statement† of the Alwar State for the month of April 1900, together with the Political Agent's covering letter No. 1724, dated the 9th May, 1900.

2. The numbers in receipt of both kinds of relief are shown in the marginal table. The large decrease of 35 per cent. in the figures on works is attributed to a lowering of the wage at the same time as the tasks were raised and to a general tightening of discipline all round. The wages have been again reduced, and now approximate very closely to the scale in force in the Central Provinces. The number of works in progress has been reduced from 21 to 8.

3. The numbers in receipt of gratuitous relief have nearly doubled. 870 out of a total of over 3,000 are non-working children who are paid one pice per head.

* See page 444 of Command Paper No. 206, presented in 1900.
† Not printed.

4. No detailed estimate of the rabi outturn has been furnished, but the Political Agent anticipates that it will be possible to realise three-fourths of the current demand. The "extra rabi" crops now in the ground are doing well. Both people and cattle are said to be improving in condition. The results of the harvest, together with the extension of their system of wells, have put heart into the former, and the new straw will enable the latter to pick up strength.

Enclosure in No. 203.

Letter from Captain L. Impey, Political Agent, Alwar, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, No. 1724, dated Alwar, the 9th May, 1900.

In continuation of the correspondence ending with my letter No. 1259, dated 6th April, 1900, I have the honour to submit the Famine Statement of the Alwar State for April, 1900. No change has taken place in the areas affected by famine.

2. The number of persons on relief works has fallen from 10,208 on the 31st March to 6,615 on the 30th April. The decrease is due to the lowering of the rates owing to the fall in the price of food-grains and to an increase in the tasks set on road work in easy soil. During inspections of relief works during the past month it was ascertained that, on certain works where the numbers were rapidly rising, the tasks set could be easily executed in four or five hours' work. The labourers on these roads were in excellent condition, and were receiving excessive pay for a small amount of work. The alterations in the rates and the tasks had the effect of causing an exodus from the two works where the arrangements had been lax. Barley is the cheapest food-grain now available, and its price varies according to localities from 13 seers 4 chittacks to 15 seers per rupee. On works where barley is selling at 14 seers and over the rates at present are :—

Class.	Rate.	Grain equivalent.
	As. p.	Chittacks.
Diggers	1 3	18
Carriers	1 0	14½
Working children	0 6	7½
Children under seven years of age ...	0 3	3½

The rates on works where the prices are not so favourable are :—

Class.	Rate.
	As. p.
Diggers	1 6
Carriers	1 3
Working children	0 9
Children under seven	0 3

3. Gratuitous relief is confined to the issue of one pice per head to non-working children of labourers on relief works, and to grain doles of 8 chittacks

a day issued weekly at the tahsil head-quarters to destitute persons who are unable to perform any kind of labour. On the 30th April gratuitous relief was afforded to 3,022 persons as against 1,857 on the 31st March.

4. Arrangement have been made in communication with the Commissioner of Delhi for the employment of Alwar labourers at the relief work at Kund on the Rewari-Phalera Railway. It is believed, however that not many Alwar subjects will present themselves for employment at this work.

5. No deaths from starvation have been reported, there has been no epidemic so far, and the condition of the people is fairly good, in fact it has improved during the last six weeks. The cattle too, especially the bullocks, seem to be in a better state. Grass has been distributed as *taccavi* to many zamindars, and the straw of the winter crops and leaves of the "pala" have assisted in improving the condition of the more valuable cattle.

6. A sum of Rs. 5,123 was advanced in *taccavi* last month, mainly for the construction of masonry wells. In many parts the agricultural community are still engaged in thrashing out the corn, operations having been delayed through the storms that occurred in the middle of April. Tobacco, cotton and chena have been sown in well land, and the plants appear to be doing satisfactorily.

It is anticipated that nearly three-quarters of the "rabi" demand will be realised, but it is not proposed to recover any of the "taccavi" advances that have been made during the year.

Annexure.

ALWAR STATE.

Relief was afforded to the immigrants and the poor and destitute persons of the State from private charity, which is estimated at Rs. 500 a month.

Food-grain was distributed gratuitously to the cripple and destitute persons at all the twelve tahsils of the State, while children of workers under seven years of age received substantial allowance at 3 pies each on different relief works. The actual number of persons who received gratuitous relief on the 30th April, 1900, was :—

	Number.
Cripple and destitute persons	2,152
Children of relief workers	870
Total	3,022

The cost on gratuitous relief during the month has been as follows :—

	Rs. a. p.
(a) Cripple and destitute persons of the State	2,437 7 9
(b) Children of workers	603 11 0
Total	3,046 2 9

Private subscription list, opened in November 1899 and mentioned in the previous month's report, now amounts to Rs. 2,543-8-6.

2. In the beginning there were 21 petty works of digging village tanks, &c., in progress, of these 13 were closed, leaving 8 petty works in progress at the close of the month. The number of persons employed on these works on 30th April, 1900, was 260.

Eleven large works were in progress during the month under the supervision of the officers of Imperial Service Troops, assisted by the Public Works subordinates. The number of persons employed on these works at the close of the month was 5,995. It will be seen that the total number of persons on large and petty works, who obtained relief in

the State on the 30th April, 1900, was 6,255 against 9,783 in the previous month, showing a decrease of 3,528. Of the 6,255 workers 6,173 were paid on the contract system, and the remaining 82, such as bhishtis, mates, carpenters, &c., received higher rates than the famine rates. The expenditure on relief works during the month amounted to Rs. 16,897-2.

The relief works on the Partabgarh-Thanaghazi road, the Lachmongarh-Kherli road, the Johar 1st Lancers and the Alwar-Khairtal road were inspected by the Political Agent, Alwar, and those on the Maeberi-Moujpore road, the Lachmongarh-Kherli road, the Johar 1st Lancers and the Alwar-Khairtal road by one of the Members of Council; while the Commanding Officer, Major Natha Singh, visited almost all the relief works during the month. The work on the Partabgarh-Thanaghazi road was reported all well. Certain defects as regards the strict supervision and control on the remaining works were noticed, and steps were at once taken to put matters aright.

It will be observed that the number of workers show a decrease of 3,528 as compared with that in the previous month. This decrease may be attributed to the following causes:—

- (a) People generally found employment on the fields where the rabi harvest was being reaped.
- (b) It was noticed on inspection of the works that the workers had easy time on soft soil, and so, when the task was slightly increased and a full eight hours' work was exacted under the rules, those who did not actually require work and could afford to do without it went away gradually.
- (c) The outturn of the rabi crop has helped the agriculturists to maintain themselves without any work for some little time to come.

It will be seen that the expenditure on the gratuitous relief during the month has been Rs. 3,046-2-9, and that on relief works Rs. 16,897-2, total Rs. 19,943-4-9.

3. The physical condition of the people is fair.

4. No death from starvation was reported during the month.

5. As has been previously reported, there are no large stocks of food-grains in the State, but grain is imported from the Punjab and the North-Western Provinces by rail in sufficient quantity according to the requirements of the people.

6. There was a slight fall of hailstones in Tijara and Lachmongarh Tahsils during the month, but no damage was done. The rabi harvest has been reaped; water in the wells is very low, and steps are being taken to clean, deepen or repair them throughout the State, more especially for drinking purposes. Fodder has been obtained from the rabi crop for plough oxen, and is considered sufficient for present requirements. There is no disease amongst cattle.

7. A sum of Rs. 5,123 was distributed to the agriculturists on account of taccavi advances during the month, bringing the total up to Rs. 1,86,814. Up to date, 727 masonry wells have been either newly-constructed, deepened or repaired, and 7,644 kutchha wells (dheirs and dhenkies) dug by means of taccavi advances.

8. The following changes in the rate of wages have been effected during the month:—

(a) On works where food-grain is selling at 14 seers or above per rupee:—

Class.	Rate.	Grain equivalent.
	Rs. a. p.	Chittacks.
Diggers	0 1 3	18
Carriers	0 1 0	14½
Working children between 8 and 16 years	0 0 6	7½
Children under 7 years who do no work	0 0 3	3½

(b) On works where food-grain is selling under 14 seers per rupee:—

Class.	Rate.	Grain equivalent.
	Rs. a. p.	Chittacks.
Diggers	0 1 6	19
Carriers	0 1 3	15½
Working children between 8 and 16 years	0 0 9	9½
Children under 7 years who do no work...	0 0 3	3½

Persons on gratuitous relief received rations at the following rates:—

	Chittacks.
Adult males or females at	8
Children at	4

9. Prices were almost stationary during the month.

10. Fourteen persons with cattle immigrated from Jaipur and settled in Thanaghazi Tahsil, and one family that had emigrated from Bansur last month returned to their home. Eight persons are reported to have emigrated from Lachmongarh Tahsil.

11. There being no change in the affected area of the State, the map submitted with the previous reports holds good.

No. 204.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. C. Wyllie, C.I.E., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 2512 F., dated Abu, the 16th June, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 2207 F., dated the 18th May, 1900, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statement* of the Alwar State for the month of May, 1900, together with the Political Agent's covering letter No. 6 C., dated 8th June, 1900.

2. The numbers on relief during the last eight months are brought together in the marginal table, from which it will be seen that the decline noticed last month has been maintained. The workers have fallen by 19 per cent. to nearly the January total. The eleven large works under the supervision of the officers of the Imperial Service Troops noticed in last month's statement remained open during May. The petty works under Civil Agency were gradually closed, and on the last day of the month there was only one in progress. 271 inhabitants of the State are working by permission on the railway

embankment in the Gurgaon district. Although the scale of wages in force in April remained unchanged, the expenditure on relief works has dropped by more than one-half, the cost of relief per head being Rs. 1-8-3 in May as compared with Rs. 2-8-10 in the previous month. The reason for this great fall is not very clear.

3. The numbers in receipt of gratuitous relief have declined slightly, and the cost of relief per head for the month was 15 annas and 2 pies. If the expenditure figures given in the statement are correct, the average relief per head is barely 2 pice daily. But probably these statistics represent the sums drawn from the treasury by disbursing officers, and not the money actually spent by them. A great fall is apparent in the number of children dependents

relieved which is not accounted for. The numbers of the crippled and destitute on relief have risen.

4. Last month it was anticipated that three-fourths of the rabi demand would be realised. As a matter of fact, the revenue collections amount to 81 per cent. of the total. The administration have thus already begun to realise a direct return from their liberal advances to cultivators for wells. During May Rs. 10,135 were advanced in this way, making an aggregate of nearly two lakhs. Both the people and their cattle are in good condition, and the supply of fodder is said to be sufficient. Eleven receiving depôts for emigrants have been opened, where 586 persons and 12 animals were fed during the month. The food ration works out to 10·1 chittacks, and the fodder ration to 7 seers per head.

Enclosure in No. 204.

Letter from Captain L. Impey, Political Agent, Alwar, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, No. 6 C., dated Abu, the 8th June, 1900.

In continuation of the correspondence ending with my letter No. 1724, dated the 9th May, 1900, I have the honour to submit the Famine Statement of the Alwar State for the month of May, 1900.

2. The number of persons on relief works has fallen from 6,615 on the 30th April to 5,307 on the 31st May. The figures include the returns for the petty estate of Nimrana, where 347 labourers were employed at the end of the month of May. The decrease in the numbers on works took place early in May, when many labourers returned to their villages in consequence of the lowering of the rates and of the increased tasks set on road work in easy soil. No change in the rates of payment has been made during the month. The Gurgaon authorities have opened a relief work at Kund, a village close to the north-western frontier of the State. Permission has been obtained for the employment of residents of the Behror district on this work, as it had not been found possible to start a relief work in this part of Alwar. On the 31st May there were 271 Alwar subjects employed on the earthwork of the Kund section of the Rewari-Phalera Railway.

3. On the 31st May, gratuitous relief was afforded at tahsil head-quarters, and on works to 2,913 persons as against 3,022 on the 30th April. The condition of the people is fairly good, and no deaths from starvation have been reported.

Cholera appeared in one village in the Mundawar district, and there were a few cases in four other places. The disease so far has not broken out on relief works, and 16 fresh cases of cholera have been reported in the State during the last ten days.

4. The returns of crime show that an increase has taken place lately in the number of petty cases. During the hot weather months the fields are more or less deserted, so to guard against an outbreak of crime during this period of famine, arrangements have been made for the temporary establishment of new police outposts, and for the regular patrolling by sowars of certain lonely roads during the months of May, June, and July. The arrangements introduced during November and December last for the deputation of special police officers for the prevention of border crime have worked well.

5. Some heavy showers of rain fell during the month, the average fall for the whole State in May being 98 cents. The villagers in many places have sown cotton and bajra, and are busy preparing the land in hopes of an early monsoon. Fodder is getting very scarce, and the less valuable animals are suffering in consequence. During May a sum of Rs. 10,135 was advanced for the repair and construction of masonry wells. Arrangements are now being made for the distribution of taccavi to cultivators who require assistance for the purchase of seed and plough oxen.

The revenue collections for the rabi have exceeded expectations, as Rs. 8,41,374 have been realised out of a total demand of Rs. 10,35,031. The liberal grants of taccavi have thus not only been the means of maintaining the cultivators on the land, but have also enabled the State to realise nearly 81 per cent. of the demand.

6. Eleven relieving depôts have been established for the assistance of emigrants returning from the Punjab and the North-Western Provinces to their homes in Rajputana. At each of these depôts the emigrants are given grain doles and fodder for their cattle. The statement appended to the monthly report shows that 586 persons were relieved during the past month.

Annexure.

ALWAR STATE.

Relief was afforded to the immigrants and the poor and destitute persons of the State from private charity, which is estimated at Rs. 500 a month.

Food-grain was distributed gratuitously to the cripple and destitute persons at all the twelve tahsils of the State, while children of workers under seven years of age received subsistence allowance of 3 pies each on the several relief works.

The actual number of persons who received gratuitous relief on the 31st May, 1900, was :—

	Number.
(a) Cripple and destitute persons	2,554
(b) Children of workers	359
Total	2,913

The actual cost on gratuitous relief during the month has been :—

	Rs. a. p.
(a) Cripple and destitute persons... ..	2,580 12 6
(b) Children of workers	202 1 2
Total	2,780 13 8

2. In the beginning of the month there were eight petty works of digging village tanks, &c., in progress. Of these seven were completed, leaving one petty work in progress at the close of the month.

Eleven large works were in progress during the month under the supervision of the officers of the Imperial Service Troops, assisted by the Public Works Department subordinates.

The number of persons employed on large and petty works on the 31st May, 1900, was :—

	Number.
(a) Large works	4,942
(b) Petty works	20
Total	4,962

against 6,255 at the close of the previous month, showing a decrease of 1,293 persons.

Of the 4,962 workers, 3,844 were paid on the contract system, 1,022 on daily labour, and the remaining 96, such as bhishtis, mates, carpenters, &c., received higher rates than the famine rates.

The expenditure on relief works during the month amounted to Rs. 8,059-11-2.

It will be seen that the expenditure on gratuitous relief during the month was Rs. 2,782-13-8, and that on relief works Rs. 8,059-11-2, total Rs. 10,842-8-10.

3. Physical condition of the people is fair.

4. No death from starvation was reported during the month.

5. Stocks of food-grains are sufficient for the requirements of the people.

6. There have been good showers of rain in certain parts of the State. Behror recorded 1.73 inches and Rajgarh 1.19 inches, while the remaining tahsils received only slight showers. Cotton and bajra have been sown in places where the rainfall has been sufficient for the purpose.

Most of the drinking wells have been dried up. In others the water is very low, and steps are being taken to clean, deepen, and repair them.

Fodder is sufficient for present requirements.

There is no disease amongst cattle.

7. A sum of Rs. 10,135 was advanced to agriculturists on account of taccavi during the month, bringing the total up to Rs. 1,96,949.

Up to date 783 masonry wells have been either newly constructed, deepened or repaired, and 7,653 katcha wells (dhers or dhenklis) dug by means of taccavi advances.

8. There has been no change in the rate of wages.

(a) On works where food-grain is selling at 14 seers or above per rupee:—

Class.	Rate.	Grain equivalent.
	Rs. a. p.	Chittacks.
Diggers	0 1 3	18
Carriers	0 1 0	14½
Working children between 8 and 16 years	0 0 6	7½
Children under 7 years who do no work...	0 0 3	3½

(b) On works where food-grain is selling under 14 seers per rupee:—

Class.	Rate.	Grain equivalent.
	Rs. a. p.	Chittacks.
Diggers	0 1 6	19
Carriers	0 1 3	15½
Working children between 8 and 16 years	0 0 9	9½
Children under 7 years who do no work...	0 0 3	3½

Persons on gratuitous relief received ration at the following rates:—

	Chittacks.
Adult males or females	8
Children	4

9. Prices remained stationary during the month.

10. Sixteen persons from Lachmangarh emigrated, while three persons immigrated and settled in that tahsil.

Two persons immigrated and settled in Gobindgarh and one in Bansur.

11. In pursuance of the instructions contained in letter, No. 2,081-87 F., dated the 8th May, 1900, from the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, a copy of which was received with Political Agent's letter, No. 1,797, dated the 12th idem, eleven relieving stations for returning immigrants and their cattle were opened in different parts of the State; 586 persons and 12 cattle were relieved during the month. An abstract of the registers maintained in the several relieving depôts is enclosed for information.

12. Arrangement was made by the Political Agent, Alwar, with the district authorities of Gurgaon for the relief of the Alwar people in the Behror district, where no large relief work was opened. The number of Alwar subjects relieved on the Kund relief work in the British district of Gurgaon on the 31st May, 1900, is reported to be as follows:—

	Number.
Workers	231
Children	40
Total	271

13. There being no change in the affected area of the State, the maps submitted with the previous reports hold good.

Alwar, the 5th June, 1900.

No. 205.

Letter from the Agent to the Governor General, Rajputana, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 2840-F., dated Abu, the 15th July, 1900.

In continuation of my letter, No. 2512-F., dated the 16th July, 1900, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the famine statement* of the Alwar State for the month of June, 1900, together with the Political Agent's covering letter, No. 2558, dated the 7th July, 1900.

2. The numbers on relief during the last nine months are brought together in the marginal table. There is some difference between these figures and those given in the return for the week ending the 30th June. A reference is under issue to the Political Agent on the subject. Since March, when the

Months.	Workers.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Per cent.
1899.				
October ...	2,660	316	2,976	37
November ...	2,198	151	2,349	32
December ...	3,163	389	3,552	46
1900.				
January ...	4,800	1,054	5,854	77
February ...	1,801	1,524	3,325	122
March ...	10,208	1,573	11,781	155
April ...	6,615	3,022	9,637	127
May ...	5,307	2,913	8,220	108
June ...	8,884	3,268	12,152	159

wages were reduced to approximately the code scale of the North-Western Provinces, the number steadily declined. This decrease has been checked and the number on works has increased by two-thirds to 3,577. The rise is due to a deepening of distress combined with some alarm on the part of the people at the delayed rains. The bulk of the labour was employed on thirteen large works, two of which were completed during the month; more than two-thirds of the workers were employed on the contract system. The remarks appended to the

statement say that there has been no change in the rate of wages, but the cash

rates would appear to have been modified in proportion to the rise in the price of grain. Only three petty village works under Civil Agency were in progress. The heat was so intense during the greater part of the month that the working hours have been reduced from eight to seven. The tasks, and presumably the contract rates, have also been modified. The number of Alwar subjects at work on the railway embankment in the Gurgaon district have risen slightly.

3. The persons in receipt of gratuitous relief have increased by 12 per cent. The increase has been chiefly confined to dependents of all ages on the relief works. There was a large drop in the numbers of this class during the previous month, and the June total is not yet equal to that of April. It has been found necessary for the first time since the famine began to open a poor-house at the capital. The great majority of the inmates are foreign immigrants, many of them being children. I have invited the attention of the Political Agent to the urgent necessity for looking after female orphans.

4. As was to be expected takkavi loans for wells have been more sparingly issued. Up to date, 879 masonry wells and 7,677 unbricked wells have been constructed or put into thorough working order with State aid at a cost of Rs. 2,10,284. The area these can usefully water may be put approximately at 27,000 acres. The water level in all the wells is now very low and there is a great scarcity of drinking water in many parts of the State. Little fodder is left and the condition of the cattle is giving cause for anxiety. The depôts for the relief of returning emigrants have been of great service, as the majority of the people and cattle who had migrated across the Jamna in search of grazing are in poor condition. Human beings receive from 8 to 16 chittacks of flour per head, and each animal gets a daily meal of 7 seers of grass. The average ration reported in my review of the May statement. During June the average ration was first under 14.1 chittacks. An average of nearly 291 people and 50 cattle passed through the State every day of the month on the way to their homes.

Enclosure in No. 205.

Letter from Captain L. Impey, Political Agent, Alwar, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, Mount Abu, No. 2558, dated Alwar, the 7th July, 1900.

In continuation of my letter, No. 6 C., dated 8th June, 1900, I have the honour to submit the Famine Statement of the Alwar State for the month of June, 1900.

2. During the past month the number of persons on relief works has risen from 5,307 to 8,884. The numbers are rising day by day, and the increase will continue until the monsoon breaks. The price of barley on all the works is now about 12 seers the rupee and the rates of payment have everywhere been adjusted to meet the rise in prices.

The daily wages now are :—

Class.	Rate.
Diggers receive	Rs. a. p.
Carriers „	0 1 6
Working children receive	0 1 3
Non-working children receive	0 0 9
	0 0 3

Owing to the intense heat and to a number of deaths from sunstroke and heat apoplexy having been reported the tasks have been reduced, and the labourers now are expected to work for seven instead of eight hours a day.

On the 30th of June there were 355 Alwar subjects employed on the earth-work of the Rewari-Phulera railway as against 271 at the end of May.

3. On the 30th June gratuitous relief was afforded at Tehsils and on works to 3,268 persons as against 3,022 on the 31st May. No deaths from starvation have been reported. It has been found necessary within the last few days to start a poor-house at Alwar as a number of emaciated wanderers had taken to begging in the city. There are at present some fifty inmates of the poor-house, mostly children. Out of this number only three are residents of Alwar, the remainder being emigrants from Alwar and Jeypore.

4. Cholera is prevalent in the Western and Southern districts. From the commencement of the outbreak to the end of June 313 cases and 178 deaths were reported; so far the relief workers had escaped, but a report was received last night of the appearance of the disease on a relief work where some five hundred people are employed. The Medical Staff has been strengthened and orders have issued to move camp.

5. Only 54 cents of rain were registered for the State during June, and these showers did not do much good. The water level all over the State has fallen very low, and in the Tijara, Rajgurun, and Alwar Tehsils, more especially, complaints are being made as to a difficulty in procuring drinking water. Cattle are dying from want of fodder, and even the plough and well oxen, that have been well cared for so far, are suffering from the scarcity. A sum of Rs. 13,335 was granted in tuccavi during the past month for the repair and construction of wells.

6. During June 8,744 persons and 1,492 cattle passed through the eleven relieving depôts that have been established to assist emigrants on their return journey.

At these depôts the following rations are distributed :—

	Barley flour.	Salt.
(1) Adults	1 seer	$\frac{1}{2}$ chittack
(2) Children from 9 to 16	$\frac{3}{4}$ „	$\frac{1}{2}$ „
(3) Children from 3 to 8	$\frac{1}{2}$ „	$\frac{1}{3}$ „

Cattle 7 seers of grass per head.

Annexure.

ALWAR STATE.

Relief was afforded to the emigrants, and the poor and destitute persons of the State, from private charity, which is estimated at Rs. 1,000 nearly a month.

Food grain was distributed by the State gratuitously to the cripple and destitute persons at all the 12 Tehsils of the State, while children of workers under seven years of age received subsistence allowances of three pies each on the several relief works.

The actual number of persons who received gratuitous relief on the 30th June, 1900, was :—

	Number.
Cripple and destitute persons	2,621
Children of workers and the sick on relief works	647
Total	3,268

The actual cost on gratuitous relief during the month has been :—

	Rs. a. p.
(a) On cripple and destitute persons	2,534 2 6
(b) On children of workers and the sick on relief works	386 15 0
Total	2,921 1 6

2. There was only one petty work of digging village tank in progress in the beginning of the month; two more works were started during the month, making a total of three petty works at close of the month. Thirteen large works were in progress under the supervision of the officers of Imperial Service Troops assisted by the Public Works Department subordinates; of these two were completed, leaving eleven works in progress at the close of the month.

The number of persons employed on large and petty works on the 30th June, 1900 was :—

	Number.
(a) On large works	8,261
(b) On petty works	249
Total	8,510 against 4,962

at the close of the previous month, showing an increase of 3,548 persons.

Of the 8,510 workers, 5,867 were paid on the contract system, 2,469 on daily labour, and the remaining 174, such as bhishties, mates, carpenters, &c., received higher rates than the famine rates.

The expenditure on relief works during the month amounted to Rs. 13,262-5-3.

It will be seen that the expenditure on gratuitous relief during the month was Rs. 2,921-1-6, while that on relief works was Rs. 13,262-5-3, or a total expenditure of Rs. 16,183-6-9.

3. Physical condition of the people is fair.

4. No death from starvation was reported during the month.

5. Stocks of food grain are sufficient for the requirements of the people.

6. There have been some slight showers of rain in 11 Tehsils of the State, giving an average of 52 cents. for each Tehsil during the month. Rain is badly wanted. Most of the drinking wells have totally dried up. The water in the remaining wells is very low, and if the rains do not set in early a water famine in several parts of the State is apprehended.

The heat has been most intense for the last 10 or 12 days, and several deaths from extreme heat have been reported.

Fodder is now scarce throughout the State. There is no disease amongst cattle.

7. A sum of Rs. 13,335 was advanced to the agriculturists on account of Taccavi during the month, bringing the total up to Rs. 2,10,284. Up to date, 879 masonry wells have been either newly constructed, deepened or repaired, and 7,677 kutcha wells (Dhers and Dhenklies) dug by means of Taccavi advances.

8. There has been no change in the rate of wages. The price of food-grain having risen throughout the State, the following uniform rate was allowed to all the workers :—

Class.	Rate.	Grain equivalent.
	Rs. a. p.	Chittacks.
Diggers	0 1 6	18
Carriers	0 1 3	15
Working children between 8 and 16 years	0 0 9	9
Children under 7 years of age who do not work.	0 0 3	3

Persons of gratuitous relief receive rations at the following rates :—

	Chittacks.
Adults males or females	8
Children	4

9. Prices have risen during the month.

10. Five families in Govindgurb and one family in Luchmangarh were newly settled, while 16 persons emigrated from the Bansur tehsil during the month.

11. Eleven relieving depôts for returning emigrants and their cattle were established in different parts of the State during the latter part of May, 1900. 8,744 persons with 1,492 cattle were relieved during the month. An abstract of the register maintained in the several relieving depôts is herewith enclosed.

12. The number of Alwar subjects relieved on the Kooand Relief Work, in the British District of Gurgaon, during the month of June was 9,341.

Number of persons relieved on the 30th June, 1900, is reported to be as follows :—

	Number.
Workers	305
Children	50
Total	355

13. There being no change in the affected area of the State, the maps submitted with the previous reports hold good.
Alwar, the 6th July, 1900.

No. 206.

Letter from the Agent to the Governor-General, Rajputana, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 3106 F., dated Abu, the 15th August, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 2840 F., dated the 15th July, 1900, I have

Months.	Works.	Gratui- tous.	Total.	Percent- age on popula- tion.
1899.				
October ...	2,660	316	2,976	·37
November ...	2,198	151	2,349	·32
December ...	3,163	389	3,552	·46
1900.				
January ...	4,800	1,054	5,854	·77
February ...	7,801	1,524	9,325	1·22
March ...	10,208	1,573	11,781	1·55
April ...	6,615	3,022	9,637	1·27
May ...	5,307	2,193	8,220	1·08
June ...	8,884	3,263	12,152	1·59
July ...	6,729	3,461	10,150	1·33

the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the famine statement* of the Alwar State for the month of July, 1900, together with the Political Agent's covering letter, No. 42 C., dated the 9th August, 1900.

2. The numbers on relief of all kinds during the last 10 months are brought together in the marginal table. The figures in last month's report which appeared doubtful have now been ascertained to be correct. The workers have decreased by very nearly one quarter during the month under report. The total is now much the same as it was

during the progress of harvest operations in April. All the petty works under

* Not printed.

Civil Agency were closed in July, and all applicants for labour are now concentrated on 10 large projects under the management of the Imperial Service Troops. The proportion of labourers on contract terms has risen slightly to just under 70 per cent.

3. The numbers in receipt of gratuitous relief have risen by 5 per cent. The increase has been confined to persons relieved by doles in their villages. The new poorhouse, which was established mainly for the relief of destitute aliens, contained 109 inmates on the last day of the month. No reference is made to orphans, but I am assured by the Political Agent in a separate communication that their care will not be lost sight of.

4. The monsoon broke in Alwar on the 12th July, from three to five days after the rest of the province had received fairly general rain. The fall was partial, and even the second advance of the current at the end of the month did not give sufficient rain to every tahsil. This is clearly brought out by the Political Agent in his covering letter. Even now the situation in the tahsils in the north-east is not satisfactory. Cholera broke out on two relief works, but did not cause very much trouble. The water level in the wells has as yet hardly risen, and the tanks are only partially filled.

Enclosure in No. 206.

Letter from Captain L. Impey, Political Agent, Alwar, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, Mount Abu, No. 42 C., dated Jeypore, the 8th August, 1900.

In continuation of the correspondence ending with my letter, No. 2558, dated the 7th July, 1900, I have the honour to submit the famine report of the Alwar State for the month of July.

2. The number of persons on relief works has fallen from 8,884 on the 30th June to 6,729 on the 31st July, the decrease being due to cultivators having left the works to sow their crops. During the past month a daily average of over 400 Alwar subjects were employed at Kund on the earthwork of the Rewari-Phulera Railway. I was informed yesterday by the officer in charge of the camps that this relief work was closed on the 25th July, and that the Alwar subjects had been turned adrift. It was unfortunate that previous notice of the intended closing of this work had not been given, so that arrangements might have been made by the Durbar for the employment elsewhere of their labourers.

3. On the 31st July, gratuitous relief was given to 404 dependents at relief camps, as against 647 on the last day of June. The number of persons in receipt of grain doles was 2,948, and the poorhouse contained 109 inmates. The total number of persons who received gratuitous relief was 3,461, the figures for the previous month being 3,268.

The Alwar poorhouse was opened on the 4th July mainly for the relief of emaciated wanderers who were trying to return to their homes in Jaipur and Marwar. A ration of 8 to 10 chittaks of cooked food is allowed to adults, while children receive a supply of milk and 4 to 6 chittaks of food per diem.

4. The body of a man, who is believed to have died from starvation, was found in the Bansur Tehsil. It is not known where he came from. Cholera is still prevalent in the State. Since the commencement of the outbreak to the end of July, 704 cases and 399 deaths have been reported. During July cholera appeared on two relief works. The camps were moved, the usual sanitary precautions were taken, and no further cases have occurred on works.

5. The first burst of the monsoon took place on the night of the 12th July. This was followed by a break of 10 days, but good rain during the last days of the month have enabled the cultivators to plough and sow their land. The rain that has fallen has not replenished the wells, but has partially filled some of the tanks. The local variations are great. The total fall registered in Rajgarh was 7.05 inches, while Kishengarh only received 1.61 cents. during the

month. The average rainfall during July for the State was about 3 inches. The agricultural prospects have improved, but more rain is required, and in the districts of Kathiawar, Kishengarh, and parts of Luchmengarh the situation is still regarded with anxiety.

6. Taccavi, to the extent of Rs. 45,831, was granted during the month to cultivators, the greater portion of this sum being intended for the purchase of seed grain.

Fodder was very scarce during July. A considerable mortality took place among cattle, and the majority of plough oxen are weak, but the grass now springing up is becoming available for fodder, and their condition should daily improve.

7. The cheapest grain procurable is barley, and it is selling at about 11½ seers the rupee. No change has been made in the rates of payment on relief works. It is anticipated that, if the rains continue favourable, it will be possible to close the relief works towards the end of September when the bajra will be ripening.

8. During July 12,421 emigrants and 365 cattle were fed at the relieving depôts in Alwar.

Annexure.

ALWAR STATE.

Relief was afforded to the emigrants and the poor and destitute persons of the State from private charity, which is estimated at Rs. 1,000 nearly a month.

Food-grain was distributed by the State gratuitously to the cripple and destitute persons at all the 12 tahsils of the State, while children of workers under 7 years of age received subsistence allowance of 3 pies each on the several relief works.

The actual number of persons who received gratuitous relief on the 31st July 1900, was :—

	Number.
(a) Cripple and destitute persons	2,948
(b) Children of workers and the sick on the relief works	404
Total	3,352

The actual cost on gratuitous relief during the month has been—

	Rs. a. p.
(a) On cripple and destitute persons	3,620 15 0
(b) On children of workers and the sick on the relief works	320 14 0
Total	3,941 13 0

As already reported in this office Letter, No. 3204, dated the 1st instant, a poor-house was opened in Alwar on the 4th ultimo for the relief of famine-stricken people. There were 109 persons in it on the last day of the month. Cooked dalia or khichri at the rate of from 8 to 10 chittaks to adult males or females, and from 4 to 6 chittaks to children, was given daily for their subsistence and clothes supplied to them from the local charitable fund. The expenditure during the month has been Rs. 272-9-0.

2. There were three petty works of digging village johars (tanks) in progress in the beginning of the month. Two more works were started during the month, making a total of five. All the five works were closed by the end of the month under report.

In the beginning of July, 11 large works were in progress under the supervision of the officers of the Imperial Service Troops, assisted by the Public Works Department subordinates, and one more was started during the month, bringing the total up to 12. Of these, two were completed, leaving 10 in progress at the close of the month.

The number of persons employed on petty and large works on the 31st July 1900, was:—

	Number.
(a) On petty works	—
(b) On large works	6,523
Total	6,523
Against	8,510

at the close of the previous month, showing a decrease of 1,987 persons.

Of the 6,523 workers, 4,544 were paid on the contract system, 1,853 on daily labour, and the remaining 126, such as bhishties, mates, carpenters, etc., received higher rates than the famine rates.

The expenditure on relief works during the month amounted to Rs. 14,916-13-9.

It will be seen that the expenditure on the gratuitous relief, including poorhouse, during the month was Rs. 4,214-6-0, while that on relief works was Rs. 14,916-13-9, a total expenditure of Rs. 19,131-3-9.

3. Physical condition of the people is fair. Cholera cases are, however, still reported from certain parts of the State. The total number of occurrences recorded from the commencement to end of July, was 704 cases and 399 deaths.

4. No death from starvation was reported during the month.

5. Stocks of food grain are sufficient for the requirements of the people.

6. There has been more or less rain in all the 12 tehsils of the State, giving an average of about 3 inches 11 cents. during the month. In Rajgarh and Bansur tehsils, however, the rainfall has been good, the figures for the month being 7.05 and 4.44 inches, respectively; more rain is badly wanted. The condition of the wells continues the same as reported in the last month.

Fodder continues to be scarce throughout the State. There is no disease among cattle.

7. A sum of Rs. 45,831 was advanced to the agriculturists on account of taccavi during the month, bringing the total up to Rs. 2,56,115. The advances were chiefly made for the purchase of seed grains, manure, oxen, and for the construction of pucca wells. Up to date, 899 masonry wells have been either newly constructed, deepened, or repaired, and 7,682 kutchha wells (Dhers and Dhenklis) dug by means of taccavi advances.

8. There has been no change in the rate of wages. Persons on gratuitous relief received rations at the same rate as in the previous month, viz. :—

	Chittacks.
Adult males and females	8
Children	4

9. Prices remained stationary during the month.

11. The eleven relieving depôts for returning emigrants and their cattle, established in May last, relieved 12,421 persons and 365 cattle during the month. An abstract of the register maintained in the several relieving depôts is herewith enclosed.

12. The last report regarding the number of Alwar subjects employed on Chandpur relief works in the British district of Gurgaon has not yet been received.

13. There being no change in the affected area of the State, the maps submitted with previous reports hold good.

Alwar, 7th August, 1900.

No. 207.

Letter from the Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 3,309 F., dated Abu, the 15th September, 1900.

In continuation of my letter, No. 3,106 F., dated the 15th August, 1900, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statement* of the Alwar State for the month of August, 1900, together with the Political Agent's covering letter, No. 135 C., dated the 9th September, 1900.

2. The numbers on relief during the last eleven months are brought together in the marginal table. The rainfall in the eastern districts was deficient from the beginning, and their condition became precarious when the monsoon currents ceased altogether in the middle of August. The table given in paragraph 5 of the Political Agent's letter shows the deficiency in each tahsil. The administration were forced to open more relief works to provide for labour applicants, the majority of which were supervised by Civil Agency. At the end of the month the numbers on works had risen by 19 per cent. to a total which has only once been exceeded during the progress of the famine.				
Months.	Workers.	Gratui-tous.	Total.	Per-centage.
1899.				
October ...	2,660	316	2,976	·37
November ...	2,198	151	2,349	·32
December ...	3,163	389	3,552	·46
1900.				
January ...	4,800	1,054	5,854	·77
February ...	7,801	1,524	9,325	1·22
March ...	10,208	1,573	11,781	1·55
April ...	6,615	3,022	9,637	1·27
May ...	5,307	2,913	8,220	1·08
June ...	8,884	3,268	12,152	1·59
July ...	6,729	3,461	10,150	1·33
August ...	7,843	3,410	11,253	1·48

3. The numbers in receipt of gratuitous relief have fallen slightly. In response to a suggestion I made last June, an orphanage was opened in Alwar city, but so far only four orphans have been found to take advantage of it.

4. At the close of the month it was anticipated that the yield of the kharif harvest in the eastern districts would be barely one-eighth of the normal, but I have since heard by telegram from the Political Agent that sufficient rain has fallen in these tracts during the last few days, and the standing crops have been saved. The prospects over the whole State are now promising. The most unpleasant feature of this month's report is the recrudescence of cholera, otherwise the health of the people is good and the cattle are fast picking up their strength.

Enclosure in No. 207.

Letter from Captain L. Impey, Political Agent, Alwar, to the First Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, No. 135 C., dated Jaipur, the 9th September, 1900.

In continuation of the correspondence ending with my letter, No. 42 C., dated the 8th August, 1900, I have the honour to submit the Famine Report of the Alwar State for the month of August, 1900.

2. An increase has taken place in the number of labourers employed on relief works, the figures having risen from 6,729 on the 31st July, to 7,843 on

the 31st August. The return of the people to relief works is due to the serious deficiency in the rainfall in the eastern districts of Govindgarh, Kishangarh, Kathumar, and Luchmangarh, where it was found necessary to re-open village works for the relief of the people.

3. On the last day of August, 222 dependants were in receipt of gratuitous relief on works as against 404 on the 31st July. Grain doles were granted to 2,975 persons, the figure for July being 2,948. In the poor-house 213 persons, mostly little children and their parents, were sheltered. The total number of persons in receipt of gratuitous relief on the 31st August, was 3,410 as against 3,461 on the same date in July. When I last inspected the poor-house there were only four orphans in it, and every care will be taken to provide for these children when the time arrives for closing this institution. The inmates of the Alwar poor-house are in fairly good condition, and offer a favourable contrast to sufferers in States where the famine has been more severe.

4. No deaths from starvation were reported during the month. A great increase in cholera took place during August. Since the commencement of the outbreak, there have been 1,528 cases and 933 deaths, of these 824 cases and 534 deaths occurred during the past month. No cases were reported on works.

5. Except in the eastern tahsils the rainfall during the first half of August, though nowhere heavy, came at timely intervals and did much good. The crops were strong and vigorous, and grass plentiful. On the 17th August, a break in the monsoon commenced and lasted till the end of the month. The average rainfall for the State during August was about three inches.

The statement below will show clearly the inadequate character so far of the monsoon currents in Alwar :—

Tahsil.	July.	August.	Total.	Average annual rainfall for 5 years.
Alwar	3.63	4.07	7.70	20.37
Kishangarh	1.61	2.72	4.33	15.97
Thanaghazi	2.17	2.95	5.12	21.33
Mundawar	3.15	3.01	6.16	17.33
Behur	2.29	2.92	5.21	13.65
Ramgarh	1.82	2.78	4.60	14.97
Luchmangarh	1.73	1.46	3.19	15.64
Govindgarh	3.58	2.17	5.75	13.96
Tijara	3.46	3.02	6.48	13.42
Bansur	4.44	2.50	6.94	18.14
Rajgarh	7.05	3.15	10.20	17.98
Kathumar	3.11	1.82	4.93	16.50
Nimrana	3.82	6.79	10.61	14.27

The average taken is for the last five years, and in three of these years the monsoon was deficient. It will be noticed that the falls in July and August have at only two stations reached half the average annual rainfall of bad seasons. In the Thanaghazi and Ramgarh Tahsils the amounts recorded fall short of the actual rainfall in the surrounding districts, and no complaints have reached me of the failure of the harvests in these parts. It was mentioned in my last report

that in the Kathumar, Kishangar, and Luchmangarh Tahsils the situation was regarded with anxiety, and at the end of the month the prospects had become worse. The Govindgarh district was also suffering from the failure of the currents.

The drought of a fortnight had begun to affect the standing crops throughout the State, when fortunately the monsoon recommenced. On the 2nd instant falls over two inches were recorded in Alwar, Ramgarh, Govindgarh, and Kathumar, while Kishangarh, Luchmangarh and Tijara have all received over an inch. This return of the monsoon has considerably improved the agricultural situation, but the position in the eastern districts is still somewhat critical. If another good downpour occurs, the area for "rabi" crops will be largely increased, and some return from the "kharif" may also be anticipated from the lands in this part of the State.

6. The prices have fallen, and barley is now selling from 12½ to 13½ seers the rupee. Reduced rates of payment in consequence of the decrease in prices are being introduced on relief works. During August a sum of Rs. 33,128 was granted in taccavi chiefly to enable agriculturists to purchase seed. Cattle have begun to improve, as, except in the east, grass is available everywhere.

7. The relieving depôts are still open, and during August food was given to 9,821 persons and 121 cattle. It is intended to close these relieving stations on the 15th instant.

8. Since writing the above, I have heard that good showers fell on the 7th instant, and that six recording stations received amounts varying from .58 to one inch. The rain seems to have been general over the eastern districts.

Annexure.

ALWAR STATE.

A detailed enquiry was made during the month as to the amount of private charity which the general public of the Alwar State spends monthly towards relieving the emigrants and the poor and destitute persons of the State. It appears that grain, flour, &c., worth Rs. 71-11-0, are distributed daily, and this is estimated to relieve 2,349 persons every day. The monthly cost comes to Rs. 2,150-10-0.

Food-grain was distributed by the State gratuitously to the cripple and destitute persons at all the 12 tahsils of the State, while children of workers under 7 years of age received subsistence allowance of 3 pies each on the several relief works. The actual number of persons who receive gratuitous relief on the 31st August, 1900, was :—

	Number.
(a) Cripple and destitute persons... ..	2,975
(b) Children of workers	222
(c) Destitute persons in the Alwar poor-house... ..	213
Total	3,410

The actual cost on gratuitous relief during the month was :—

	Rs.	a.	p.
(a) Cripple and destitute persons... ..	3,723	6	6
(b) Children of workers	144	7	6
(c) Destitute persons in the Alwar poor-house... ..	293	10	4
Total	4,161	8	4

It may be mentioned that clothes to the poor were supplied from the local charitable funds.

2. In the beginning of the month there were ten large works in progress, eleven more works were opened during the month, making a total of 21 works; 13 of these were large and the remaining eight petty works. Eight of these were completed, leaving 13 works in progress, as below, at close of the month :—

	Number.
(a) Large works under supervision of Imperial Service Troops.	5
(b) Petty works under supervision of tahsil establishment.	8
Total	13

The number of persons employed on these works on the 31st August, 1900, was ;—

	Number.
(a) Large works	4,969
(b) Petty works	2,874
Total	7,843

against 6,523 persons at the close of the previous month, showing an increase of 1,320 persons, due to failure of rain in Govindgarh, Luchmangarh, and Kathumar Tahsils in the latter part of August, 1900.

Of the 7,843 workers 5,785 were paid on the contract system and 1,930 on daily labour, while the remaining 128, such as bhishtis, mates, carpenters, &c., received higher wages than the famine rates.

The expenditure on relief works during the month amounted to Rs. 13,386-15-9.

The total expenditure in connection with famine during the month was :—

	Rs.	a.	p.
(a) On gratuitous relief including poor-house...	4,161	8	4
(b) On relief works...	13,386	15	9
Total	17,548	8	1

3. Physical condition of the people is fair. Cholera still continues. There were 824 cases and 534 deaths during the month. The total number of cases and deaths from the beginning to end of August were 1,528 and 933, respectively.

4. No death from starvation was reported during the month.

5. The stocks of food-grains are sufficient for the requirements of the people.

6. There was more or less rain in all the 12 tahsils of the State, giving an average of 3 inches during the month. Kathumar and Luchmangarh Tahsils were badly off. Owing to failure of rain in the latter part of August the crops were beginning to dry, and apprehensions were felt of the total failure of harvest, but fortunately good rain fell throughout the State in the beginning of this month (September, 1900), and the prospects of the harvest have since considerably improved. Water in the wells is increasing. Green grass is abundant, and, on the whole, the prospects are brightening up.

There is no disease amongst cattle.

7. A sum of Rs. 33,128 was advanced to the agriculturists on account of taccavi advances chiefly for seed-grains during the month, bringing the total up to Rs. 2,89,243.

Up to date 903 masonry wells have been either newly constructed, deepened, or repaired, and 682 katcha wells (dhers and dhenklis) dug by means of taccavi advances.

8. There was no change in the rate of wages during the month.

Persons on gratuitous relief received rations at the same rate as in the previous month, viz. :—

	Chittacks.
Adult males and females	8
Children	4

9. Prices remained stationary during the month.

10. Seventy-three families from Kathumar and 65 families from Luchmangarh temporarily migrated to the neighbouring villages in the Bharatpur State. 26 families from Jaipur immigrated and settled in the Thanaghazi Tahsil.

11. Eleven relieving depôts for returning emigrants and their cattle, established in the State in May last, relieved 9,821 persons and 128 cattle during the month. An abstract of the register maintained in the several relieving depôts is enclosed. There being no change in the affected area, the map submitted with previous reports holds good.

Alwar, the 7th September, 1900.

No. 208.

Letter from A. H. T. Martindale, Esq., Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 1,877 F., dated Abu, the 20th April, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 1,225 F., dated the 15th March, 1900,* I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statements,† with maps of the Hilly Tracts of Kherwara and Kotra, for the month of March, 1900, together with the covering letter, No. 822, dated 4th April, of the Resident, Mewar.

2. The marginal table shows the numbers of persons on works and in receipt of gratuitous relief since December, 1899. During the month under report the total on relief has risen by 19 per cent. But the figures both of February and March seem open to doubt. According to the figures given in the detailed statement supplied by the Political Superintendent last month, the numbers on all works in the two districts, including the numbers at Para and Thana,

Months.	Works.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Percentage.
1899.				
December ...	765	567	1,332	1·87
1900.				
January ...	1,505	806	2,311	3·25
February ...	2,906	966	3,872	5·45
March ...	3,254	1,372	4,626	6·51

which were estimated in absence of the actual figures, came to 3,464. This month again no details have been furnished for Kotra, and no fewer than eight relief works, which supported 525 persons during February, have been omitted from this month's return. Enquiries have been made from the Resident, but in the meantime it may be assumed that the total number of persons on relief is really over 5,000. This does not include a total of over one thousand people, who are being relieved by the resident missionaries.

3. The Resident is of opinion that the distress in these tracts is not so acute as has hitherto been imagined, because of the small percentage of the population in receipt of relief, the entire absence of the superior classes from the works, and the relatively small proportion of adult male Bhis on the works. These facts are certainly significant, but it must, on the other hand, be remembered that both abnormal mortality and extended emigration have reduced the

* See page 422 of Command Paper No. 206, presented in 1900.

† Not printed.

population to a marked extent, and also that crime is rife among unusually large numbers of the adult male Bhils.

4. The provision of funds for the expansion of relief measures and the subjects of grain-supply and carriage have already been discussed in separate communications.

Enclosure in No. 208.

Letter from the Resident, Mewar, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, No. 822, dated Udaipur, the 14th April, 1900.

I have the honour to submit the Monthly Famine Statements of the Kherwara and Kotra districts for the month of March, 1900.

2. As compared with the figures given in the return for February, it would appear that distress is nearly stationary in Kherwara, but a considerable increase has occurred in Kotra, chiefly under the head of gratuitous or charitable relief, which has risen from nil to 320.

Taking, however, the mean of the two districts, the total number of persons in receipt of relief of any kind amounts to only 6 per cent. of the population returned as affected.

This would hardly appear to justify the general condition of the people being reported as "very bad" and "bad."

3. During the month under review I visited and inspected the whole of the relief measures at Kherwara and a large relief work at Jawas, which has been reported as being the most severely affected of the Bhumia Chiefships. The opinion formed by me from the personal enquiries thus carried out, which has already been expressed in my covering letter (No. 244 of the 26th March) to the Famine Narratives received from the Superintendent, Hilly Tracts, for the same month, is that, although a certain proportion of the poorer Bhil population has suffered severely, and considerable mortality has occurred, and will probably continue to occur, owing to the emaciated condition in which these unfortunates arrive at, or are brought into, the poor-houses established for them, the condition of the bulk of the Bhil population and of the entire cultivating population of other classes is well above that of actual destitution. I have been guided in arriving at this opinion by the entire absence of the Patel or other superior cultivating classes from either the relief work at Jawas, or the poor-houses and charitable institutions there and at Kherwara, and the marked absence of the adult male Bhil population in any numbers on relief works throughout the district. It may be perfectly true, as reported by Colonel Bignell, that the Bhil is averse to manual labour or charitable relief, but the general absence of the adult able-bodied class of both sexes from both relief works or gratuitous relief institutions must be held to indicate that up the present time, at least, the bulk of the Bhil population has found other means of support, honest or otherwise.

4. At the same time there is ample evidence, as already reported in the correspondence ending with my letter, No. 282, of the 6th instant, that the most pressing necessity exists for relieving the pressure on the entire population of the Mewar Hilly Tracts, arising from the extreme deficiency in the supply of food-grain in both districts. The provision of the amount estimated as required to purchase and import grain for sale through local dealers, as communicated in the Agent to the Governor-General's telegram, No. 1,646 F., of the 6th instant, will remove the chief difficulty in the way of dealing promptly and successfully with this important question. As already reported, the original difficulty of providing transport has been now met by the organisation of an efficient transport corps of 559 camels, entertained at a monthly cost of Rs. 6,230, which will be increased, if necessary, by additional animals procured from Haraoti and elsewhere.

5. The measures to be adopted for the repression of violent crime now so prevalent amongst a section of the Bhil population have also been considered

in the correspondence above quoted. The increase of the force at the Regimental Head-quarters of the Mewar Bhil Corps as proposed by Colonel Bignell has now been carried out, but final orders on the subject are awaited before taking action to give effect to the proposed concerted preventive and repressive measures against the criminal sections of the Bhil population both in Kherwara and the Dungarpur State.

I would, however, urge that the question of the provision of funds for the requirements of relief operations in Kherwara and Kotra during the current financial year in the estimates already submitted should be taken up and decided as early as possible, so as to enable Colonel Bignell to meet all demands for an extension of relief works, or other forms of relief, simultaneously with his operations for the repression of crime and restoration of law and order.

Annexure 1.

Remarks by Colonel E. D. F. Bignell, Political Superintendent, Hilly Tracts, Mewar, on Famine in Kherwara District for the month ending the 31st March, 1900.

Private relief.— { Kitchen at Kherwara, 351.
Mission relief, 80 in Kherwara; 1,200 in district.
Relief work at Kherwara, 196.

Darbar relief.—Kitchen at Kherwara, 81.

General character of relief works.—Tank, roads, wells.

Condition of people.—Very bad.

Cattle.—Nearly all dead.

Deaths.—131 in Kherwara; very many in district.

Emigration, &c.—Ceased.

Fresh grants applied for.

Annexure 2.

Remarks by Major C. H. Dawson, Assistant Political Superintendent, Hilly Tracts, Mewar, on Famine in the Kotra (Mewar) District.

1. Condition of people.—Bad. Numbers are debilitated and feeble.

2. Deaths.—75 deaths in Kotra from dysentery, the effect of starvation and injurious food. 18 deaths have been reported in the district, but correct returns cannot be obtained.

3. Importation of grain.—Grain can be imported with some difficulty.

4. Emigration.—There is no emigration.

5. Cattle.—The cattle are in poor condition, except among the hills, where they are in a fair state. With a view to saving the plough-cattle of the Kotra village, arrangements have been made to feed oxen free of cost to the owners.

6. Relief works.—600 Bhils are employed in Jura; 600 Bhils in Panurwa; 180 Bhils in Oghna; 100 Bhils in Kotra.

7. Rations.—Man, 12 chittacks maize per diem; woman 8 chittacks maize per diem; children over 7, 6 chittacks maize per diem; children under 7, 4 chittacks maize per diem.

8. Labour rates other than relief rates.—Local men able to build receive the value of five annas in grain per diem. Skilled masons receive Udaipuri annas ten per diem.

9. In poor-houses.—60 destitute.

10. On private charity.—260 children, old women, and cripples.

11. Water.—Sufficient in most places.

12. Fodder.—Becoming very scarce. Only dry bamboo leaves are obtainable.

13. Crime.—Cattle-lifting has increased. Several reports have been received of the robbers having freely used talwars when raiding, causing death in some instances. Unfortunately the thieves generally effect their escape with the cattle over the border. Bhumat cases reported are settled by me at once, and restoration of cattle made or compensation given. The highroad is patrolled by guards of the Mewar Bhil Corps.

The Bhils from Guzerat give much trouble. I have addressed the Political Agent at Sadra on the subject.

14. The only crops were those on the banks of rivers and nullas; the harvest is poor.

No. 209.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. C. Wyllie, C.I.E., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 2,202 F., dated Abu, the 18th May, 1900.

In continuation of my letter, No. 1,877 F., dated the 20th April, 1900, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statements,* with maps of the Hilly Tracts of Kherwara and Kotra, together with the Mewar Resident's covering letter, No. 1,059, dated 8th May, 1900.

2. The marginal table shows the numbers in receipt of both kinds of relief during the last five months. The tendency for the number to increase has been maintained. The persons on works have increased by 27 per cent., and those helped gratuitously by over one-third. But as the Resident has not yet explained the apparent discrepancies pointed out last month, a comparison of the two sets of figures is not very useful. The Political Superintendent maintains that there has been

Months.	Works.	Gratui- tous.	Total	Per- centage.
1899.				
December ...	765	567	1,332	1.87
1900.				
January ...	1,505	806	2,311	3.25
February ...	2,906	966	3,872	5.45
March ...	3,254	1,372	4,626	6.51
April ...	4,152	1,879	6,031	8.5

a decrease in the numbers on relief, so that, as pointed out by Mr. Martindale last month, the figures were probably an under-estimate.

3. Full details of the numbers on gratuitous relief have not been given for Kotra; but the totals of both tracts have risen. Colonel Bignell says that, in addition to the numbers given in the statement, some 1,700 persons are being cared for by the local missionaries. 640 people are in receipt of gratuitous relief in Kotra. Of these, 160 are inmates of the poorhouse, and 480 children, old women and cripples are said to be supported by private charity.

4. It is curious that, while in Kherwara, the Political Superintendent pronounces the mohwa crop to have been an almost total failure, in Kotra the Assistant Political Superintendent says the outturn has been fair. Grain is being imported freely into Kherwara, but Major Hutton Dawson has some difficulty in getting enough transport for the road from Kohera to Kotra. Ninety-five per cent. of the cattle in Kherwara are stated by Colonel Bignell to have disappeared. The accounts from Kotra are more cheerful, but even there the mortality has been great.

5. It is satisfactory to note that crime has been reduced in Kherwara to normal proportions; cattle-lifting is, however, increasing in Kotra. The rabi crop has been of very little account. The Political Superintendent is of opinion that the banias will help all the cultivators who can furnish any security with funds to purchase seed and cattle. The poorer men will receive grants from charitable funds.

* Not printed.

Enclosure in No. 209.

Letter from Captain A. F. Pinkey, Resident in Mewar, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, No. 1059, dated Udaipur, the 8th May, 1900.

I have the honour to forward the Famine Reports, with the prescribed maps, for the Kherwara and Kotra districts for the month of April, 1900, together with a copy of letter No. 443, dated 3rd May, 1900, from the Political Superintendent, Hilly Tracts, Mewar, furnishing the information called for regarding the outturn of the rabi crop and the probable requirements of the people in the way of loans for the purchase of seed and bullocks.

2. As compared with the figures given in the returns for the preceding month, the number

Note.—It is not clear on what Colonel Bignell bases his statement that the numbers have diminished. A comparison of the figures of the two months gives the result noted here. of persons under relief show an increase of 506 in

Kherwara and 730 in Kotra.

3. Colonel Bignell expects a large increase in numbers requiring relief during the current month, especially amongst the higher classes through failure of the mohwa crops. To meet this, further funds aggregating Rs. 83,700 have been provided by the Government of India which should be sufficient for all requirements.

4. The measures proposed for the repression of violent crime in these tracts, and in the Dungarpur State, are being given effect to with good results.

Annexure I.

Remarks by Colonel E. D. F. Bignell, Political Superintendent, Hilly Tracts, Mewar, on Famine in Kherwara District, for month ending 30th April, 1900.

Relief works, tanks, wells, and roads.—Numbers have fallen off owing to large numbers having gone to collect mohwa. The mohwa crop is an entire failure, and the Bhils will return in worse case than before. Crop only six pie in the rupee, but no reports yet received from Guzerat where the Mewar Bhils own large orchards of mohwa trees. Deaths in Kherwara, 139 wanderers from all parts. The heavy pressure will begin of starving quasi-respectable people in 10 days or so when numbers will rapidly go up. Physical condition very bad of all, and prospects as bad as they can be. Cattle up to 95 per cent. dead. Diarrhoea and dysentery very rife. Abandoned children getting very numerous. Grain being imported in large quantities. Emigration nil, immigration nil, with exception of going and returning mohwa-pickers; crime very much decreased, nearly normal.

Annexure II.

Remarks by Major C. H. Dawson, Assistant Political Superintendent, Hilly Tracts, Mewar, on Famine in the Kotra (Mewar) District.

1. *Condition of people.*—Bad.

2. *Deaths.*—87 deaths in Kotra from dysentery, the effect of starvation and injurious food.

15 deaths have been reported in the district, but correct returns cannot be obtained.

3. *Importation of grain.*—Grain can be imported, but with some difficulty owing to scarcity of transport.

4. *Emigration.*—There is no emigration.

5. *Cattle.*—The cattle are in very poor condition, except among the hills where they are in a fair state. Great numbers have died from want of nourishment, hundreds have been killed for food.

Plough oxen are fed, free of cost to owner, in Kotra.

6. *Relief works.*—900 Bhils are employed in Jura.
700 " " in Panurwa.
160 " " in Oghna.
130 " " in Kotra.

7. *Rate*.—Men, 12 chittacks maize per diem; women, 8 chittacks; children over 7, 6 chittacks; and under 7, 4 chittacks per diem.

8. *Labour rates other than relief works*.—Local men able to build receive the value of annas five in grain per diem; skilled masons receive Udaipur annas 10 per diem.

9. *In poorhouse*.—160 destitute.

10. *On private charity*.—480 children, old women, and cripples.

11. *Water*.—Sufficient in most places.

12. *Fodder*.—Very scarce; only dry bamboo leaves obtainable.

13. *Crime*.—Cattle-lifting has increased. The high road is patrolled by guards of the Mewar Bhil Corps.

Crops.—The Mohwa crop has been fair.

Annexure III.

Letter from the Political Superintendent, Hilly Tracts, Mewar, to the Resident in Mewar, No. 443 G., dated the 3rd May, 1900.

With reference to your No. 934 of 28th April, 1900, and in continuation of *Famine Return* for April, 1900, I have the honour to state that, with the exception of a few patches bearing only an infinitesimal proportion to the usual crop, there was no rabi harvest in the Kherwara district.

2. The people are too impoverished to borrow for the purchase of seed and cattle, and I am making such preparations as my funds will admit to issue cattle and free grain for seed to the poorest.

3. The banias will, I think, meet the requirements of those of any standing. I have most carefully avoided any encroachment on their seed-stores.

No. 210.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. C. Wyllie, C.I.E., Agent to the Governor-General, Rajputana, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 2534-F., dated Abu, the 18th June, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 2202-F., dated the 18th May, 1900, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the *Famine Statements** of the Hilly Tracts of Kherwara and Kotra received with a covering docket from the Resident, Mewar.

2. The numbers on relief during the last six months are brought together

Months.	Workers.	Gratuitous.	Total.	Per cent.
1899.				
December ...	765	567	1,332	1.87
1900.				
January ...	1,505	806	2,311	3.25
February ...	3,189	966	4,155	5.76
March ...	3,254	1,372	4,626	6.51
April ...	4,152	1,879	6,031	8.5
May ...	2,898	1,576	4,474	6.30

are the two largest relief camps in the Kherwara tract. The following table

* Not printed.

shows the numbers during April and May on each work from which returns have been received —

Tract.	Works.	Numbers in April.	Numbers in May.	Increase or Decrease + or -.
1	Kherwara	134	13	—
2	Jawas	1,598	Not received	—
3	Para	269	—	—
4	Nadri	83	381	+ 298
5	Chani	105	124	+ 19
6	Thana	73	97	+ 24
7	Jura	900	1,021	+ 121
8	Panarwa	700	725	+ 25
9	Oghna	160	166	+ 6
10	Kotra	130	250	+ 120
Total, excluding Jawas and Para...		2,280	2,898	+ 613

If Jawas and Para are excluded there has been an actual rise in numbers of 613 or 26 per cent. Numbers were stationary at Kherwara itself, but on every other work there has been an increase. Colonel Bignell takes a very gloomy view of the situation in the hilly tracts, but his statements are not borne out by his figures, and it is hoped that things are not quite so bad as he represents. Cholera has undoubtedly been very severe, and the panic seems to have affected both the establishment and the workers. In Kotra fortunately the epidemic proved less fatal, except among the emaciated weaklings collected in cantonments. It visited most of the works, but only the skilled labourers absconded.

3. The total figures for persons in receipt of gratuitous relief have also fallen owing to the absence of reports from Jawas and Para. Kherwara and Nadri both show an increase. The fall in Kotra is slight.

The Political Superintendent has shown in his statement the numbers relieved by the Church Missionary Society's agents in the tracts they work in. They have now 3,450 persons on their lists within the limits of the province. The Reverend C. Thompson, one of their well known and deservedly respected members, who had spent many years in the Bhil country, lost his life while at work in one of his cholera camps.

4. The Assistant Political Superintendent from Kotra reports that the transport question is one of great difficulty, and he is doubtful of getting in sufficient supplies to last through the monsoon. Since his report was written I have reason to believe that he has obtained a number of Sirohi camels through the good offices of the Resident of the Western Rajputana States. I have, however, telegraphed to the Resident on this subject, and have suggested the advisability of establishing a mule transport train between Rohera and Kotra. The majority of the cattle in Kherwara are dead, but there is still a fair remnant in Kotra. Bhil raidings have probably reduced their numbers almost as much as starvation. During the month large grants from the Charitable Fund, amounting to Rs. 10,000, were made to the hilly tracts by the Provincial Committee.

5. The following statement shows the numbers relieved in the poor-houses at Kherwara and Kotra, in aid of which your telegram No. 1815-A., dated 26th

April, 1900, sanctioned a grant from Imperial funds of Rs. 5,000. The actual number of persons relieved has been multiplied by the number of days during which they received support:—

Tract.	Units relieved.	
	Actual.	Per cent. on total.
Kherwara	1,498	5.7
Dungarpur	1,581	6.0
Mewar Khalsa	2,201	8.4
Bhumat	15,939	60.8
Kotra and Bhumat	4,960	18.9
Total	26,179	99.8

The Assistant Political Superintendent has not discriminated between the residents in Kotra Cantonments and the outside inhabitants of the Bhumat. It may be assumed however that barely 15 per cent. of the expenditure was spent on the relief of British subjects. From the remarks in Column 13 of the Kotra Statement it would seem as if no share of the Rs. 5,000 had yet been paid to the Assistant Political Superintendent for whom part of the money was intended. An inquiry is being made on this point. The total expenditure on the Kherwara poor-house during the month was Rs. 3,006-5-8, or a daily average of 27.2 pies per head. The similar average in the Kotra institution was only 10.2 pies. Rs. 368-3-8 of the Kherwara expenditure have been debited to the Government grant. British subjects formed 7 per cent. of those relieved in that poor house, and 12.4 per cent. of the total cost has been charged to their support.

Enclosure in No. 210.

Remarks by Colonel E. D. F. Bignell, Political Superintendent, Hilly Tracts, Mewar, on famine in Kherwara District for month ending the 31st May, 1900.

The works in the Districts have been practically abandoned by the Bhils owing to cholera of unusual severity. I have been unable to get any reports as kamdars and overseers have bolted or are dead. Number of deaths from all causes in Kherwara including cholera 559, exclusive of village bazaar and regiment, these latter being considerable.

I am issuing free rations as far as I am able, but the majority of the Bhils are too frightened to come and take them, and I have no means of conveying grain to the distant valleys and hills where the Bhils have sought refuge. I can only describe the situation in the district during the time 12th to 30th May, as one of absolute panic. Cholera is now abating, and I hope to start works again in a few days. The number of deaths in district have been very exceptionally large. I can get no reports of any kind.

Annexure.

Remarks by Major Charles Hutton Dawson, Assistant Political Superintendent, Hilly Tracts, Mewar, on Famine in the Kotra (Mewar) District.

(1.) Condition of the people.—Bad.

(2.) Deaths.—98 deaths in Kotra from dysentery, the effect of starvation and injurious food. 53 deaths have been reported in the District, but correct returns cannot be obtained. Many have died from cholera in poor-house and among the children. The outbreak has been very virulent.

(3.) *Importation of grain.*—Grain is imported with difficulty owing to scarcity of transport. On this account the chance of getting large supplies in for the monsoon months is small.

(4.) *Emigration.*—There is no emigration.

(5.) *Cattle.*—The cattle are in very poor condition except among the hills, where they are in a fair state. Great numbers have died from want of nourishment, hundreds have been killed for food.

Plough oxen are fed free of cost to owners in Kotra.

Cattle apparently in good health and fair condition lie down and die in a few hours; there is no one who can explain the cause. At the same time were it not for the continual "lifting" there would have been a very fair number remaining.

(6.) *Relief works.*—1,021 Bhils employed in Jura.

725 " " in Panawara.
166 " " in Oghna.
250 " " in Kotra.

(7.) *Rate.*—Men 12 chattacks maize per diem, women 8 chattacks, children over 7 years 6, under 7 years 4 chattacks per diem.

Cholera has appeared on most of the works; the workers do not seem to mind, but it is difficult to prevent the masons employed from running away. It is feared that some works must be closed soon for want of grain.

(8.) *Labour rates.*—Local men able to build, receive the value of annas five in grain; skilled masons receive annas ten per diem.

(9.) *Poor-house.*—160 destitute parties are frequently made up and sent out to relief works.

(10.) *Private charity.*—450 children, old women and cripples.

(11.) *Water.*—Sufficient in most places.

(12.) *Crime.*—Abnormal. Raids on cattle by Bhils of Guzerat, Sirohi and Khalsa Mewar are very frequent.

No. 211.

Letter from the Agent to the Governor-General, Rajputana, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 2345 F., dated Abu, the 16th July, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 2534 F., dated the 18th June, 1900, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the famine statements* of the hilly tracts of Kherwara and Kotra, together with the Resident, Mewar's covering letters Nos. 1727 and 1732 of the 7th July, 1900.

Months.	Works.	Gratuities.	Total.	Percentage.
1899.				
December ...	765	567	1,332	1.87
1900.				
January ...	1,505	806	2,311	3.25
February ...	3,189	966	4,155	5.76
March ...	3,254	1,372	4,626	6.51
April ...	4,152	1,879	6,031	8.5
May ...	4,019	2,542	6,561	9.24
June ...	4,101	4,264	8,365	11.78

2. The marginal table gives the numbers on relief during the last seven months. As anticipated in my review of the May report the actual decrease in the number on works was not nearly so great as the statistics thus furnished. The following table shows the corrected figures which have been incorporated in the marginal table above.

* Not printed.

Tract.	Works	April.	May.	June.
1	Kherwara	134	134	567
2	Jawas	1,598	734	1,282
3	Para	269	387	358
4	Madri	83	381	79
5	Chaui	105	124	124
6	Thana	73	97	104
7	Jura	900	1,021	782
8	Panarwa	700	725	430
9	Oghna	160	166	225
10	Kotra	130	250	150
	Total	4,152	4,019	4,101

This month there has been a rise in numbers over the whole of Kherwara and a distinct fall in Kotra. Cholera has been eradicated from both tracts except as regards a few sporadic cases.

3. The numbers in receipt of gratuitous relief have risen by two-thirds, and are now higher than those under "works." The largest increase has taken place in the Kherwara, Para and Kotra poor-houses. The after-effects of the cholera epidemic are still felt. The petty chiefs in the Bhumat shut themselves up in their houses, and those petty officials who did not die or run away were only too glad of every excuse to curtail operations. While the panic lasted many of the able-bodied had to be given gratuitous doles, owing to the absence of the subordinate famine staff, and now these people object to resume work. The trouble of again organising an effective relief machinery has been very great. Lieutenant Bruce, Special Famine Officer, has unfortunately been ordered to rejoin his regiment, and I have been obliged to transfer Lieutenant Nicholas from Dungarpore to take his place. Transport is still a great difficulty, to obviate which in some measure I have suggested the establishment of a coolie corps.

4. The following statement shows the numbers relieved in the poor-houses at Kherwara and Kotra which are assisted by a grant of Rs. 5,000 from Imperial funds:—

State, Takurate or District.	Units relieved.	
	Actual.	Percentage on total.
Kherwara	252	75
Dungarpur	3,819	11.43
Mewar Khalsa (Udaipur) ...	4,600	13.77
Kotra and Bhumat	24,713	74.02
Total	33,384	99.97

The Assistant Political Superintendent has furnished no details of the Kotra expenditure, and it would appear that none of the Government grant was utilised in Kherwara.

Enclosure 1 in No. 211.

Letter from Captain A. F. Pinhey, Resident, Mewar, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, Abu, No. 1732, dated Udaipur, the 7th July, 1900.

I have the honour to forward the famine report* for the Kherwara District for the month of June 1900.

2. There is an increase of 657 in the number of relief workers and 1,214 in the number of those in receipt of gratuitous relief. This appears to be due to the disappearance of cholera, and also to the increased severity of the famine owing to the continued absence of rain.

3. During the month only three cases of dakaiti, and one case of an attack upon a Mewar Bhil Corps patrol party have been reported, and crime is now said to have been reduced to its normal state. From this it is evident that the system of sending out men of the Mewar Bhil Corps to patrol the country has proved effective in suppressing crime in the Kherwara District.

4. The Political Superintendent reports that the poor-houses and orphan-ages at Kherwara are regularly visited by the Medical Officer, Mewar Bhil Corps, but those in the district are too far away to allow of inspection by the medical officer; they are, however, provided with simple medicines.

The institutions at Kherwara are supplied with medical comforts and nourishing food stuffs.

5. No information has been furnished by the Political Superintendent regarding the number of deaths from starvation, grain stocks, emigration, rates of wages, scale of rations, expenditure on relief works and gratuitous relief, and his attention is being called to these points.

6. The statements showing the number of persons relieved in poor-houses, and expenditure incurred during the month do not appear to have been made out correctly, and the remarks contained in paragraph 2 of your letter No. 2535, dated the 18th June 1900, regarding the Government grant of Rs. 5,000 are again being brought to the notice of the Political Superintendent, and revised statements to be drawn up in accordance with your instructions will be called for.

Annexure.

Remarks by Colonel E. D. F. Bignell, Political Superintendent, Hilly Tracts Mewar, on famine in Kherwara District, for month ending 30th June, 1900.

The rain still holds off and matters are looking very desperate. We cannot import bullocks till the grass grows, and soon the season for sowing will have passed. The pressure is getting steadily worse, and the Bhils losing heart.

Importation of grain is going on, but cartmen are raising their rates threefold—grain must fall to 6 seers per rupee and under.

The time is at hand when the system of relief works must change to local village works.

Strange to say the mortality is not so heavy as it was, though still very bad.

Health of district very bad, though only slight cholera prevails.

* Not printed.

Enclosure 2 in No. 211.

Letter from Captain A. F. Pinhey, Resident, Mewar, to the Famine Commissioner, Rajputana, No. 1727, dated Udaipur, the 7th July, 1900.

I have the honour to forward the monthly famine report* for the Kotra District for the month of June 1900.

2. The number of persons on relief works show a decrease of 575, while those in receipt of gratuitous relief show an increase of 508 as compared with the previous month. The decrease is probably due to the recent cholera epidemic.

3. Crime is reported to be abnormal, and cattle raids by Bhils of Guzerat, Sirohi and the Mewar Khalsa to be very frequent. Only one specific case of crime, however, in which several Guzerat Bhils are alleged to have looted a shop in Umaria, has been reported by Major Hutton Dawson to this office.

4. The prolonged delay in the rains is causing much anxiety, and the distress is now reported to be affecting the non-labouring class.

5. His Highness the Maharana, has granted a further sum of Rs. 300 Udaipuri for the Kotra poor-house.

6. The abstract statement showing the residence of persons relieved in the Kotra Cantonment is submitted, but the other statement required showing the number of persons relieved and expenditure incurred has not been submitted, and has been called for.

Annexure.

Remarks by Major C. Hutton Dawson, Assistant Political Superintendent, Hilly Tracts, Mewar, on Famine in the Kotra (Mewar) District.

(1) *Condition of the people.*—Bad.

(2) *Deaths.*—223 deaths in Kotra from dysentery, the effect of starvation and injurious food.

Ten deaths have been reported in the district, but correct returns cannot be obtained.

(3) *Deaths from cholera.*—Cholera has been stamped out in Kotra and only few cases are reported in the district.

(4) *Importation of grain.*—Large stores of grain have been imported.

(5) *Emigration.*—There is no emigration.

(6) *Cattle.*—The cattle are in very poor condition except among the hills where they are in very fair state. Great numbers have died from want of nourishment, hundreds have been killed for food and herds have been lifted.

Rough oxen are fed free of cost to owners in Kotra.

(7) *Relief works.*—782 Bhils employed in Jura.
430 Bhils employed in Panarwa.
225 Bhils employed in Oghna.
150 Bhils employed in Kotra.

(8) *Rate.*—1,587 men 12 chh. maize per diem, women 8 chh., and children over 7, 6 chh., under 7, 4 chh. per diem.

(9) *Works.*—There are 14 works under construction in the district and are all full.

(11) *Poor-house.*—432 destitute.

Parties are frequently made up and sent out to relief works but nearly all return.

(12) *Private charity.*—700 children, old women and cripples.

(13) *Water.*—Sufficient in most places.

(14) *Fodder.*—Grass not obtainable. Dry bomboo leaves and green leaves of peepal and other trees are freely brought for sale so large numbers of Bhils obtain grain from this source.

(15) *Crime.*—Crime is abnormal. Raids on cattle by Bhils of Guzerat, Sirohi and Khalso-Mewar are very frequent.

Bunias shops have been looted in two Pals.

* Not printed.

No. 212.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. C. Wyllie, C.I.E., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General, Rajputana, to His Excellency the Viceroy, dated Mount Abu, the 10th May, 1900.

On the 1st May I received charge of the Rajputana Agency, and on the 5th Mr. Martindale left Bombay for England.

2. The accompanying table shows that the numbers in receipt of relief in the Province have risen from 579,519 at the end of March to 619,762 at the end of April. The largest increase (26,000) has been in Ajmer-Merwara, for which no particular reasons have been assigned. Against this increase there has been a decrease of 16,000 in Marwar, attributed partly to an epidemic of cholera which has appeared on some of the works, partly to a small demand for harvest labour where irrigation had produced crops, and partly to a desire on the part of the cultivators to return to their villages to prepare for early sowings in anticipation of the coming monsoon. A curious feature in the administration of famine relief is that, whereas in Ajmer-Merwara an attempted reduction of 25 per cent. in the wage rate based on the 19 chatta scale of ration is considered by the Commissioner to have caused the physical deterioration of the labourers, in Marwar it has been conclusively proved that people who are paid on the 12 chatta scale manage to save money. I confess that it has often occurred to me to question the sufficiency of this small ration, but the evidence on this point of Captain Grant, I.M.S., is convincing. In this connection I may cite also the opinion of one who may be regarded as an independent critic, Mr. Vaughan Nash, travelling in India as correspondent of the "Manchester Guardian," who mentions in a letter to the Famine Commissioner that the condition of the people he saw on the Marwar works was certainly far better than that of those he saw in many parts of the Bombay Presidency—he makes the same remark as to the well-being of the people in Jaipur.

3. During the past month the Marwar Darbar has sent agents with funds to the grazing grounds of Central India to hunt up Marwaris who possess cattle and carts, and help them with money loans. I am now in correspondence with the railway authorities trying to obtain privileged rates for returning emigrants and their stock.

4. As there will be comparatively no plough cattle in Marwar when the first rain falls, a large number of small hand ploughs are being made very cheaply in Jodhpur, which will answer admirably in the light sandy soil which covers the greater part of the State.

5. An orphanage for girls, the first ever instituted in Marwar, has been opened at Jodhpur by the Darbar. Her Highness the Maharani is President. Lady Pratap Singh is Honorary Secretary, and has shown a most practical interest in the work. She left her own house, and with a very few attendants lived in the orphanage for some weeks directing and supervising. The presence there of a lady of her rank and influence has had an excellent effect in popularising the orphanage, and in stimulating the efforts of the officials sent to rescue young girls in the city and in outlying districts. Miss Charlotte Adams, M.D., kindly visits the orphanage and gives medical advice. Other English and Native ladies form the committee.

SIROHI.

6. In Sirohi great strides have been made in the relief organisation during the month. The system on the works has been improved, and is now on a sound basis. More poor-houses have also been opened. The Bhils and Grassias of this State, whose unexpected good behaviour has been one of the features of this famine, have managed to support themselves by collecting and selling wood and grass from the forests. I do not anticipate that they will give any trouble in the few weeks that still intervene before the arrival of the monsoon. The rabi harvest has been disappointing. The crops on the restricted

irrigated area promised well, but the high winds and the late unseasonable showers have spoilt them.

JAISALMER.

7. In Jaisalmer the numbers on relief are rising slightly. Since the beginning of the famine the mortality among the cattle and camels is estimated at 62 per cent., and among sheep and goats at 43 per cent.

Thanks to the pure air of the desert, and the increasing difficulty of communication as the hot season advances, the State will probably escape the cholera which has done so much harm in Marwar. In the capital of Jaisalmer cholera has hitherto been unknown. The water still holds out in the wells, but is very brackish in places. Imports of food-grains are diminishing in consequence of the great heat, but stocks are believed to be sufficient.

MEWAR.

8. The returns from Mewar show a distinct falling off in the numbers on relief, but this is more apparent than real, as last month's figures were found to be exaggerated. The general situation throughout the State shows a marked improvement. The loan granted by the Government of India has had a happy effect, and the measures elaborated by Colonel Thornton, in consultation with His Highness the Maharana, have done much to mitigate distress. Lieutenant Pinney has lately visited the estates of some of the leading nobles, and reports that three out of the sixteen jagirdars of the first rank and one of the second rank have responded to the call of their Chief, and have organised more or less effective systems of works. In the hilly tracts also (both jagir and khalsa) more works and poor-houses have been opened, the wages have been raised to a fair scale, and a workable arrangement for supplying petty local traders readily with grain has been introduced.

BANSWARA, PARTABGARH AND DUNGARPUR.

9. In the smaller States of Banswara, Partabgarh and Dungarpur, serious efforts are being made to cope with distress, but no real success can be achieved until an additional officer arrives to look after the two former States. I have considered the necessity sufficiently urgent to transfer Lieutenant Patterson from Beawar for this duty.

Lieutenant Drummond in Dungarpur is doing very well, but the State requires a great deal of supervision, and his services cannot possibly be spared just now for Banswara and Partabgarh. The Dungarpur Bhils are very much out of hand, and prefer looting to going on works. Grain is selling at only 6½ seers per rupee, and although grain imports have risen from 1,800 maunds in February to 5,500 maunds in April, the feeling of insecurity throughout the State is so great that I am apprehensive as regards the sufficiency of food-stocks for the rainy season. I have addressed the Resident in Mewar on these subjects.

JAIPUR.

10. The excellent administration of Jaipur continues, and the Resident reports an improvement in the physical and mental condition of the people in two of the worst districts. Thanks to the energy and personal influence of Mr. Irwin, the cattle have been well cared for from the beginning, and the experiment of feeding them on prickly pear has proved a conspicuous success.

KISHANGARH.

11. In Kishangarh the Darbar have already begun to purchase cattle which will be lent to the agriculturists when the monsoon breaks. These purchases have been made in Gwalior, Dholpur, and the trans-Jamna districts,

and if the animals are allowed to remain where they are till the rains come the enterprise shown will be fully rewarded. This State is the first to complain of the embarrassment caused by the bands of returning emigrants. I am consulting with the Famine Commissioner as to the measures to be taken in dealing with this problem.

TONK AND BUNDI.

12. The advance made by Tonk and Bundi is hardly less satisfactory than that which has taken place in Mewar.

In Tonk, Mr. Wakefield has established a satisfactory system of remunerative works, and has completely gained the confidence and goodwill of the Darbar. It was with regret, therefore, that I have been obliged to transfer Mr. Wakefield to Mewar, where his services are more urgently required in connection with railway and other relief works.

Captain Younghusband's patience and tact in dealing with the Bundi Darbar have at length been rewarded. The Minister, whose dealings were not always above suspicion, has been dissociated altogether by the Maharao Raja from famine work, and His Highness has taken this department into his own hands.

Lieutenant Haworth, who was specially deputed to Bundi, is now supported by the Darbar, and has been able to reduce the suffering to a narrower limit. His great difficulty, at present, is to save the people in spite of themselves. Many will not attempt to do the ordinary allotted tasks, and some, rather than go on the works, will take their chance of maintaining themselves by begging, and afterwards, in an emaciated condition, claim relief in the poor-house.

SHAHPURA.

13. There has been a sharp outbreak of cholera in Shahpura (the capital); where, out of 11,000 inhabitants, 153 deaths occurred in the first three or four days.

ALWAR.

14. In Alwar there has been a decline in the numbers on relief owing to a reduction of the unduly high wage scale which formerly prevailed. The rabi harvest is said to be about half of the normal—the strong hot winds, just before cutting, have shrivelled the grain in the ear.

15. There is nothing of importance to report from the Eastern States as no accounts of the spring harvest have yet been received.

16. The Central Committee of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund has sent us further grants from the fund, which are now being allotted to the different States. Mr. Smeaton, the Honorary Secretary, visited Ajmer on the 11th April, where, unfortunately, he was unable to obtain any accurate information in regard to the present condition of Native State famine affairs; he has, however, been good enough to recommend our additional requirements for the favourable consideration of the Committee.

17. Major Dunlop-Smith, the Famine Commissioner, after visiting Ajmer-Merwara and 16 out of the 19 Rajputana States during the course of his cold-weather tour, is now at Abu. The personal insight he has gained into the famine conditions and relief organisations of different parts of the Province, combined with his practical knowledge of famine acquired in Hissar, are most valuable in dealing with many of the difficult questions which come before us.

18. I enclose a statement* showing loans made to Native States and takavi advances granted in Ajmer-Merwara up to the present time, also a table* containing such mortality figures for April as have reached me.

* Not printed.

No. 213.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. C. Wyllie, C.I.E., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General, Rajputana, to His Excellency the Viceroy, dated Mount Abu, the 10th June, 1900.

The accompanying famine statement,* which gives the statistics of relief in the province at the end of each of the last seven months, shows that the increase in numbers is steadily maintained. During the past month, in spite of more than one disturbing influence, the numbers have risen by over 4 per cent. to nearly two-thirds of a million. The ratio of increase is less than that recorded in any previous month, but at the end of May thirty thousand more people were in receipt of relief in Rajputana than were returned for the same period in April. Out of 23 reporting centres, 13 have returned a rise in number, 9 a decline, while the figures for Kotra are not available. By far the largest increase has taken place in Jaipur, but there has been a substantial rise also in Bikaner, Bundi, and Ajmer-Merwara. The fall has been heaviest in Marwar, Sirohi, Kotah, and Alwar. At the end of May approximately 5 per cent. of the total population of the province were in receipt of relief.

BIKANER.

In Bikaner the young Maharaja keeps up his keen interest in famine affairs. During the month nearly 6,000 of his subjects have been brought back from different districts of the Punjab, and a large work has been opened close to the Hissar border with a view of checking emigration, and providing for the distressed cultivators in that direction. The Darbar had collected a large number of distressed women belonging to respectable families close to the city. These have now been sent back to their homes with enough money to maintain them for the next two months. The persons in receipt of private charity had increased to such a formidable extent that His Highness himself took up the task of weeding them out and of drafting all able-bodied persons on to the State works. Colonel Vincent, who returned to Bikaner on the 17th May, has visited several works, and reports that the condition of the people is good. So far the State has escaped cholera.

MARWAR.

Numbers have again diminished in Marwar. During the second and third weeks of May rain fell in several districts, tempting many of the people on the works to go home. Those who could persuade the Bohras to give them money and seed have sown a certain amount of the coarse pulses and "jethi" bajra which ripens early. But the chief cause of the decline was the panic which the cholera gave rise to in the end of April and the early days of May. This disorganized one or two of the larger works, and although the petty works administered by civil agency suffered to a less extent than those under the Public Works Department, the dislocation was quite as great. The patience and energy of the Engineers and of Captain Grant, I.M.S., were tried to the utmost, but eventually the disease was stamped out and confidence was restored. In last month's report I mentioned that the misgivings at one time felt as to the sufficiency of the ration given on the Marwar works had been removed by convincing medical testimony. The ability of the people to save some small portion of it is now corroborated by the independent inquiries of Captain Bremner, R.E., Special Famine Officer, who has a close acquaintance with the various works and with the famine labourers. His inquiries, spread over a lengthy period, show that for the first few weeks after coming on to a work, people spend all their wages on food; but when they find their strength returning, and when a good meal has lost its novelty, they put by something out of their scanty earnings. Many no doubt mix the bark of trees and other natural products with their food, but this is no uncommon practice in this region.

* Not printed.

even in times of plenty. And the undoubted fact remains that at all centres of relief, not even excepting Pali, which is kept for the most reduced of the new arrivals, the condition of the people improves from week to week. In this connection I am again able to quote independent unofficial evidence, which will be found in the issue of the "Times of India," dated 26th May, 1900. The high death-rate in the Marwar Camps which, with the inadequate Medical Staff available, caused me so much anxiety a month ago has rapidly subsided. The deaths in the purely famine hospitals have fallen from over 6,000 in April, by 56 per cent., to 2,680 in May. Small-pox is less prevalent, and the rise in the night temperatures has reduced the number of dysentery and diarrhoea cases.

There are still just under ten thousand persons in receipt of gratuitous relief in poor-houses. The other institutions reported in previous communications are also open. The Girls' Orphanage, which I described last month, has added to its rolls, while the active interest taken in this institution by Lady Pratap Singh has had happy effects.

The importance of the cattle question has never been lost sight of in Marwar. The Darbar Agents have been busy all the month in hunting up Marwari emigrants in Central India, and advancing money for their return journey.

The authorities in charge of the home for starving animals at the capital have been encouraged to expand their operations.

On the whole, the condition of Marwar is more satisfactory than I could have ventured to anticipate. Food grains continue to pour into the country, and the drinking water-supply continues to hold out in a surprising way. Crime has decreased especially in the Malani pergunnah, and an outbreak of dakaiti in Godwar was successfully checked by Lieutenant Menzies. The people are in good heart. Astrologers are unanimous in their opinion that the "Akhatij" omens foretell favourable rains, while the cultivators see in the ants' efforts to unload their subterranean stores of grain signs of a coming good harvest.

JAISALMER.

The numbers in Jaisalmer continue to rise slowly, but they have not yet reached even the moderate total which the local authorities expected during the worst period of the famine. The probability is that no considerable number of the more distressed emigrated to Sind and Bhawalpur just before the great heat began. Their friends and relatives have treated them with consistent kindness in both of these tracts. In fact, of Jaisalmer alone it may be said that emigration has afforded substantial relief in this famine. Rain fell in the central and eastern pergunnahs during the month, and has there temporarily mitigated the distress arising from an insufficient water-supply. Ploughing and sowing operations have been started in different parts of six pergunnahs, and where no cattle are available the ploughs and harrows are being worked by men.

Cholera has failed to find an entry into Jaisalmer, which probably is as healthy at the present time as any part of India.

Prices show a slight tendency to rise, but are still below the scale obtaining in the more isolated hilly tracts of Mewar.

SIROHI.

Last month I was able to give your Excellency a good account of the improved relief administration of Sirohi. This month I regret to say that nowhere in Rajputana has the disorganisation caused by the cholera been so great. The wave of infection travelling east swept across the State from Jodhpur into Mewar, gathering virulence in its course. Its effects were felt most on the two large tank projects at the capital and Rohera. The panic among the workers and the decrepit inmates of the poor-house was

so great as to cause a general stampede, and numbers fell by 42 per cent. On the last day of May there were only 6,000 relief units as compared with over 10,000 in April. This calamity has been most discouraging to the Maharao and his Executive Engineer, Mr. Knight, both of whom, assisted by Captain Grant, I.M.S., did their best by their personal exertions to restore confidence.

Unless the rains are unduly delayed there is reason to fear that the large dams now being constructed by famine labour at Rohera and Sirohi may not be sufficiently advanced to withstand the monsoon floods, although no efforts are being spared to strengthen the most vulnerable points.

An additional poor-house was opened at Rohera to meet the growing demand for gratuitous relief, and a similar institution has been started at Erinpura in the extreme north of the State. A heavy fall of rain has occurred and the people here and there have begun the cultivation of the earlier kharif staples. The supply of drinking water, I am glad to say, is sufficient. Towards the end of April and beginning of May the import trade slackened considerably. It has, however, now revived. The satisfactory feature of this month's progress has been an improvement in the condition of the cattle. The camel disease mentioned last month was fortunately stamped out before much harm was done.

MEWAR.

The numbers on works in Mewar have risen by some three per cent., while the names on the gratuitous lists have decreased by eight per cent. The total number of units on relief is still below the high figures of March, but here also cholera has played sad havoc with the organisation. The disease found a congenial home in the insanitary capital, where the recorded deaths alone show that five per cent. of the city and suburb population perished in the first fortnight. Even the palace was not spared. Of the six personal servants in attendance on the Maharana's son five succumbed. The latest reports show that the epidemic is abating. The poor-house has suffered a good deal, but since the site was changed the death-rate has fallen to nearly normal. There was a severe outbreak on the railway works at Lambia. Out of 14,095 relief units over 800, or 6 per cent., died in a few days, but the plucky efforts of Mr. Billings, the Engineer in charge, prevented a panic.

In Mewar the month has been chiefly remarkable for the development of relief operations in the jagir areas on the lines laid down by Colonel Thornton. Lieutenant Pinney has visited the estates of several of the leading nobles and has persuaded them to execute agreements to carry out works and to allow their operations to be supervised by the Darbar's Central Famine Officers. Five of the nobles of the first and four of the second rank have signed these agreements. The lands of these nine Thakurs comprise the worst affected part of the jagir area. Although tardily introduced, these measures will prevent much of the suffering and mortality which would otherwise have taken place had the less energetic policy been continued which obtained until Colonel Thornton's arrival in March.

The numbers on the works in Kherwara and Kotra were rapidly increasing when cholera appeared. It was of a virulent type and spread very rapidly over the barracks, works, poor-houses, and even the orphanages and children's kitchens maintained by English ladies and missionaries. To add to the people's troubles the Mohwa crop on which the Bhils so much depend largely failed in Kherwara.

I would desire to mention to Your Excellency the name of Mrs. Hutton Dawson, who, since November last, has been unostentatiously engaged in saving the lives of women and children at Kotra from private funds which she collected in England and India. She has now on her rolls 524 women and children. She and her husband, Major Hutton Dawson, Second in Command of the Mewar Bhil Corps, are the only Europeans in Kotra, and every issue of food is superintended by Mrs. Dawson.

Cholera has claimed many victims among the objects of her charity, and nowhere has the "white man's burden" been more faithfully borne than in this isolated corner of the empire over which the shadow of death has been impending for so many weary months.

DUNGARPUR.

My recent official letters to the Foreign Secretary have explained the extent to which violent crime prevails among the large and turbulent Bhil population of this State and the difficulties against which the present Assistant Resident has to contend. Since the recent appointment of an additional Assistant Resident, Lieutenant Drummond has been able to give his undivided attention to Dungarpur, and the numbers on relief have more than doubled. This is due to the confidence inspired by regular daily payments, and to the fact that all applicants for works are freely taken on. Several of the Bhil villages, however, persist in maintaining an aggressive and defiant attitude, which may necessitate further punitive measures. Lieutenant Drummond's troubles have been aggravated by want of drinking water and a bad cholera epidemic to which his head clerk and the State Engineer fell victims.

Imports have again fallen off, and I arranged with the Military Authorities in Mhow for the aid of mule transport, but the local officers reported that the assistance is not needed.

BANSWARA.

This is the most out of the way, backward, and conservation State in Rajputana, and until Lieutenant Patterson's arrival famine relief had received, but scant attention. The Maharawal, who shuts himself in his palace and affects great attention to religion, had never even heard of the Boer War.

The mortality from cholera has here also been heavy. The Resident reports that by emigration, cholera, and disease, brought on by innutritious food, at least one quarter of the population, which consists chiefly of Bhils, has disappeared.

Lieutenant Patterson has now reorganised the relief administration, provided for a steady grain supply, and arranged to give relief to all who apply for it. The numbers on relief have increased since his arrival by nearly one quarter.

PERTABGARH AND KUSHALGARH.

In Pertabgarh things are much better. The Resident has recently visited the State and found that the relief given is sufficient. Grain is plentiful, and the Bhils are quiet and well behaved.

The small chiefship of Kushalgarh is also fairly prosperous. The Rao takes a personal interest in his administration, the relief works are looked after, and the food stocks are sufficient.

KOTA AGENCY.

The important event of the month in the Kotah State has been the financial crisis which has developed. Pending the result of the correspondence with the Government of India regarding the extent to which Government can assist them, the Darbar have been forced to borrow eight lakhs in the open market, and report that they have been forced to somewhat curtail relief operations. Cholera has reached Kotah, but so far appears to be of a mild type.

There is a steady increase in the numbers on relief in Jhalawar. The arrival of a Special Famine Officer, Lieutenant James, of the 26th Baluchistan Regiment, has lightened the duties of the Political Agent and the State Engineer.

SHAHPURA.

The disastrous effect of the cholera panic in the chiefship of Shahpura is apparent from the fall in the numbers on relief by 27 per cent. to 2,370. The outbreak was sudden and severe, and that it was quickly subdued is due to the good sense and energy of the Raja Dhiraj, who unquestioningly carried out the recommendations of the Political Agent and Agency Surgeon. The railway embankment is nearly finished, and thanks to Mr. Old, the Public Works Department Supervisor, who voluntarily accepted the charge of the famine organisation in addition to his professional duties, the work has been carried out economically and efficiently.

TONK.

There has been a sharp fall of 24 per cent. in the numbers on the Tonk relief works for which cholera is again responsible, but at the same time the numbers in receipt of purely gratuitous relief have nearly doubled. The Tonk Darbar loyally accepted Captain Younghusband's advice as to the disinfection of wells and other sanitary precautions, but certain influential Hindu merchants and money-lenders in the city combined to protest, and closed their shops. The prompt manner in which the situation was dealt with is described in Mr. Wakefield's last fortnightly diary, a copy of which forms the second appendix to this letter. The simplicity and efficacy of the methods adopted by that officer are in striking contrast to the elaborate procedure prescribed by law for dealing with similar cases in British India. The purchase of cattle which was taken up by the Darbar, on Mr. Wakefield's initiative, has been slowly going on, and the charitable grants will be largely utilized for this purpose. The chief anxiety at present is whether the supply of animals will equal the demand.

Lieutenant Jacob has shown much resolution and common sense in dealing with the severe outbreak of cholera at Nimbahera, and has succeeded in checking the epidemic.

BUNDI.

The accounts from Bundi are not very encouraging. The Darbar are reaping a harvest of death and disease, which is largely the result of their previous apathy and mal-administration. Captain Younghusband has written melancholy accounts of his visits to the poor-houses, and it is evident that Lieutenant Haworth, the young Famine Officer, has had during the last two months one of the most depressing charges in Rajputana. Bundi has never possessed any qualified medical staff, and by Captain Younghusband's advice the State has at last engaged the services of a retired Assistant Surgeon. There is still much to be done. Cholera has almost disappeared, but the people have only just begun to realise that the administration is willing to help them in their distress. The majority of the poor-house inmates arrive in a most pitiable condition, yet many of the worst cases recover, thanks mainly to Lieutenant Haworth's unceasing efforts in their behalf.

The charge of the Haraoti and Tonk Agency has been as heavy and responsible a task as has fallen to the lot of any officer in Rajputana during the past twelve months, but Captain Younghusband has proved himself fully equal to the occasion, and is deserving of the greatest credit.

JAIPUR.

The relief units in Jaipur have risen by 56 per cent. to 126,964. The largest proportionate increase has taken place among persons in receipt of gratuitous relief. As usual the programme of the administration is well ahead of the requirements of the people. Owing to favourable showers in parts of Shekhawati numbers of relief workers went to their homes to sow early bajra.

The cattle camp close to the capital is slowly expanding, and the Darbar are buying up cattle in foreign territories. Following the lead of Jodhpur, they

are supplying hand ploughs in those tracts where the soil is light and agricultural stock deficient.

The condition of the people is good, and there has been no general epidemic of cholera.

KISHANGARH.

In Kishangarh the famine administration is proceeding as satisfactorily as it has done all along. With the help of an officer of the Geological Department marble and mica quarries have been opened, which provide a fresh field for famine labour. More cattle are being purchased, and the Political Agent, Eastern Rajputana States, has moved the Dholpur Darbar to allow the new purchases to remain on their present grazing grounds until the rains break. The numbers on relief have slightly increased.

ALWAR.

In Alwar a much needed reduction in the famine wage has driven people with private resources off the works. The result is a net reduction of 24 per cent.

Agricultural operations have been resumed, but the mortality among the cattle is increasing.

EASTERN STATES.

In Bhartpur the numbers on relief fell slightly during May, but over 11,000 labourers were employed on the extension of the irrigation scheme which Mr. Devenish has been gradually developing, and which has done so much to save this State the worst effects of famine.

During the month the Karauli Darbar have reported for the first time that water in the hilly tracts is running short. Fodder is deficient and the cattle are losing condition.

Dholpur is happy in having no famine history to record.

AJMER-MERWARA.

The numbers still mount up in Ajmer-Merwara. The May total exceeds that of April by over 2,000. Cholera swept through the South of Ajmer and the urban areas of Ajmer and Beawar, but the Merwara works escaped. The leading features of the administration in May have been an increase in the famine wage scale in Ajmer and the maintenance of the high death rate. Cholera is responsible for over 1,000 of the recorded deaths, which might have been fewer but for the caste prejudices which interfered with the prompt disinfection of wells.

The attitude of the grain dealers on the works is unsatisfactory, and the efforts to bring them under proper control have not yet proved successful.

GENERAL.

I would record my gratitude to the Central Committee of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund for generously raising the Rajputana grants to Rs. 12,55,000. Of this sum two lakhs have been specially allotted by the Central Committee to Ajmer-Merwara. I have ventured to ask for further aid and to request the Committee to allow the Provincial Committee to apportion the money between the Native States and the British districts, as it is very desirable that all should share alike according to the measure of their requirements.

The munificent gift of 11,000 maunds of rice by Sir Bir Shamsher Jung, Prime Minister of Nepal, has aroused much interest in different parts of Rajputana.

The arrangements for the relief of returning emigrants alluded to in last month's report are progressing satisfactorily. Depôts have been established at convenient distances along the main lines of communication between Rajputana and Central India and the trans-Jumna tracts, where food will be obtainable by man and beast to enable them to struggle back to their homes in time to take advantage of the monsoon rains. In most cases the staff will be provided by the Darbars, while the expenditure on food and fodder will be charged to the Charitable Relief Fund grants. The cost will not be heavy, and no other form of relief is more urgently required just now.

Your Excellency will have gathered from the foregoing narrative some idea of the dislocating effect of the cholera outburst over so large a part of the province. In at least 10 States the epidemic subjected the famine organisation to a most severe strain, which was met with much courage and skill by all the British officers engaged. In this connection I record with deep regret the death of Colonel Adams, I.M.S., my Administrative Medical Officer, of whom it may be fitly said that he laid down his life for the people among whom he had laboured for so many years.

The list of honours which was recently published has given general satisfaction, and on behalf of the various State officials and officers in Rajputana, I venture to take this opportunity of expressing my gratitude to Your Excellency for the generous recognition of work done in and for the province.

Annexure.

Copy of Narrative Progress Report of Famine Relief Operations in the Tonk State, during the 1st half of May, 1900.

At the end of last month the numbers receiving relief in this State were :—

	Number.
On works	12,004
In poor-houses	2,239
Total	14,243

They now stand at :—

	Number.
On works	12,672
In poor-houses	2,948
Total	15,620

The increase would have been very much greater, but cholera broke out on the works in the Nimbahera pergunnah, and hundreds of people left. Practically all the remunerative works, such as tanks, undertaken in the several pergunnahs of the State, will, I am glad to say, be completed before the rains break.

In the home pergunnah of Tonk there are 3,700 people employed on the new railway embankment between Tonk and Chowke on the Jaipur border, and at the present rate of progress this entire length will be completed by the 15th of June next. Both on works and in poor-houses things are running very smoothly.

On works all applicants are admitted; the piece-work system has been in force since the beginning, and the rates are so fixed that an individual can by fairly exerting himself earn enough to feed himself generously. This is done by constantly checking the outturn of work for male unit and fixing the rate so that a low average outturn can command sufficient to buy 16 chittaks of grain. The strong man requiring more can earn more by working harder. In the poor houses in Tonk all applicants are admitted. In addition vagrants in the city are arrested and brought to the poor-houses, but three classes have been formed :—

Class A.—Permanently infirm and young children.

Class B.—Temporarily infirm (those run down physically).

Class C.—Able-bodied relatives of inmates.

On first arrival the people are sorted accordingly. Those fit for class A receive permanent residence tickets. Those fit for class B get term tickets. For example, a weak being arrives. The officer in charge decides that he requires a week's or fortnight's feeding. He is given a term ticket accordingly, and at the end of his term is sent on to suitable work if fit; if not, his term is increased. In this way many hundreds of weak beings have been passed through the poor-houses and are now earning a livelihood on works. Class C individuals are not fed; they go out daily and earn their living on works, simply receiving a ticket authorising them to live with their relatives in the poor-houses.

Of the five thousand rupees received as the first instalment from the Charitable Relief Fund, Rs. 1,500 have been sent to Nimbahera, Rs. 1,500 to Perawa, Rs. 800 for Tonk and Rs. 500 to Chobra, where the necessity for a poor-house has arisen now. A balance of Rs. 1,700 remains. This money will be spent in providing medical comforts, blankets, clothes and in supplementing the State ration. I would strongly recommend that the bulk of the charitable grant for this State be spent on the agriculturists, by helping them to procure bullocks and seed. I would also point out that the sum intended for this State should be put at its disposal at once before it is too late to make good use of it.

In addition to the outbreak in Nimbahera, cholera has now declared itself in Tonk and Aligarh. Precautionary measures were taken in Tonk at the end of last month as reported by me. On the 6th of this month the bannias closed their shops in protest. As they would not listen to reason and were beginning to imagine they ruled the roost, the ring leaders were arrested, marched through the town in irons and locked up, troops being posted in the streets. The shops were opened the same evening, and, to assert authority, were by orders kept open all night. There has been no trouble since, in fact permanganate of potassium is now freely put into the wells, a thing they would not hear of at first. There have been very few cases of cholera in Tonk itself so far, amongst others there were two fatal cases of close relations of His Highness the Nawab. I visited the Aligarh pergunnah on the 11th, and during the course of one of my inspections discovered a man with cholera on the road near a village. I gave him chlorodyne at once, but he was too far gone, and died. On making enquiries I found cholera was prevalent in two villages close to one another. An investigation on the spot revealed the fact that infection was brought by a Hindu inhabitant of one of these villages called Ganta in Kotah territory. He took ill on the day of his return and died the next night. After this there were several cases in the village, some terminating fatally and others recovering. It then broke out on a tank work on which the inhabitants of this village were working with the people of the next village, and in this way it was conveyed to the other village, where several cases also occurred.

I established a cordon round these two villages and segregated the cholera cases in huts outside, putting the Hospital Assistant from Aligarh in charge. On the 14th when returning to work I found the disease had been stamped out of one village, and that only three cases remained in hospital at the other one, and as they had been attacked about four days previously and were still alive and comparatively cheerful, I conjecture they will recover and the epidemic cease altogether. There may be a recrudescence, and I have issued instructions that the cordon must not be relaxed until ten days after the last case.

A tiger in Aligarh took to eating famine labourers. He accounted for about four people who had gone into the hills to collect grass and berries. It was my pleasant duty to put an end to his uncharitable tastes. I bagged him on the 12th.

In anticipation of the approaching rains cattle are being purchased for cultivators. This ought to have been done some time ago, because, owing to the widespread demand, prices have risen considerably now. Arrangements for money advances to cultivators for seed and other agricultural necessities have also been made. In a Native State it is even more difficult than in British territory to ensure the money reaching the cultivator intact, and, secondly to see that the cultivator uses it all for agricultural purposes.

In consequence it has been arranged to give the money through and on the responsibility of the "Bhoras" (Mussalman bannias), who will distribute in the presence of tahsildars. The "Bhora" having a personal interest in the transaction, and being essentially a grain dealer with his prosperity dependent on the produce of the soil (he is not a bannia in the ordinary sense of the word) will take care that money advanced is rightly spent.

As I have been transferred to Mewar, and this is my last report, I would take the opportunity of cordially thanking Captain Younghusband whose sympathetic support has made it a pleasure to work in this agency. I would also thank His Highness the Nawab, the Prime Minister and State officials employed on famine work for the help they have rendered me.

G. E. WAKEFIELD.

No. 214.

Letter from the Honourable Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. C. Wyllie, C.I.E., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, to His Excellency the Viceroy, dated Mount Abu, the 10th July, 1900.

The statement* which forms an appendix to this letter shows a still further increase in the numbers on relief in Rajputana. The grand total has risen by 26,520. The increase is confined to 11 States and the Ajmer-Merwara district. In six States there has been an appreciable fall. Elsewhere there has been little change.

BIKANER.

2. In Bikaner the numbers on the relief works have actually fallen off, but there has been a great increase in the various classes relieved gratuitously, so that the grand total has risen by 8 per cent. A large number of distressed people have been brought back from the Punjab, and many cultivators and farm labourers have returned of their own accord from Sind and Bhawalpur in anticipation of the monsoon. The majority of the former were placed on gratuitous relief in separate camps. Unfortunately, cholera has at last made its appearance. It first broke out in a comparatively small camp in the north of the State, which had been established for the people who had been deported from the Punjab, who very probably brought the germ of the disease with them. It then spread to the railway construction works, where the platelaying had to be stopped, and afterwards to the large famine camp at Gajner. The cholera was not of a virulent type, and more than half of the cases recovered. The executive authorities were everywhere equal to the occasion, and there was no appearance of panic. The great difficulty on the majority of the works has been the shrinkage of the water supply. A new pumping engine was set up during the month. This makes a total of four now at work by day and night, but they are scarcely able to keep pace with the people's requirements. His Highness

* Not printed.

the Maharaja and Major Robinson, I.M.S., have continued to make frequent inspections of the various camps, and have closely supervised their working.

MARWAR.

3. The numbers on relief have fallen still further in Marwar, and cholera, I am glad to say, has disappeared from all the districts except Milani. There the disease still lingers at Barmer, the capital, but is of a mild type. It has now visited every one of the large relief camps in turn, and the fact that barely 600 persons out of a total of 80,000 are recorded as having been attacked, speaks highly for the efficiency of the administration. The two chief measures taken to combat the epidemic were a free use of permanganate of potash and strong guards over all the sources of water supply. The workers are in good condition, and quite ready for field labour as soon as the monsoon breaks. Those whom the rain showers in May tempted back to their villages have suffered cruel disappointment. The bajra and coarser pulses germinated well, and for 10 days or a fortnight promised favourably. But as each day passed without rain, the hot winds increased in strength, and practically none of these crops on which so many hopes were placed will reach maturity. They may, however, be of use in supplementing the dry unnutritious fodder the surviving cattle are struggling to maintain life upon. Thanks to the little rain in May, the water supply is holding out fairly well. On some parts of the railway line, however, Mr. Home finds much difficulty in keeping his engines going.

Nearly 10,000 emigrants have been railed back to the State, and over 4,000 persons with 3,000 cattle have struggled back by road. The people are very grateful for the help organised for them on their way, and at Ajmer, Beawar, and Jaipur they found grass and straw which the forethought of the Jodhpur Darbar had provided for them. The cattle returning from Malwa are in excellent condition.

The character and scope of the relief measures are much the same as before, but in the north-east of the State there has been an extension of tank work. The tanks are only drinking reservoirs, and this branch of famine work is very popular with the people. The works under the Department of Public Works and gratuitous relief at the chief centres are on the whole admirably administered, but there is only too good reason to believe that in the smaller poorhouses in the outlying districts the lower castes are neglected.

Private charity in the hands of the richer traders appears to be as active as ever. In many places the Mahajans are helping the general scheme of relief by sharing the expenses of the poorhouses with the Darbar or by employing people in building work. Indigenous charity is not always discriminating or effective, but in many cases the efforts of individuals are shown to be both wise and practical. The poorhouse in Nana, for instance, owes its origin to Sikria Mahsukji, the leading banker. It is well managed by the local Hospital Assistant, while the chief expense is borne by the founder who has recently also opened a refuge for cattle.

Prices have been surprisingly steady during the whole of June. The long delay in the arrival of the rains is, however, now beginning to tell.

Prices show a tendency to rise, and the minds of the Brahmins are disturbed.

JAISALMER.

4. I regret to have to inform Your Excellency that cholera has at last found its way into Jaisalmer. As far as we know the germ has never before succeeded in crossing the desert to the capital. A marriage party from Marwar is now responsible for its introduction. The disease attacked all the works in and round the city, causing a sad panic, and in a few days the numbers on relief had fallen to one quarter of the previous total. Cholera could not have appeared at a more inopportune time. The Dewan, Rao Bahadur Jaggiwan Jiwan, who has proved himself a capable administrator, had just left on account of ill-health on a year's furlough, the emigrants were beginning to return from Sind

and Bhawalpur, and the measures which had been undertaken to extend cultivation and develop agriculture were progressing satisfactorily. Sir Bir Shamsheer's present of rice from Nepal has reached the railway terminus at Balmer, but the difficulty is to transport it to the capital. On his way to his native home in Cutch, the Dewan visited Abu and told me that the few emigrants who had returned to their villages were in better condition than those who had remained in Jaisalmer. The great majority of the emigrants have no intention of leaving their present quarters until they are sure the monsoon has actually set in.

SIROHI.

5. Cholera has practically ceased in Sirohi, and the numbers on works have more than doubled, the total being equal to that recorded in April. The poor-houses also are more crowded than ever and most difficult to control. As the people pick up strength they are drafted on to light labour at some relief work, but the majority return. In some cases deported inmates have rejoined the poorhouse at Abu before their escort down the hill had time to get back.

The Abu hill population are very difficult to deal with. The Loks refuse to do steady work and lose caste if they go to the poorhouse, while the Bhils and Grassias, who make a living by selling wood and grass, often neglect their children in order to attract sympathy.

A daily dole of grain is given at the poorhouse to *bonâ fide* day labourers—500 to 600 in number—from private charity. Captain Grant, I.M.S., has lately visited all the Sirohi works, and reports that except at Chandela at the foot of the Abu range, the workers are in good condition. At Chandela and in the other camps the intense heat has told heavily on the people. The experiment was tried of night work on the Sirohi tank and the ghat section of the Pindwara-Sirohi road, but did not answer. At Abu road, where the Rajputana-Malwa Railway Company have a considerable European staff, well meant but indiscriminate alms-giving has caused some demoralisation in the neighbouring poorhouses, as the inmates naturally preferred this mode of relief to being under any sort of control or discipline. This has now been stopped. At the same time strict orders have been reiterated that under no circumstances is any applicant for relief to be refused admission to a poorhouse.

The surviving cattle in Sirohi have deteriorated not a little during the month as the rains continue to hold off. Camels are keeping up their strength, and a certain number have been usefully employed in carrying grain into the hilly tracts of Mewar.

MEWAR.

6. The returns for June show that the number of persons in receipt of relief of all kinds in Mewar has risen by 22 per cent., but this is largely accounted for by the inclusion for the first time in the returns of labourers in the Bara-Marwar Railway camps. It was only discovered a few weeks ago that this branch of relief, owing to some misapprehension, has never been taken into account by the Darbar in their periodical reports. For the last six months, therefore, the total number of persons shown on relief in Mewar has been from 7,000 to 15,000 below the real aggregate. In consequence of the exhaustion of Rs. 2,42,500 provided for this work by the Darbar, Mr. Billings, the Engineer in charge, has had to break up his camps. I am doing my utmost to ensure that all the dismissed labourers shall find employment elsewhere. The Maharana has undertaken the responsibility of their maintenance. His Highness is well intentioned but badly served by his subordinates, and the distress in Mewar, especially among the Bhils, creates greater anxiety than in any other part of Rajputana.

Cholera has died out almost everywhere. With the disappearance of the panic it caused, the reprehensible inaction on the part of some of the Jagirdars has also vanished. The State poor-houses are now admitting applicants from non-Khalsa villages, and strict accounts are being kept of the money spent on their support with a view to its ultimate recovery. As this becomes known, it

will prove another incentive to the Jagirdars to take action on their own account.

The general policy of the Mewar famine administration during June appears to have been to encourage the cultivating classes to leave the works for their homes. The Resident reports that over one lakh of rupees (local currency) has been distributed in the shape of advances for seed and cattle. In the jagir estates the same policy has been pursued by the leading Thakurs, giving guarantees to the local money-lenders for the repayment of loans to their tenants. Crime has increased slightly, but excepting in the Bhil tract on the extreme south towards Banswara, the State has been remarkably free from lawlessness. The cattle have suffered from the prolonged drought as much as human beings, and few of those in existence will be fit for the plough until their strength is recuperated by an abundance of fodder. The local charitable committee have kindly taken up the cattle-supply question, and are in treaty with a Jhansi firm for 2,000 bullocks. Grain continues to pour in by the railway, but transport beyond Udaipur is very hard to obtain. The scarcity of food in the hilly ranges between Udaipur and Kherwara known as the "Mugra" is painfully apparent from the increasing number of starving Bhils who are flocking to the capital. I have suggested to the Resident the possibility of forming a coolie transport corps to carry grain to the more inaccessible tracts. The scheme presents many difficulties, but, if feasible, should ensure a more or less steady supply of grain to out-of-the-way people, and at the same time provide useful employment in the rainy season.

The after-effects of the cholera visitation in the hilly tracts are still very mischievous. During the epidemic the petty Chiefs in the hilly tracts, of which Colonel Bignell is the Political Superintendent, shut themselves up in their houses, and their underlings in charge of relief operations either died or ran away. The derangement was complete, and during June, Lieutenant Bruce, the Special Famine Officer, has been constantly on tour, trying hard to reorganise the old arrangements. While the panic lasted, Lieutenant Bruce, owing to the absence of any staff, was forced to feed many of the workers gratuitously, and now that the works are re-opened he finds that these people strongly object to being again put to dig and build. His efforts are further complicated by the tendency of these petty Chiefs' servants to cut down the rations as soon as his back is turned. In one case—the Para tank—he found no rations had been issued for eight days, and the work was almost deserted. I much regret that this young officer who has done very creditably should have been recalled to military duty by the exigencies of the war in China. I have applied to the Foreign Secretary for another officer, and earnestly trust that one may soon be sent. Meanwhile, as a temporary measure, we are to have the assistance of Lieutenant Lennox, the Adjutant of the Mewar Bhil Corps at Kherwara.

In the Kherwara district crime has decreased to almost normal proportions, but in Kotra it is increasing. Major Hutton Dawson, the Assistant Political Superintendent at Kotra, reports that, with the help of camels kindly procured for him by the Sirohi Darbar, he has stored enough grain to supply the people until October. In Kherwara, 50 odd miles distant from Udaipur by a bad and hilly road, the problem is more difficult. I endeavoured to obtain the assistance of transport camels and mules from the military authorities, but none are available. Happily, the Resident at the last moment reports that he hopes to be able to hire camels from Nimach. We have lately been in communication with the Famine Relief Committee organised at Amritsar by the Church Missionary Society on behalf of the Bhils, and have requested the missionaries of various denominations working on both sides of the Rajputana-Bombay border to assist us with their information. So far it has not been easy to ascertain from these gentlemen the approximate mortality and distress or the nature and scope of the relief, which the occasion demands, in any defined area for which any particular local authorities are responsible. The requests of the local missionaries for such assistance as the Political Superintendent and his Assistants are in a position to give, have been freely responded to. But the operations of official and private charity have alike been hampered by the difficulty of communications and a dearth of efficient supervisors. The death of the Revd. Mr. Thomson, of the

Church Missionary Society, from cholera, is an irreparable loss to the Bhils, among whom he had laboured for many years, and whose confidence he had completely won.

DUNGARPUR.

7. The news from Dungarpur this month is better. Cholera and the resulting derangement of relief operations are things of the past. During May the numbers on relief doubled, and in June they have increased by 150 per cent.

For the first time the different branches of relief have been thoroughly organised by Lieutenant Drummond, the Assistant Resident, and Lieutenant Nicolas, the Famine Officer, with the aid of two Native officers whose services have been lent by the Bombay Army, and who appear to be capable and energetic men. The non-commissioned officers and men of the Mewar Bhil Corps have also given valuable help.

The punishment recently inflicted on the Mandav Pal by Colonel Bignell and a detachment of his corps has had a very salutary effect, and the capture of one of the two truculent Gametis of another Bhil village who refused to come in, has further brought the evil-doers to their bearings. The people moreover now know that they can obtain relief for the asking, and crime has shrunk within narrower limits. Apart from the gradual establishment of law and order and the rapid expansion of relief measures, the chief feature of the month in Dungarpur has been the introduction of sufficient grain to last through the rains. The local dealers being either unable or unwilling to guarantee the import of adequate food supplies, the Assistant Resident was authorised to undertake the duty himself on behalf of the State. Enough grain has now reached Udaipur to feed for three months all in receipt of State relief in Dungarpur. The grain will be gradually moved up *via* Kherwara as transport animals become available. The Assistant Resident is also purchasing cattle, and has made preparations for the issue of taccavi loans and grants from the charitable funds.

I regret to say the town of Dungarpur and the country round are suffering greatly from insufficient drinking water, and, unless rain comes soon, the outlook will be serious. Given a fair rainfall there should be little further cause for anxiety in the State.

BANSWARA.

8. The numbers on relief have again largely increased, showing that relief has been efficiently organised, and accounts generally are as encouraging as those from Dungarpur. During the last six weeks Lieutenant Patterson, the Assistant Resident, has been constantly on tour, and relief operations are now believed to be adequate. The administration is hopelessly weak in its subordinate staff, but the lately appointed Kamdar is capable, and has loyally co-operated with Lieutenant Patterson.

Organised crime has been largely put down, and the country is quiet. Age has weakened the obstructive tendencies of His Highness the Maharawal, who has given himself up to religious practices, and delegated much of his authority to the Kamdar, a by no means undesirable arrangement. A missionary at Jhalod in the Panch Mahals writes that the Chilkari Bhils, belonging to Banswara, are giving to raiding across the border, and his statement is being enquired into. Punitive measures of the nature employed in Dungarpur for the suppression of dakait bands have not been found necessary. Only one man, a notorious dakait leader, lost his life in resisting arrest.

From information since received, I am inclined to think that the Resident's estimate of the loss in population quoted in my last month's report, was excessive. Lieutenant Patterson has now visited every village of any importance in Banswara, and is of opinion that cholera has claimed many more victims than famine. The two combined have, he thinks, carried off not more than 15 per cent. of the population, and as emigration is opposed to the natural instincts of the Bhils, probably less than 5 per cent. have quitted their villages.

The distress has not been so acute as in Mewar or Dungarpur; the people have had more resources to fall back upon, and both the authorities and the banias have given comparatively liberal assistance to the Bhils in the shape of cash advances.

Grain, I understand, is coming freely into the country, both from the north and south.

PARTABGARH AND KUSHALGARH.

9. There is nothing particular to record regarding this State and the petty Chiefship.

The numbers on relief have remained very steady, and the condition of the people and the character of the relief administration have been so satisfactory that the Assistant Resident was able to devote all his time to Banswara.

SHAHPURA.

10. This Chiefship has not yet recovered from the effects of the cholera panic. The numbers on works have again fallen further, while those on gratuitous relief have doubled. The Raja-dhiraj has distributed considerable sums for the purchase of seed and cattle, and has freely given from his fodder reserves for the maintenance of newly purchased cattle.

During the first two months of the famine, the collection of grass was practically the only form of relief work, and the Chief is now reaping the reward of his foresight.

On the whole, the people are very well prepared to take advantage of the first good rainfall.

TONK.

11. The fear of cholera throughout the greater part of June deterred people from coming on the relief works. This partly accounts for the marked fall of numbers on the works, but the banias in the camps are also to blame. Since Mr. Wakefield's departure to Mewar, they have resumed their old practice of cheating their customers, which Lieutenant Abbott is now endeavouring to put a stop to. A great difficulty has been experienced in the two home parganas in getting starved and emaciated persons moved into the State poor-houses. On Captain Younghusband's suggestion, bullock carts have been employed and with excellent results, but some of the State officials have done their best to wreck the scheme by holding back the hire-money. That very desirable institution, a female orphanage, has been established at the capital, and the Prime Minister takes a personal interest in its management. A house for starving cattle has also been started.

The two tanks, which form the largest relief works, are nearly finished in spite of the laziness of the local masons in building the core walls. The Tonk masons turned out only 19 cubic feet of masonry a day against an average of 125 cubic feet accomplished by the Punjabis.

The Tonk poor-house is said to be a model of its kind, and an Arabian Maulvi, a refugee from his own country, has built two large ovens on a principle of his own, which have proved so well adapted for bread-making on a large scale that the pattern has been brought to the notice of other Famine Officers in the province. These ovens turn out from 400 to 500 loaves in an hour with a very small expenditure of fuel.

BUNDI.

12. The efforts of Captain Younghusband and his Assistants to improve the efficiency of relief operations and to extend their scope, continue unabated. The poor-house system has been developed, and the death-rate in the largest

poor-house in the capital has by unremitting supervision been materially reduced. The Haraoti and Tonk Agency is unfortunate, in that the Agency Surgeon is also in medical charge of the Deoli Irregular Force, and is unable to exercise effective control over outlying dispensaries. As soon as the cholera epidemic in the Battalion and Cantonments abated, he visited, in company with the Political Agent, all the relief centres in Bundi, and has submitted an interesting report on which action has been taken. At his suggestion the hospital rations have been increased, and a liberal supply of easily digested nourishing food has been provided. The chief difficulty now is the hopeless ignorance and apathy of the local so-called medical staff and their assistants.

The numbers on works are fairly stationary, but there is an increase of nearly 100 per cent. in the gratuitous lists. The heat on the works is described as intense, and as in Sirohi and Marwar there have been a good many cases of sunstroke. Everything possible is being done to mitigate the hardships of the people in the camps. Each worker is given a small grain dole for his early morning meal, and remedies for urgent cases of illness are kept close at hand.

The great anxiety is the water-supply, which in some places is failing. The Darbar has been induced to help the artisan class by putting in hand as many new buildings as possible. The reports of the Political Agent and Medical Officer and the diaries of the Famine Officer show that, although relief organisation has steadily improved, it still leaves much to be desired. A striking instance of the opinions held by the inhabitants of Bundi as to source of their indebtedness for relief in their famine troubles is given in one of Lieutenant Haworth's diaries. The story shows at the same time how the well-known old names linger in the minds of the natives. As Lieutenant Haworth was riding past the sacred Ganga pool in Bundi city, some well-to-do Brahmmins accosted him, and expressed their recognition of all that the Sirkar was doing for those in distress. He replied that their thanks were due to their own State, to which they answered—“The State would have left most of us to die if the Kampani Sahibs had not been sent here.” Much the same sentiments have been expressed to me in Marwar. There can be no doubt that the poorer classes in Rajputana know perfectly well by tradition how little help they need expect in seasons of calamity from their own Darbars. They appreciate very highly the services of the British Officers in their behalf; and I believe the political effect of the assistance given by the British Government in the present famine will be excellent, deep, and widespread.

Early in June, under instructions from the Political Agent, Lieutenant Jacob proceeded to Central India to purchase 1,500 bullocks for Bundi. He began by buying a few animals from the returning Marwari emigrants, but that source of supply was closed, when the Marwaris learnt to their joy that fodder depôts on the Nimach roads towards their homes had been established for their benefit. With some trouble he succeeded in obtaining at a fair price the required number of good animals in Bhopal and Rutlam, and after some delay in procuring railway trucks, he succeeded in landing the whole consignment safely at Lambia Station in Mewar, and it is hoped that they are now well on their way by road to Bundi. Fodder is, of course, the great difficulty, and every day that passes without rain, adds to the anxieties of the local officers. According to the latest reports, prices of cattle are rising daily.

The States in this Agency have now been practically one year without rain. Since the 9th July, 1899, no single village has received more than one or two showers, wholly insufficient to produce any appreciable effect on the agricultural situation.

KOTAH AGENCY.

13. The Kotah Darbar and the people alike are paying the penalty for their want of sagacity and foresight during the closing months of last year. No proper control was then kept over the large herds of cattle brought in by immigrants, which spread through the forests consuming all the grass, and a brisk speculation in grain, the profits of which were probably shared by the district officials, have depleted the grain stocks which are consequently at a

dangerously low ebb. In November there was enough jowar karbi left to feed the majority of the cattle, had some attempt been made to preserve it. But all the karbi which had not been grazed down was cut and exported, in spite of warnings, by the end of March, and now even the supply of leaves is being rapidly exhausted.

Lieutenant James, the Famine Officer, who I regret to say, has lately had to rejoin his regiment, the 26th Baluchis, warned for service, has visited various outlying portions of the State, and reports that the people bitterly complain of the fodder export trade. He has met large numbers of men and cattle returning from the grazing grounds on the eastern border, who all tell the same tale that there is nothing left. Fodder appears to be holding out only in one district, where the want of communications has prevented export on a large scale.

The administration is seriously embarrassed for want of funds, and it is feared that relief measures may be correspondingly curtailed in spite of the three-lakh loan sanctioned by Government last month.

The love of their country which animates the dwellers in the desert is so strong that no inducements can prevail on Marwaris or Bikaneris to settle down in Kotah and Jhalawar where fertile land is to be had in abundance.

Numbers have risen somewhat in Jhalawar, the increase being confined entirely to the works. Distress is much less acute than in Kotah, but here also grazing is become very scarce. The condition of the villagers in the poorer tracts is said to be deteriorating. The Special Famine Officer's inspections have resulted in a distinct improvement in the poor-house arrangements and in the issue of gratuitous relief to people at their homes.

JAIPUR RESIDENCY.

14. The Jaipur figures show a distinct falling off under famine relief, but this is more apparent than real, as the reports from three of the distant Nizamats had not been received when the Resident's report was submitted. Many of the cultivators who had left the works to sow their fields after the May rain have returned. I am sorry to say all the early bajra and the first crop of grass, which sprang up after these showers, have been ruined by the hot winds.

Sporadic cholera has visited different parts of the State, and in the city it took a grave epidemic form. The outbreak has now abated and so far has failed to touch the large transport corps relief camp with 10,000 people just outside the city walls. Relief operations have been much hampered by a congestion of traffic on the Rajputana-Malwa Railway owing to insufficient rolling stock. The Raj grain stores are running very low, and carriage for supplies bought in the Punjab is with difficulty obtainable.

In Kishangarh the same difficulty is experienced, and large stores of fodder from the North-Western Provinces have been lying some time at Achnera and Parkham awaiting waggon. The question of the most suitable form of hand plough has received much attention, and a good pattern has been evolved at Jaipur. The great delay in the arrival of the rains is depressing the people, but hope is still placed in the oracles which were propitious.

ALWAR.

15. The monsoon's delay has caused a large rise of over 40 per cent. in the numbers on relief. This is significant as, in spite of a rise in prices, the famine wage has remained unaltered. The weather throughout June was extremely trying, and several deaths from sunstroke and heat-apoplexy have been reported. Cholera has appeared in four tahsils, but the relief camps have hitherto escaped. There is little fodder left, and the condition of the cattle is giving cause for anxiety. The water level in the wells is rapidly shrinking, and unless rain falls quickly, some villages in the hilly tracts on the south-west must be abandoned. The spirits of the people are beginning to suffer.

EASTERN STATES.

16. The numbers on relief have again fallen in Bharatpur, as there appears to be an increasing demand for labour on irrigated lands. Distress has increased in Karauli, and there is a corresponding rise in the applicants for relief. The fields have all been tilled and manured, but in the absence of rain no seed can be sown. The cattle are losing condition, and the inhabitants of the uplands have removed almost all their animals to the valley of the Chambal. Cholera is reported from one tahsil, but it is of a mild type and there has been nothing in the shape of an epidemic.

AJMER-MERWARA.

17. There has again been an increase in the relief units in these districts. The latest reports show an aggregate total of over 150,000 people in receipt of State aid. The increase is due to the increased tension and to the presence, the Commissioner says, of a substantial number of foreign immigrants on the Ajmer works and poor-houses.

Cholera still lingers in Ajmer and has crossed the border into Merwara, but it is hoped that the worst is over. Among its victims I grieve to say is Dr. John Whitehouse, of the Scotch Presbyterian Mission, a comparatively young man, who laboured hard last cold weather in the Todgarh Tahsil and in the adjacent distressed parts of Mewar. At the end of June he contracted cholera while attending to sick and destitute people in Ajmer city. His death is greatly mourned not only by the mission, but by all classes of the community.

1,250 maunds of Nepal rice have been distributed among the various kitchens and poor-houses.

Ajmer has received the liberal assignment of Rs. 2,30,000 from the Central Committee of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund, and the greater part of the money has been already distributed to destitute cultivators. At the instance of the Central Committee, I had recommended that the distribution of the money should be delayed until the breaking of the monsoon, but this has evidently been found to be impracticable.

The Executive Engineer of Ajmer continues to report great difficulties in dealing with the grain sellers in the relief camps.

Mr. Tucker reports the jails to be over-filled and the criminal work to be very heavy.

GENERAL.

18. Generally speaking, everybody's energies have been devoted during June to stamping out cholera, to reorganising relief measures which panic had deranged, to completing the arrangements for starting field labour on the appearance of the monsoon, and to securing a sufficient supply of grain during the rains for the inhabitants of remote tracts.

The weather conditions of the month have been far from favourable. Owing to the weakness of the south-west monsoon current, the rain so eagerly looked for at the end of June has failed to reach Rajputana.

The intense and abnormal heat and the gradual shrinkage of water have increased the sufferings of man and beast, and have severely taxed the physical energies of the Famine Officers and the resources of the various Darbars, while the people who have so far borne their misfortunes with wonderful patience and fortitude are at last beginning to lose heart.

Maharaja Sir Bir Shamsher's generous gift of 11,000 maunds of rice, on which the railway freight alone (also defrayed by the Maharaja) amounted to Rs. 13,364 has been distributed, and is greatly appreciated.

During the month emigrants from Western Rajputana have been returning from Central India in large numbers. In the first fortnight over 3,000 persons

with 4,500 cattle were relieved at the depôts lately established on the high road running through Nimach and Mewar. No statistics are yet available of the people who have returned from the trans-Jumna districts, but the majority are said to be destitute and emaciated. A similar returning movement is reported from Bhawalpur and the north of Sind into Bikaner and Jaisalmer, but we have received no particulars.

In conclusion, I must not omit to mention Rajputana's indebtedness to America for her share of a very munificent gift of grain and blankets brought over from the States by Dr. Klopsch in the s.s. "Quito."

The allotments, judging from the "Times of India," of the 28th June, have been approximately as follows:—

	Grain in Maunds.	Blankets.
American Methodist Episcopal Mission	7,284	5,833
United Presbyterian Mission	6,766	4,800
Church Mission Society, Kherwara (for the Bhils) ...	2,731	1,000

I am expressing gratefully our obligations to the Secretary and Treasurer of the Fund in America through the United States Consul in Bombay.

No. 215.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. C. Wyllie, C.I.E., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General, Rajputana, to His Excellency, the Viceroy, dated Mount Abu, the 12th August, 1900.

From the relief-statement* appended to this letter it will be seen that if the rains continue favourable the turning point of the famine of 1899-1900 was reached during July, when the aggregate of persons in receipt of relief fell by more than one quarter to 484,931. This is the lowest total recorded since January last. Although in the States of Jaisalmer, Sirohi, Alwar, and Kishangarh the numbers rose, the whole increase in all four amounted to only 3,107 persons. The heaviest proportionate falls occurred in Bikaner, in the small Sesodia States south of Mewar, and in Tonk, Bharatpur, Jhalawar, and Ajmer, where the totals were from 80 to 30 per cent. below those of June.

BIKANER.

2. In Bikaner the numbers on relief declined by 82 per cent. although there was a slight increase in the gratuitous lists. Small, but fairly general showers were received during the last fortnight of the month, and the people left the works so rapidly that the majority of the large camps were closed by the 31st July. One week's supply of food was given by the State to every one before leaving, while a large number also received money doles from the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund. All sick and infirm dependents were removed to the large poor-house near the capital. The emigrants who returned of their own accord from Sind and Bhawalpur appear to have gone straight to their homes. Although the rainfall was not heavy its sufficiency for ploughing and sowing was shown by the rush of labourers from the works. The city extension project, which ought to be completed without delay, was almost deserted, and it has therefore been converted into an ordinary departmental work with artisans and labourers paid at modified market rates. Pasturage is now once more

* Not printed.

available, and the lower castes are bringing green grass into the chief towns for sale. The water difficulties also are at an end. The strain on all the famine relief officers has been great, owing to the careful arrangements necessary for getting the people back to their homes, and for the distribution of takavi advances and charitable gifts. From the Maharaja downwards no one has spared himself.

MARWAR.

3. The monsoon currents reached Marwar on the 11th of July and the cultivating classes at once began to leave. By the end of the month about one-fifth of the workers had gone. The officials in charge of relief measures were fully prepared for the change, and the petty works under civil agency were expanded, while the large works were gradually closed. This policy proved entirely successful, and saved much distress and suffering when the rain stopped, and the hopes of the people again fell. The management of the small works has steadily improved, and latterly the outturn of labour has been very good. The numbers of persons gratuitously relieved by the Darbar have risen, but the Jagirdars, with two or three honourable exceptions, have been only too ready to make the rain an excuse for curtailing their charitable expenditure. Only 115 deaths were returned in July as due to cholera. The majority occurred in the Malani perganna where the epidemic, though not of a virulent type, was a sad novel experience to the mass of the inhabitants.

The special famine officer found on his tours not a few children who had been abandoned by their parents during the cholera panic, and were being temporarily cared for by the local officials. It is probable that almost all will be eventually reclaimed. The health and physique of the people generally in Marwar were good. The only persons who showed signs of the long famine were the confirmed wanderers and some of the emigrants who had returned from the north. The rain came just in time to stop the gloomy forebodings of the astrologers and Brahmins who had begun to lose heart, and to foretell all manner of evils. The monsoon current was too weak, for some time, to penetrate to Malani and the three other pergannas in the south-west, but even that arid tract in the last few days has received seasonable showers, and I may safely say that there is no present cause for anxiety in any part of the State. I am happy to add that my fears for the bajra have not been realised. It has shown itself to be hardier and more tenacious of life than even the Marwar farmer, with all his experience, anticipated. In four districts out of eighteen, practically the whole crop is doing well, and in eight others from one quarter to one half will be saved. The water-supply is now sufficient, except in a few isolated villages in Sheo and Malani. In spite of food grains pouring in, prices steadily rose till the very end of July, when the upward movement was effectually checked by a second and stronger advance of the monsoon.

The number of emigrants who have returned with or without cattle, or who have been railed back at the expense of the Darbar has markedly declined. I am unable just now to give even an approximate estimate of the people and cattle who have come back, but it may be assumed that all the surviving cultivators and farm labourers have rejoined their villages. I understand that the people have not taken kindly to the hand ploughs, of which a large number have been issued, gratis, and prefer yoking themselves to the ordinary heavier bullock ploughs.

The distribution of takavi advances and of money from the Calcutta Charitable Relief Fund has been nearly completed. Altogether the policy pursued at this period of the famine has been sound and wise, and efficiently carried out.

JAISALMER.

4. Last month I reported that cholera had for a time mastered both the people and the officials. Works had been abandoned, shops shut, and even the public offices were closed. The climax of demoralization was reached when the acting Diwan, father of the present Maharawal (who was adopted into

the ruling family), was attacked by the disease and died. The recorded number of deaths is not large, but I fear represents only a fraction of the mortality. Twelve per cent. of the workers are returned as having succumbed, but a still larger percentage must have died at their homes, or on their way there. The epidemic is, however, now confined to one perganna.

June was a rainless month save in one district, but in July light showers were fairly general. Unfortunately, except in the Bap and Nokh pergannas, these fell too late to save the scanty bajra crop, which was either scorched by the hot winds or buried in sand by duststorms. The numbers on relief, although larger than those returned at the height of the cholera panic in June are smaller than those of any other month since operations began last October.

Very meagre accounts have been given of the cattle; the 10,000 to 12,000 people who returned from Sind and Bhawalpur have not, so far as we know, brought many animals with them. Grass, however, was springing up in spite of the hot westerly winds, and if the State has shared in the rain which has recently been so general over the rest of the province, the surviving deported cattle will soon reappear.

The water-supply has distinctly improved, and some at least of the transport difficulties have disappeared.

SIROHI.

5. The first monsoon currents, which in the second week of July gave such good rain to the north, east and centre of Rajputana, appear to have travelled from the western coast through the Central Provinces until they reached Jhansi, where they were deflected to the west, and on striking the Chambal river spread out with losing strength to the west and south. The result was that Sirohi, in common with Western Marwar and Jaisalmer, received an infinitesimal share of rain. Many people who had left the relief works full of hope at the outset returned from their fields. There was also an influx of Grassias and Bhils from the slopes of the Aravallis in the south-east. Mr. Knight, the State Engineer, found in his tour in June that this corner of the State had been neglected by the Darbar officials, and adequate relief measures had then to be organized. In the third week of July heavier rain fell in the northern tahsils, but it was not until the monsoon current set in strongly across Guzerat that the State received sufficient general rain. One thousand hand ploughs made in Jaipur were distributed in the different tahsils, but, as in Marwar, the people have not taken to them. The Darbar hoped to complete their distribution of takavi advances before the month closed, but the central administration is badly served by the district officials, who are as a body, lazy and inefficient.

The recent heavy rain has almost put a stop to the cholera, but isolated cases keep occurring here and there, including Abu.

The supervision of the poor-houses still leaves a good deal to be desired. The well-meant, but rather ill-directed efforts of charitably disposed Europeans at Abu, Abu Road, and Erinpura may have complicated matters for the Darbar, but the drafting of able-bodied mendicants and wanderers from these centres to relief works has not been carefully or judiciously performed. About the middle of July Lieutenant Menzies was specially deputed to report on the Sirohi arrangements, and the Darbar's attention has been called to various shortcomings. In one instance it was found that two children belonging to a family sent to Abu Road from Abu had been drafted off to the Rohera poor-house by themselves, nearly 50 miles away from their home at Jaswantpura, on the other side of the hills.

The people generally are now picking up strength, the wells are filling, and the streams are running. At Abu nine inches of rain fell between the 6th and 8th August, and the Abu hills which had been burnt to a cinder have resumed a green appearance.

MEWAR.

6. The total number of relief units in Mewar (exclusive of the Hill Tracts) has decreased by over 32,000 or 28 per cent. Fairly good rain fell throughout the State during the second week of July, which enabled agricultural operations to be begun everywhere, and, of course, accounts for the great drop in the numbers on relief. An inopportune break in the rains occurred on the 14th July, but on the 24th the Arabian Sea current advanced with greater force across Guzerat and restored confidence.

The Lambia works under Mr. Billings, in connection with the construction of the Mewar section of the Bara-Ajmer-Marwar Railway, were closed on the 1st August and the labourers have either been drafted elsewhere or sent back to their fields with a week's wages.

His Highness the Maharana has behaved well in the matter. As many of the tank projects have been interfered with by the rain, His Highness has decided on constructing the earthwork for a small branch line $14\frac{1}{2}$ miles long from Maoli on the Udaipur-Chitorgarh Railway to Nathdwara, the great Vishnoi place of pilgrimage. This is capable of providing employment for about 25,000 people for three months, and will be easily supervised by the present railway staff with a small extra establishment. If properly managed, it will afford useful occupation to able-bodied Bhils until the early crops ripen.

Thanks to the insistence of the Darbar and the watchful supervision of Captain J. D. Pinney and Mr. Wakefield, the relief works in the Jagir area have steadily improved. The majority of the labourers are in Bednor and Deogarh, where Mr. Wakefield has lately employed them in breaking up the land for seed. These Jagirdars' tenants are in a bad way. Almost all their cattle have died and their ploughs have disappeared. The local shopkeepers, to whom they had pledged their implements at the beginning of the famine, refused to give them up except for exorbitant payments. To help the cultivators over their difficulties, Mr. Wakefield set them to work to make wooden handles for hoes and imported several thousand iron heads from the North-Western Provinces and Punjab. When the first consignment of these heads arrived at the headquarter camp, the bannias came in a body and offered to surrender for Rs. 1-8 to Rs. 2. Large numbers of unsaleable hoes are now left on their hands, and the loss of money will be a lesson to them for the future. With the hoes manufactured by Mr. Wakefield, the whole of the large area to which the labourers belonged (which had previously been marked out in sections) was turned up to a depth of 10 inches. As a result of Mr. Wakefield's foresight and intelligence this remote part of Mewar, which $3\frac{1}{2}$ months ago was held up in the "Times of India" as a sample of Native State maladministration, now promises to be one of the few tracts in Rajputana from which a normal kharif yield may be anticipated.

The people are paid in grain imported by Mr. Wakefield direct from Cawnpore, Ferozepur and other large markets and carried from the railway at Marwar Junction across country by special gangs of famine workers. The local Charitable Fund Committee at Udaipur have only been able to secure 1,000 bullocks, and so far, Banjaras and graziers show no signs of bringing animals from the outside for sale. The Jaipur hand ploughs are being distributed as fast as they can be made. It remains to be seen if they will be used. The unlikely that more than 60 per cent. of the normal area will be put under cultivation. Some apprehensions were expressed by the district authorities of Ajmer-Merwara of a second invasion by Mewaris. I am happy to say these have so far not been realised. Lieutenant St. John, a probationer for the Political Department, has been appointed additional famine officer in Mewar, where his services will be mainly utilized in distributing large allotments from the charitable funds. Vain attempts have been made to induce the Bhils who struggled down from the hills during the past few months in search of relief to return to their homes. They sell in the nearest bazaar the stores of grain given to enable them to make a fresh start in life and then troop back in search of

further assistance. His Highness has now arranged to have them escorted back to their *pals*, where he promises that they shall receive, gratis, on arrival, hand ploughs and grain both for food and seed. Depôts have been established for this purpose in central villages and distribution will be made in presence of a British officer.

Throughout this famine the administration in Mewar has been subjected perhaps to more severe official and private criticism than that of any other Rajputana State. In justice to the Maharana it must, however, be said that he is not entirely to blame for the confusion and lack of organization which characterized relief measures in their early stage. His Highness has all along recognized his obligations to his subjects, and has evinced a desire to save life. I regret to have to report another victim to cholera, Mr. Reilly, an old army pensioner, who, at the beginning of the famine, was placed by the Darbar in charge of the works started in and about Udaipur for the relief of the Bhils and other low caste members who had flocked to the capital to beg. When cholera appeared he left his home and went to live among the people in camp at some little distance from the city. There he devoted all the energies of his kindly nature to keeping the people employed, nursing the cholera patients and even helping to dispose of the dead though himself often suffering from fever. Weakened by illness and overwork, he at last caught the prevailing epidemic and was brought into Udaipur in a dying state by Captain Pinney. I had known him for some years, and, as the Resident says, it will be impossible to replace him.

7. The numbers on relief in the hilly tracts of Kherwara and Kotra in Mewar have fallen by over one-third, the decrease being chiefly confined to the works. The numbers relieved by the agents of the Church Missionary Society have also fallen. The majority of the Bhils are now at work on their fields, but, being instinctively lazy, a certain proportion prefer to remain idle, subsisting as best they can on jungle products which the rain is bringing out. As only five per cent. of the cattle are left, the cultivators are breaking up the soil with hand hoes. Colonel Bignell, the Political Superintendent, is busy turning out for their benefit 3,000 hand ploughs. At present the people will not have anything to say to them, but the British officers at Kherwara hope to overcome their prejudices. In Kotra the rain has just come in time to save the surviving cattle, and to check the rapid increase in crime which began to develop in June. Colonel Bignell is importing bullocks from Sehore in Central India, and has lately submitted a statement of his pecuniary requirements to enable him to restore the Bhil tracts to something like their normal condition. Thanks to the generosity of the Government of India, and that of the Central Committee of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund, I hope to be able to supply him with the necessary funds. The only doubt is whether it will be possible to obtain the number of cattle wanted. Up to the end of July transport was the great difficulty which the Political Superintendent and his Assistant, Major Hutton Dawson, at Kotra, had to try and overcome. No fodder for horses, camels or bullocks existed on the Udaipur-Kherwara road. Now green grass is springing up everywhere, and the welcome Banjara with his bullocks may reappear.

Major Hutton Dawson has, I understand, sufficient stores of grain in the Kotra District to last till the end of September.

At the time of writing I regret to say a telegram has come from Colonel Bignell announcing a serious outbreak of pleuro-pneumonia among the Kherwara cattle. I am inquiring of the Government of India whether he could be enabled to try inoculation as a preventive against the spread of this fatal disease.

8. In last month's report I referred to my correspondence with Missionaries of various denominations regarding the distress and mortality which prevailed among the Bhils. It will be convenient to mention here the results of that correspondence. It will be remembered that on the 25th of May the Bishop of Lahore presided over a Meeting of the Church Missionary Society at Amritsar, at which an account of the distress was given, compiled from different

sources. This account, which perhaps was somewhat highly coloured, did not precisely indicate the localities affected or the degree of suffering and mortality in each. The want of supplies, the transport difficulties, the dearth of water and the insecurity of the chief lines of traffic were all referred to, but the point brought most prominently to notice was that 40 per cent. of "the Bhil population" were dead and 50 per cent. of the remainder must die before the rains ceased. About the same time a letter signed by a clergyman in Mussoorie appeared in the "Pioneer." At my request Major Dunlop Smith wrote to this gentleman and obtained the names of several of his informants, with whom we put ourselves in communication. With the exception, however, of Mr. Outram, they all lived in Guzerat, or in the Native States outside Rajputana, so their statements did not practically affect the province. Mr. Outram, of the Church Missionary Society in Kherwara, replied, accepting responsibility for the estimates of mortality supplied to the Amritsar meeting. He explained that he had obtained his figures from Colonel Bignell in the course of conversation. The latter officer in sending on Mr. Outram's letter protested against casual remarks at the mess table being too seriously treated. Mr. Outram went on to say that as 60 per cent. of those on his own relief lists had died of the effects of famine, small-pox, cholera, and other diseases, he considered Colonel Bignell's estimate to be below the mark. He overlooked the fact, however, that the persons on his lists belong to the most destitute section of the community, which deprives his conclusion of any real value. In a recent report of relief operations the Political Superintendent made an elaborate calculation of the number of Bhils who had died or disappeared, estimating the total in the Kherwara district at from 35 to 50 per cent. of the population. In order to check this estimate (which comprised a good deal of guess work), he took an elaborate house to house census of the four worst and of the four best villages, the latter containing a large proportion of army pensioners. He found that the "dead and missing" amounted to from 39½ to 28 per cent. in the worst, and to 12¾ per cent. in the best, villages. For various reasons, which I refrain from going into, the mortality among the Kherwara Bhils has unquestionably been greater than in any other part of the province. It is difficult to form an accurate estimate of its extent, and it is impossible to say what proportion is due to starvation and purely famine causes as distinguished from cholera, small-pox, and other diseases. The following is an attempt to estimate the mortality among the Rajputana Bhils (including deaths from starvation) for the whole period of the famine, based on the reports we have received and the assumption that the rains will continue favourable.

In Sirohi 7 per cent., in Mewar 25 per cent., in the Hilly Tracts 30 per cent., in Banswara 15 per cent., in Dungarpur 12 per cent., in Pertabgarh 8 per cent., and in Kushalgarh 8 per cent.

In a normal year, with no epidemics, the mortality during the same period would, perhaps, be about 4 per cent. The difficulties in the way of relieving the Bhil in spite of himself are enormous. Some of those who left in search of pasture by the southern passes in the beginning of the famine returned, saying, "there is no food, and no grazing in the whole world," and could not be persuaded that food would be obtainable if they sought for it on a relief work. At one time Colonel Bignell gave out contracts for mats and lime to the well-to-do in the distant *pals*. They performed a certain portion of their task, but, when asked to bring the consignments into cantonments replied, "who would take so much trouble?" In the Bhil estimation, agriculture and robbery are the only two pursuits fit for a man. Their superstition and distrust helped to complicate the situation. Many of those who were brought too late into the Kherwara poor-house remarked before they died that they had not come before because the Sahibs had sworn to fill the valley near the poor-houses with corpses in order to propitiate the goddess who was ravaging the country. At the same time their generosity to each other, and their devotion to persons whom they know and esteem, are quite remarkable. They were starving Bhils who tended the late Mr. Thompson, under a tree in the jungle, when he died of cholera, who reverently brought his body into the nearest mission school, and who handed

over intact a large bag of money which had been entrusted to them by the dying man.

The Hilly Tracts have had ample showers of rain lately, and every village is believed to have grain in the ground. I am told the change of expression on the faces of the Bhils is very marked and pleasant to see. As one old Bhil observed to Major Dawson, "Bapji, my heart has come back to my body."

DUNGARPUR.—SMALLER SESODIA STATES.

9. Numbers on relief rose rapidly in Dungarpur during July, chiefly owing to increasing confidence on the part of the people. Between the 11th and the 15th July general heavy rain fell, and agricultural operations were started everywhere. The exodus from the works began at once, but all the dependants who seemed to require special treatment were put on the gratuitous lists. Crime has shrunk to its normal proportions and the high roads are safe. Towards the end of June large numbers of the Palmi Bhils came on to the works. Until recently, when order was restored, they were among the most daring and successful dakaits and steadily refused to look at a famine work. The inhabitants of two *pals* continue refractory and refuse all friendly overtures. The Assistant Resident has, therefore, been authorised to have recourse to punitive measures. Grain imports have fallen as the heavy rain has induced the local grain dealers to open the stores which they have been concealing throughout the famine. The lists of persons to receive takavi advances and charitable grants were completed just before the rain arrived, and the seed grain has all been distributed.

Now that grazing is available the surviving cattle are picking up and advances for the purchase of plough bullocks are being issued. Five hundred animals, bought in Central India with the Charitable Fund money, were expected to arrive towards the end of July.

BANSWARA.

The numbers on relief in Banswara have fallen by 41 per cent. in consequence of the good rain. The works are being gradually closed and labour is concentrated at a few central places. Last month I alluded to a communication received from a missionary at Jhalod inside the Guzerat border to the effect that the Banswara Bhils on the Jhalod works were raiding to the north of the Panch Mahals. As a corrective, a relief work was started at Chilkari near the Guzerat boundary, and the Banswara people at Jhalod were brought back on to it. The Assistant Resident spent the greater part of the month in distributing takavi loans and charitable gifts. Lieutenant Patterson has also marched through large number of villages checking the distribution and ascertaining that the money has been properly applied.

PERTABGARH.

In Pertabgarh a fall of no less than 77 per cent. leaves only a little over 1,000 persons in receipt of relief, but the famine administration has always been effective in this State, and this rapid decrease gives cause for no apprehension. The Assistant Resident, while on tour, noticed a great change in the appearance of the Bhil *pals*. Most of their occupants have returned and are busily engaged in weeding their fields and repairing their houses. The largest tank project has been completely deserted except by the skilled workmen paid at special rates. Here, as elsewhere, the supply of fresh cattle is not equal to the demand, and the Assistant Resident has made arrangements to import animals from Central India.

Grazing is now available, and the future is opening brightly.

TONK.

10. As the traces of cholera disappeared in the latter half of June and the monsoon showed no signs of appearing, the attendance on the works in

the home pergannas and in Nimbahera rapidly increased. On the 9th July, however, exactly twelve months to a day since the last considerable rainfall, the monsoon broke, causing most of the cultivators to leave the works. Those who had lost their all in the struggle for existence and whom the bannias would not help were assisted from the charitable fund. Indeed, everyone who went away received a small sum of money to help him on his homeward journey. By the end of the month the numbers on relief had fallen by just under 40 per cent. In the Tonk perganna, where the relations of the bohras with the zamindars are of the nature of banker and client, the takavi advances were given by the State officials to the bohras at the request of the people themselves.

The zamindars hope with the assistance they have received to be able to bring at least three-fourths of the normal area under kharif cultivation. In the matter of takavi the jagir villages have not been treated so generously as the khalsa villages. This was only to be expected, but I have requested all political officers to see that the charitable fund allotment is divided fairly between the two classes. In the Aligarh district the bohra system does not obtain and the takavi has been given to the people themselves. The charitable grants have been distributed along with the State loans on the lines recommended by the Calcutta Central Committee. Although the delay in the setting in of the rains gave rise to great anxiety and depression of spirits, it facilitated the grain imports which were needed for this season.

The Revenue Superintendent purchased 350 very good bullocks in Rutlam for Nimbahera, and this perganna has lately received 450 more from Sironj. All of these travelled by road, fodder being issued to the Rutlam animals at the relief depôts *en route*.

The Sironj cattle marched across country bringing their fodder with them in 112 carts. Rain delayed them on the way, and as one quarter of the animals were unbroken, a stampede occurred. Twenty-two were eventually returned as dead or missing, and 14 who were too weak to proceed had to be sold by auction. 400 additional head were shortly afterwards expected from Chabra. The bannias are readily advancing money to the zamindars, many of whom have gone off to buy cattle on their own account. The consignment of Nepal rice was distributed (in quantities sufficient to last a fortnight) to all the cultivators leaving the works.

BUNDI.

11. During the first ten days of July the numbers on the works rose more rapidly than in any other State, and there was a steady increase in the applications for admission to the poor-house in spite of continual drafting to the works. The drafts were not permitted to work between 11 A.M. and 4 P.M., and their physical condition rapidly improved, notwithstanding insufficient shelter. The takavi and charitable lists were completed by June, but those compiled in the outlying tahsils were incomplete and so obviously inequitable that Lieutenant Haworth revised them himself. In the beginning some attempts were made by the subordinate officials to gain a profit out of these grants, but a sentence in one case of seven years' rigorous imprisonment checked this tendency. A ten days' break in the monsoon induced a return of people to the works, but an abundant rainfall in the closing week of July caused a decrease of one quarter in the total number. The liberal grants from the charitable funds were much appreciated, the recipients remarking that it was "a royal method" of closing a famine. Even the poor-house population is melting away. The Political Agent has sent me a graphic description of the distribution of new clothes to the inmates before their departure, who, when dressed in their clean apparel, looked twice as strong and plump as they did before. Each man and woman carried away as a parting present a hoe, or sickle, some grain and a trifling sum in cash. The free issue of bullocks had also its dramatic side. The animals were penned close by, and as each recipient's name was read out he was given a paper stating that the bullock was a free gift, and with it he received from Rs. 5 to Rs. 10 to pay for its food. He was then sent into the pen, where with some difficulty he caught his animal and marched it off in triumph with his pagri tied round its neck.

Captain Younghusband writes that he doubts if £10,000 have ever been spent to such good purpose.

A few relief works will be kept open in case of a prolonged break in the rains, nor will the poor-houses be closed until all fear of another crop failure is over. These last are now stocked with a plentiful supply of medicines, sago, arrowroot, Mellin's food, condensed milk, essence of mutton, clothing and blankets. At the same time the medical arrangements have been much improved. Captain Younghusband has been enabled to materially increase the trained staff by means of a private fund which he has raised among friends, and he reports that, as he has now secured the services of one "retired" Assistant Surgeon and one "failed" Assistant Surgeon, the sick are receiving all reasonable care.

KOTAH.

12. The number of persons on works in Kotah has also fallen by one quarter. The decrease has been mainly confined to the civil agency works which chiefly attracted the cultivating classes. The fluctuations on the railway works have been slight. The fresh Government loan of one lakh has enabled the Darbar to issue orders to the district officials to grant relief to all who ask for it, and I have requested the Political Agent to impress upon the administration the grave responsibility of curtailing operations. Lieutenant James, who has left for China with his regiment, has been succeeded by another Staff Corps Officer, and the Maharao, accompanied by the Political Agent, will start, when the rain permits, on a tour of inspection through one-third of the State, the other two-thirds being visited by the Agency Surgeon and State Engineer. The whole of Kotah has received abundant rain, and if the same energy which now marks the administration of direct relief is displayed in setting up the broken down cultivators and providing seed grain and plough bullocks, the harvest should not be more than 25 per cent. below the normal.

JHALAWAR.

Jhalawar has also received capital rain, and the numbers on relief have fallen by one-third to a little over 22,000. Sowings of maize and cotton are completed, and the rest of the culturable land is being put under the cheaper cereals. There has not been any great mortality among the cattle, and if assistance is freely given to the destitute cultivators, Jhalawar should reap a normal kharif. The prospects of the Agency are therefore good.

JAIPUR.

13. Mr. Irwin now describes the prospects in Jaipur and Kishengarh as excellent. There was general rain during the second week in July, though the quantity varied from 10 inches at Sawai Madhopur to 2 inches or less in parts of Shekhawati. Ploughing and sowing began at once. Then came a break of 10 days, during which dry west winds again blew and general apprehension was felt. The second advance of the monsoon current, however, brought heavy showers, and has put everybody in good heart. The only tract where anxiety was felt is the north-east corner of Shekhawati on the Loharu border, but on the 1st August all except five villages received good rain. The numbers on relief have decreased by 22 per cent. The land owning classes have all left the works, and the farm labourers should leave in the course of the next week when field weeding begins. The bohras, or money lenders, have begun to help the people, and as grazing is available, the large cattle home, containing 900 animals, has been broken up. The Resident reports that a comparatively large proportion of the plough and well bullocks have weathered the famine, probably the mortality is under 30 per cent. Cholera has died out in Jaipur city, but lingers in a sporadic form in a few villages. The complete immunity from the disease which Sirdar Dhanpat Rai's camp has enjoyed speaks volumes for that officer's

administrative ability. In last month's report I mentioned the impediment to relief operations caused by the congestion of traffic on the Rajputana-Malwa Railway, owing to a deficiency of rolling stock. I had, however, no intention of imputing any blame to the Traffic Department, whose head, Mr. Seymour Wood, has shown great energy and administrative capacity in arranging for the heavy imports of grain and fodder. In many cases he has been obliged to pack grain and hay in 3rd class carriages. Some idea of the difficulties he had to contend against may be gathered from two complications which arose within a few days of each other. In the last week of June the water supply at Bawal, the station next to Rewari, unexpectedly failed. This meant the stoppage of five trains a day until a sufficient number of water tanks could be run out from the nearest reservoir. In the following week the station staff at Kanauta, between Jaipur and Bandikui, were attacked by cholera, and all but the station-master died or deserted. The latter concluded it was time for him to depart also; he therefore telegraphed his resignation to the Traffic Superintendent, informed the station masters on either side of him that for purposes of communication his station had ceased to exist, severed his telegraphic earth connection, locked the siding points so as to allow trains to run right through, gave "line clear" to the approaching passenger train, and boarded it as it left the platform. The man has not since been heard of.

KISHANGARH.

The rain came not a day too soon for Kishangarh. The works had to be kept open much longer than was contemplated, and the cash balances were dangerously reduced by the 10th July. The numbers on works had declined on the 31st July by 16 per cent., but this was more than counter-balanced by a rise of 28 per cent. on the gratuitous list. These fluctuations show how carefully the Darbar have avoided curtailing relief too rapidly. They have bought between 600 and 700 head of cattle, and have issued a very large number of hand ploughs. No little trouble has been taken to induce the cultivators to use these, and with greater success here than anywhere else. On Mr. Irwin's suggestions the Darbar have promised to try the experiment of using donkeys for the plough. The Kumhars or potters who own donkeys are to begin on plots of khalsa land. If the people's prejudices can be overcome a great advance will have been made.

I am glad to be able to report favourably of the small Thakurate of Lawa, where the tanks and wells are all full, and the normal area has been put under cultivation. The cattle which perished have been replaced from a private fund collected by the Resident, and only one or two families have been reduced to using hand ploughs. Mr. Irwin, I regret to say, has now left Rajputana. The chiefs and people in the Jaipur Residency are under great obligations to him. It is greatly due to his administrative ability, his sympathy with the people, and his knowledge of their wants, that the famine campaign has been so successfully fought in this part of the province. Mr. Irwin has freely given both his time and money to helping the distressed. The province can ill afford to lose him.

ALWAR.

14. The first burst of the monsoon gave but little rain to Alwar, and up to the 28th of July the numbers on relief steadily rose. The turbulent Meo population grew very restless, and the people became possessed of gloomy forebodings. The good effects of the showers about the 12th July were dissipated by the succeeding drought, but the change that set in on the 27th July has completely altered the situation. It is remarkable that the relief units increased during July by 9 per cent., in spite of many cultivators leaving the works on the 28th and 29th. Up till May there was little mortality among the cattle, but since then they have rapidly deteriorated, and the Political Agent is afraid that the cultivated area for this kharif will be considerably below the normal.

EASTERN STATES AGENCY.

15. The States in this Agency, except in the north and north-west of Bharatpur, have received fair rain from the Bengal monsoon current, and the numbers on relief in Bharatpur have fallen by over one third to under 7,000, while in Karauli relief operations have entirely ceased. The grass crop in Bharatpur is not promising, Colonel Herbert says.

AJMER-MERWARA.

16. This district received heavy rain between the 9th and 12th July, which was followed, as elsewhere, by a break of ten days, when hot-weather conditions again prevailed. On the 28th July the second burst of the monsoon occurred, and since then there has been no cause for anxiety. The heaviest rain fell in the south of Ajmer, but all over the district sufficient showers were received to enable ploughing and sowing to be carried on. By the end of the month the numbers on relief had fallen by nearly one-third to 106,521, which is the lowest total recorded since February. The majority of the people who left belonged to the landowning classes, the decrease being greatest in the Ajmer tahsil. The distribution of Government advances and of Charitable Fund money for the purchase of seed and cattle has been made under the personal supervision of the Assistant Commissioners, their native Assistants, and the Famine Officers. Altogether a sum of no less than Rs. 3,80,480 was given out, and it is hoped that it will be legitimately spent. My fear is that bullocks may not be obtainable locally, and that the money may be devoted to other objects. The Commissioner reports that the cattle which left the districts a year ago are beginning to return. Apparently, no steps have been taken to procure cattle from outside, and I hear of no professional dealers bringing in animals for sale.

Mr. Tucker is not yet in a position to say what the kharif-cultivated area will be, but unless conditions for ploughing improve I am inclined to think it may be from 25 to 40 per cent. below the normal. In Merwara a good deal of hand ploughing is said to be going on.

In spite of the rain, prices have kept wonderfully steady. The first tendency for them to fall appeared in the return for the week ending the 28th July. Until, however, the next harvest is assured over the greater part of India affected by famine, there cannot be much change. Grain imports show some signs of slackening in Merwara. Hide exports from Ajmer have been falling off, but in Merwara the weekly average for July was the highest on record. Cholera still lingers on a few works in Ajmer, but the periodical inspection reports show that the general condition of the people is good.

GENERAL.

17. There is every reason to believe that the high-water mark of distress was reached during the first part of July, when the majority of the bohras said that now the last days of Asar (4th to 11th July) had come without rain, they must, in self-defence, stop all advances. At that time the meteorological reports were discouraging, and the ravages of cholera coming on the top of the long weary strain of famine had tended to fill the minds of the officials and the people alike with grave apprehensions. Altogether, the outlook was gloomy. But the first burst of the monsoon on the 9th and 10th of July effectually dispelled all forebodings, and inspired every one with fresh hope. The short subsequent drought somewhat revived anxiety, but the second strong advance of the rain currents in their ordinary direction across Guzerat has unmistakably changed the whole aspect of affairs. History repeats itself, and there is reason to think that this, the worst recorded famine in Rajputana, will resemble its predecessors in the method of its extinction by late and good rains. The various Darbars and the officials engaged in the work of relief, and—in a conspicuous degree—the distressed people themselves, have borne the trials of deferred hope with exemplary patience and fortitude.

CHARITABLE RELIEF FROM OUTSIDE.

18. We have now received from the Central Committee of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund altogether Rs. 18,55,000. This has been distributed as follows :—

State.	Amount.
Bikaner	Rs. 1,30,000
Sirohi	75,000
Marwar	2,75,000
Jaisalmer	65,000
Mewar	2,23,000
Banswara	27,000
Pertabgarh	20,000
Dungarpur	32,000
Kushalgarh	5,000
Shahpura	41,000
Tonk	1,20,000
Bundi	1,60,000
Kotah	1,22,000
Jhalawar	33,000
Kishangarh	90,000
Hilly Tracts, Mewar	53,000
Mount Abu	2,000
Ajmer-Merwara	2,60,000
Total	17,33,000

The balance has been retained to meet the charges of the emigrants' relief depôts and unforeseen contingencies.

I have forwarded to the Central Committee accounts received from different officers of the manner in which the money has been spent, and the feeling of gratitude its distribution has evoked.

The following are examples of the expressions of the people :—

"If the English had not sent us this money, the thread of our lives would have broken."

"These are not rupees that have come from over the sea, they are the water of life."

"We have heard of the generosity of Hatmi Tai, but we have tasted that of the Great Queen."

It is not uncommonly thought that the issue of gifts and the liberal lines on which famine relief has been organised have brought about a demoralization of the people. Individual instances proving this contention can no doubt be cited, but proofs to the contrary also exist.

Mr. Irwin records in the course of one of his tours meeting a Jat whom he urged to go to the nearest relief work some 25 miles away giving him some money to help him and his family to get there. A few hours later the man came to the Resident's tent and returned the money saying he had misled the Sahib in stating that he had reached the end of his resources as he still possessed three goats which would suffice for the requirements of the journey. The man was wisely allowed to return the money and to retain his self-respect. This is only one case among others I could quote.

The various private charitable organizations at work in Rajputana continue to give assistance, and fresh contributions both from India and England are received. During July, Mr. Jehangir Bomanji Petit sent the Famine Commissioner Rs. 1,000 out of his "Two anna Relief Fund" for distribution in the most distressed districts.

No. 216.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. C. Wyllie, C.I.E., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General, Rajputana, to His Excellency the Viceroy, dated Mount Abu, the 12th September, 1900.

In my last famine report I remarked that if the favourable rainfall continued we might hope to date the turning point of the famine from July, and the appended statement* affords satisfactory evidence that our hope has been realised. August opened under happy auspices, and the decline in numbers on relief which had set in towards the end of July was accelerated. Whereas in July the total on the relief lists fell by little more than one-quarter, the fall in August was nearly one-half. As was to be expected, the workers disappeared most rapidly. Their number has decreased by 53 per cent. compared with a falling off in the gratuitous lists of only 34 per cent. The only State where an increase has been recorded is Kotah, the reasons for which are explained further on. The heaviest proportionate falls have occurred in the Western Rajputana States (where the people have shown wonderful recuperative power) and in Bundi, the totals on relief in each case being less than one-fourth of those recorded in June.

BIKANER.

2. In Bikaner, which showed the heaviest fall in July, the numbers on relief in August declined by over one-third. Practically the whole of the small famine labour was concentrated on the city extension scheme at modified market rates. None of the emigrants who have been flocking back from Sind and Bhawalpur have applied for relief. The sick and infirm are concentrated in three poor-houses. Sufficient rain for the crops has fallen all over the State, and the heavy showers received during the last few days of the month have ensured exceptionally rich pasturage. Locusts have made their appearance for the first time this year, but fortunately only in small numbers. These pests rarely fail to follow a famine in Rajputana. If they come when the crops are young, the nipping of the young shoots has frequently merely the effect of pruning; but if the grain has begun to form in the ear they cause cruel loss.

His Highness the Maharaja, attended by his capable famine assistant, Thakur Dip Singh, has left for China, and the Commandant of the State Infantry is in charge of the closing operations.

MARWAR.

3. The rainfall of the month varied from an average of 3 inches in the northern and western districts to over 22 inches in Desuri, the chief town of Godwar, the eastern district. In July only about one-fifth of the people left

* Not printed.

the works, while the total of the gratuitous lists actually increased. During August the former have declined by as much as 90 per cent., and the latter by nearly two-thirds. Subsistence allowance varying from 15 to 30 days' rations were given to agricultural labourers returning to their homes. The jaghir and civil agency works are almost entirely closed, and the people who remain are employed in completing a few of the larger Public Works Department projects. A pleasant feature of the relief operations in August is an increase of 36 per cent. in the number of girls in the State orphanage, indicating an increased sense of responsibility on the part of the central administration in connection with one of the saddest effects of a great famine.

Ploughing and sowing have been going on briskly throughout the State, and the early bajra is beginning to come into the market. Cotton and late autumn crops were being sown up till the very end of the month, and although the area under cultivation in the western districts is below the normal, there is every prospect of a good kharif and a splendid rabi. The prices of food grains have fallen, barley selling for from 9 to 15 seers per British rupee. The prejudice against the hand ploughs has been largely overcome in the light sandy tracts, but elsewhere the people have preferred to use spades and even axes for tilling the soil. All the tanks are overflowing, and grass is abundant everywhere.

The physical condition of the people shows a marked improvement, and the number of deaths from diseases connected with famine fell from 1,693 in July to 1,258 in August. At the same time I regret to say that cholera still clings to the large towns, where the cases are numerous. In July only 115 deaths from cholera were returned for the whole of Marwar. During August no less than 649 were recorded in the city of Jodhpur alone.

JAISALMER.

4. The reports from Jaisalmer as to the prospects of the season are equally encouraging. Relief works have been entirely closed. The only persons now shown as receiving relief are orphans and a few sick and infirm persons who are being supported from charitable grants until their relations are in a position to resume charge of them. The rainfall has been general, the average in August amounting to 2.01 inches as compared with 1.04 in July and 0.23 in June. Grass has sprung up everywhere, and the people are hastening back from Sind and Bhawalpur. If Jaisalmer has shared in the heavy rain of the last few days, 1900 will be a record year. In spite of a large decrease in the imports of food supplies, the prices of grain have fallen. Grasses producing edible grain are also now available. The physique of the people has improved, and they are in good heart.

SIROHI.

5. As reported last month, the monsoon currents failed to penetrate into Sirohi until the third week in July, up to which time the numbers on relief steadily rose. Conditions, however, were so consistently favourable throughout August that relief works have been closed and the numbers on the gratuitous lists have fallen by more than one-half. All the famine labourers received a subsistence allowance for their homeward journey and sufficient money to support them for a few days in their villages. In addition, every cultivator was directed to report himself to the district officer with a view to his receiving a free gift or loan for the purchase of seed and cattle should local inquiry show such advances to be necessary. The procedure is commendable, but its efficacy depends entirely on the Raj officials, who as a rule, I fear, are not distinguished for either honesty or efficiency. 300 bullocks have been imported by the Darbar, and are now being distributed; but great difficulty is experienced in finding animals to purchase, the markets as far east as the Central Provinces having already been exploited by the Agents of other Rajputana States. In Sirohi hand ploughs have made no advance in public favour; the people leaving the orphanage has at last been established in the capital, to which children are drafted from the outlying relief centres. The management of the poor-houses at Abu

Road and Kohern has much improved under the direct supervision of a native officer and a non-commissioned officer of the Ehinpura Irregular Force. The chief feature of relief in August was the issue of loans and gifts to cultivators, a task which was personally undertaken by Mr. Knight, the State Engineer, in the four worst districts, and by the Diwan in the others. In the course of their tours inquiry was made regarding the assistance being given by the Bohras to their clients, and wherever it was found that any Bohra or buniah had refused to advance money to a cultivator possessing land (and therefore regarded as solvent), he was told that unless he did his duty by his client now, the recovery from him of any old debt would have to be indefinitely postponed. These injunctions have caused many a cautious money-lender to open his hoards who was afraid to make any advances except upon an absolutely certain crop.

MEWAR.

6. The numbers on relief have continued to fall in Mewar, though not as quickly as in July. The decrease on works in August has been only just over 10 per cent. The chief reason for this is that distress was allowed to develop so far in the jagir areas that the people have been unable to dispense with State aid as soon as their more fortunate fellow subjects in the khalsa villages. The credit for maintaining relief works against the wish of some of the Jagirdars is due to His Highness the Maharana. The khalsa works are now largely deserted. The rainfall has been exceptionally heavy in many parts of the State, and many of the dams erected by famine labour have failed to withstand the heavy floods.

Crime is diminishing, and thanks to abundant grass, the condition of the cattle is improving. A large decrease of 42 per cent. in the numbers on gratuitous relief is chiefly due to the curtailing of charitable operations by the Jagirdars and the Deosthan (temple agency). There has not been much diminution of numbers in the State poor-houses; during the current month, however, this branch of relief will be largely curtailed. A thousand bullocks purchased with charitable funds have arrived from Sehore and Jhansi. I had an opportunity at Chitor of inspecting a batch of 250 of these animals. They were a good level lot, and well worth the thirty-five rupees a head which had been paid for them. There were a few young bulls amongst them, but no cows. The distribution of gifts from the charitable funds has been carried out by Messrs. Wakefield and St. John. Captain Pinney, I regret to say, contracted dysentery from exposure on tour early in the month, and has been obliged to take leave. The distributing officers had to exercise the greatest care in seeing that the people clearly understood they were receiving gifts, and in preventing the subordinate officials from taking some of the money. On one occasion the son of a Thakur with no inconsiderable means was discovered levying an impost of four rupees on every recipient on his father's estates. He was brought into Udaipur, and handed over to the Darbar for punishment. Against this and one or two other instances of rapacious greed may be placed the experience of one of the Famine Officers with the Thakur of Unklia. The latter is an old Rahtor whose ancestors were formerly subordinate to Bednor, one of the leading Mewar nobles. More than a century ago, however, when the drums and insignia of the Maharana Ursi II. were passing through the district, they were attacked by robbers, and the then Thakur of Unklia succeeded, after a hard fight, in driving off the marauders. For this service he was given a village to be held in direct jagir from the Darbar, and was made independent of his former over-lord. Bad seasons, heavy calls in connection with social ceremonies, combined, doubtless, with bad management, have left the present representative deep in debt. This year's famine completed his ruin, and he is now so destitute as to be frequently unable to provide sufficient food for his household. In distributing the charitable grants, the Famine Officer calculated the share of the Unklia tenants to be Rs. 350. When the Thakur was asked to submit a list of deserving persons to whom the money should be given, he produced an estimate of only Rs. 262, saying he could not honestly push up the total any higher. The rest of the story may be told in the Famine Officer's own words. "Aware of his personal circumstances, I said, 'Thakur Sahib, I will now distribute the amount you have recorded, but in addition I

would like you to take one hundred rupees to use as you think fit.' He replied, 'I would not know what to do with it, Sahib, for I have no other tenants to whom I could give it.' It was of no use trying to beat about the bush any more, and as there was no one else present, I said to him, 'Will you take this sum yourself as a token of brotherhood from your English fellow subjects of the Great Queen.' He replied, 'Sahib, you are very good, but I am a Rahtor; I could not take charity.' I answered, 'Take it then as a private loan from me. You can repay me when I ask for it.' To this he consented, and I had to accept a formal receipt from him. 'Sahib,' he said, 'God bless you. I will pay you fifty rupees on the reaping of this crop and the remainder on the next crop.' He will try to do so I feel sure, and I shall then have to devise some means of avoiding repayment."

7. There has been abundant rain in the hilly tracts of Kherwara and Kotra, and the numbers on relief have declined by nearly sixty per cent. The majority of the Bhils are at work on their fields, but large numbers prefer to remain idle and to pick up what food they can in the jungles. This is one great reason for the poor condition of the people throughout the Bhil country. The stronger men are using the hand-ploughs sparingly. A certain number of cattle have been imported and distributed, and the Political Superintendent and his assistant have ample funds to buy more. The difficulty is to find purchasable animals. As far as I can judge from inquiries made on my late tour to Udaipur, I am inclined to think that Colonel Bignell's estimate that 95 per cent. of the cattle in the Kherwara district had perished was distinctly exaggerated. In the Channi estate most of the Patels have succeeded in keeping their cattle alive; in Jawas there are few Patels who have not one or more plough bullocks; the Rao of Madri refused a takavi loan on the ground of his possessing bullocks, while the Bhils of more than one "pal" have contrived by successful raiding to show more cattle now than when the famine began.

Water and fodder are abundant, and there is no dearth of edible jungle products. The Bhils have taken special pains with their maize sowings, and there is reason to believe that the maize harvest will be fully equal to, if not above, the normal. The rice crop, on the other hand, will be below the average. The Political Superintendent complains of injury caused to the Kherwara and Udaipur road by the heavy rain, whereby the import of grain is much delayed. The Darbar has, however, given orders for immediate repairs.

SMALLER SESODIA STATES.

8. Up to the 27th August, 22 inches of rain had been registered at Dungarpur, and the authorities have found themselves in a position to close all the relief works, with the exception of the improvements to the Dungarpur-Kherwara road. Each dismissed able-bodied worker was given one month's subsistence allowance before he left, and all the sick and infirm were drafted to poor-houses and kitchens. The Assistant Resident hopes to close these institutions by the end of September. 500 bullocks have been imported, and Rs. 26,000 have been disbursed as loans or gifts for the purchase of seed and cattle; 300 Jaipur hand ploughs have also been distributed. With a fresh grant of Rs. 18,000 from the Provincial Committee of the Charitable Relief Fund, Lieutenant Drummond will be able to buy more seed and cattle for the spring harvest. The grain dealers have again begun to hold out for high prices as the rains greatly impede imports.

I am glad to report that only one case of dakaiti occurred in August, in which the offenders were arrested and the stolen property recovered. Equally good reports come from Pertabgarh, Banswara and Kushalgarh. Relief works have been entirely closed in the two latter, while in Pertabgarh 299 persons were still on works at the end of August. The fall in the numbers on gratuitous relief has been comparatively slight.

The area under maize cultivation in Pertabgarh is larger than usual; the crops are well advanced and very promising, except on the low lands, where they are suffering from excessive wet.

The rainfall in Pertabgarh since the 1st of June exceeds 37 inches, and a break is now urgently wanted. With full tanks and wells, the prospects of the rabi are excellent.

Lieutenant Patterson has personally supervised the distribution of Rs. 15,000 in Pertabgarh and Rs. 20,000 in Banswara, and large numbers of cattle have been imported from Malwa.

270 dakaitis have been arrested in Banswara, and crime has diminished both there and in Pertabgarh.

HARAOTI AND TONK AGENCY.

9. The numbers on relief in Tonk have fallen by one half, and there are now only 1,300 persons on works. In consequence of the exhaustion of grain stocks and the blocking of traffic by floods, the difficulty in August has been to keep isolated villages supplied with sufficient food. Up to date some 1,350 cattle have been given away, which, by good management on the part of the purchasing officer, have cost only Rs. 22-4-0 per head. The Bohras have now agreed to lend money for the purchase of cattle, but it is difficult to obtain animals locally at any price. As soon, however, as the kharif sowings and the earlier plough-weedings are finished, the villagers may be able to find animals in Central India.

The authorities state that the area sown in the Tonk and Nimbahera pargannas is equal to the normal. The Political Agent distrusts this statement, but admits that the amount of land everywhere brought under the plough is far larger than he had anticipated. It is probable therefore that my estimate of three-fourths given in my report for July may be slightly exceeded.

There has been almost too much rain in Bundi, but the prospects of a good harvest are assured. All the relief works but one have been closed, and there has been a reduction of 66 per cent. in the numbers on gratuitous relief. The first half of August was employed in distributing cattle and petty grants for maintenance. During the latter part of the month there was a systematic weeding out of persons on the gratuitous relief lists. All those who were sent to their homes received clothes and valedictory doles under the supervision of British officers or selected Thakurs. The railway officers very generously assisted. The medical arrangements organised by the Political Agent have continued to work smoothly, and Dr. Huntly of the Scotch Presbyterian Mission, who returned to Bundi at the beginning of August, has given useful help in connection with the orphanage.

The works have all been closed in the Chiefship of Shahpura, and there are barely 200 people on the gratuitous lists.

THE KOTAH AGENCY.

10. I reported that at the end of July the numbers on the Kotah relief works had fallen by one quarter. During August this decrease was maintained, but the numbers on gratuitous relief have nearly doubled. The result is that the total number of persons on relief of all kinds is 20 per cent. higher than it was in the previous month. Since relief operations began, the August total of 31,595 has only once been exceeded in April. The reports for August and for the last week in August have not yet reached me, so that the reasons for this increase can only be surmised. One reason may be the re-organisation of the system of gratuitous relief in villages which should have been taken in hand long ago.

This Agency has received heavier rain than any other part of Rajputana, and communications are everywhere interrupted. The maize crop in the east and south is suffering from rust, and floods in the Chambal and Kalisindh rivers have also done damage. The kharif harvest is, I fear, not so promising as in other parts of the province, but there is every prospect of a good rabi.

In the absence of the Political Agent's reports, I am unable to say what has been done in the way of providing the cultivators with seed, grain, and bullocks.

JAIPUR RESIDENCY.

11. Since the end of July the workers and the persons in receipt of gratuitous relief in Jaipur have both decreased by more than two-thirds. The total number of relief units has fallen from close on 87,000 to just over 26,000, which is the lowest total recorded since November, 1899. There was a partial break in the monsoon during the last fortnight in August, but at no time was there any sign of a return of hot weather conditions, and during the opening days of September there has been a fresh advance of a strong monsoon. The Resident reports that the standing crops are assured, and a few showers towards the end of the current month are all that is necessary to ensure an abnormal area being put under spring crops. The early bajra has begun to ripen, and will soon be in the market. The bajra in Shekhawati is said to be exceptionally fine, some of the ears being two feet in length. Grass is everywhere abundant, and the cattle are fast recovering condition. The people are taking longer to pick up strength, but cases of emaciation are now seldom met with, and as soon as cheap grain is available the poorer classes will be able to dispense with the unnutritious jungle grasses and vegetables which at present form their staple food.

Cholera is being kept under, and the usual autumnal malarial fever has not yet begun.

I was told by Colonel Durrel Pank, the Residency Surgeon, that several instances had occurred of money, even gold, being found concealed in the shoes, of apparently destitute paupers who had died in the poor-house. The explanation is that with many of the better class of cultivators it was considered a solemn duty to keep in reserve a small sum to set themselves going again when the rains came, and no amount of personal suffering would compel them to trench on this secret store.

In Kishangarh relief operations are practically at an end, but infirm and destitute persons have been collected at the central famine hospital. The American Relief Committee in Bombay have generously sent the Darbar an allotment of Rs. 5,000.

The experiment of using donkeys in the plough has not proved a success.

The Diwan has lately taken up the subject of providing suitable relief to weavers, and the Famine Commissioner has been able, through the courtesy of the Inspector-General of Prisons in the Punjab, to supply him with a simple pattern of hand loom.

Your Excellency will already have learnt of the death of Maharaja Sir Sardul Singh, G.C.I.E. His Highness, who was one of the most respected chiefs in Rajputana, had been ailing for some time, but he never allowed his own troubles to lessen his sympathy for his subjects in theirs, and the success which has attended relief measures in Kishangarh is largely due to the intelligent interest he took in all the details. I am glad to say he has left a very promising son.

ALWAR.

12. The rainfall in the north, centre, and south of the State was fairly good during the early part of August, but the situation in the four eastern tahsils has given cause for some anxiety. Only partial showers fell there during the first half of the month, so that the young crops were ill-prepared to withstand the drought which followed. Only a slight decrease has occurred among the workers, and an increase of 6 per cent. is observable in the numbers on gratuitous relief. Although towards the middle of August the numbers on works had fallen from over 8,000 to under 5,000, the total during the last week of the month had again risen to 6,500. I have, however, reason to believe that the heavy rain of the first week in September has extended to the eastern tahsils, and has proved of much benefit.

Cholera has reappeared and claimed more victims during the month under review than in the previous quarter.

EASTERN RAJPUTANA STATES.

14. Karauli and Dholpur have continued to receive good rain, and all relief operations in Karauli have ceased. The physique of the people and condition of the cattle may now be described as normal. Although the monsoon was much delayed and the hilly tracts in both States suffered to some extent from a depletion of agricultural stock, there is every reason to hope that the area under kharif crops will be up to the average, while the harvest outturn should be exceptionally good. Up to the end of August the prospects in Bharatpur were not so promising. In at least two tahsils cultivation was carried on with difficulty, and the grass crop over nearly half the State was insufficient. On the 25th August, however, a wet period set in, during which Nagar and Pahari, the two worst districts, received each five inches of rain. This will revive the standing crops, will enable some late sowings to be made, and, what is almost more important, should ensure good pasturage. The numbers on relief have fallen by nearly one-third, from under 7,000 to about 4,500, but these figures were given before the recent beneficial rainfall.

AJMER-MERWARA.

15. Good rain fell all over the district during the beginning and middle of August. A break followed during the latter part of the month, but with the setting in of September there has been a fresh advance of the monsoon, and the all anxiety as regards the kharif harvest has been removed. In spite of the long delay in the arrival of the monsoon, the rainfall generally is up to the average, while in the south of Ajmer it is in excess. The tanks and wells have filled, so that the prospects of the spring harvest are very hopeful. Over the whole district the workers have decreased by 41 per cent., but the totals on gratuitous relief have fallen by only 15 per cent. The variations between Ajmer and Merwara are very marked. In Ajmer all the relief works have been closed, but in Merwara upwards of 40,000 workers remain. Relief operations have now lasted in Merwara for over two years, and the question arises whether a large section of the population is not disposed to regard assistance from Government as the natural condition of life. I have addressed the Commissioner on this subject, and indicated the measures which may profitably be adopted to induce the people to resume their former habits. It would appear that most of the men have deserted the works, leaving the women and children to stay on until the ripening of the harvest, while many of the latter disappear from the works for one or two days in the week to help in weeding. The condition of the people in the district is good; but the high death rate in Ajmer city and suburbs continues. Cholera has not yet finally disappeared. The Commissioner reports that the wanderers from native states are physically much reduced, but the number of these persons cannot be large.

Towards the end of the month grain prices had a downward tendency, but the market will not recover its normal tone until the large dealers are in a position to ascertain the character of the kharif harvest over Upper India generally. At present two favourable indications may be noted; prices are inclined to fall and the weekly import trade in food grains is so contracting as to be barely sufficient to meet pressing local demands.

GENERAL.

16. At the end of August the total of relief units in Rajputana was lower than it had been at any time during the previous ten months, and amounted to only 1.9 per cent. of the population as compared with 5.2 per cent. at the end of June. During August, Rajputana may be said to have entered on the second stage of its recuperation, and the fact that this narrative deals more with the development of agricultural operations than with the details of the various relief measures shows that good progress towards recovery is being made.

Your Excellency will gather from the foregoing paragraphs that the situation is distinctly hopeful over the whole province. I have lately journeyed by rail from Abu road to Udaipur, Ajmer, Bharatpur and Jaipur. The whole

country presents a marvellous transformation scene. Two months ago the land was a bare brown and arid desert; to-day, as far as the eye can reach, it is covered with crops and green pasture almost up to the edge of the sleepers. Stony hills which looked incapable of producing a blade of grass now appear a mass of tangled vegetation—rivers and nullahs are running, and pools of water are lying about.

A harvest more than sufficient for immediate wants is assured, and we may fairly anticipate that the sowing for the rabi will be carried out under very favourable conditions. But a considerable period must elapse before the province can recover its full measure of economic prosperity, and the process will necessitate a vigilant and careful administration on the part of the different Darbars. One of the most important measures to be undertaken to repair losses is the breeding and replacement of cattle, for which selected bulls and cows should be imported and distributed in favourable localities. It is, however, difficult to induce chiefs to take an interest in such matters which they have long been accustomed to allow to take care of themselves. Banjaras and cattle dealers have not yet appeared in any numbers owing to the difficulties of travel in the rains, but even when the withdrawal of the monsoon enables them to bring in cattle, their contributions will not go far to make up existing deficiencies.

Since I last wrote we have received a further allotment from the Central Committee of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund of Rs. 3,75,000. The greater part of this sum has been distributed for the purchase of plough bullocks and seed grain.

The condition of the people generally has much improved, although cholera diarrhoea and dysentery continue to claim many victims.

No. 217.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, to the Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, Abu, No. 3644-I.-A., dated Simla, the 1st October, 1901.

We should like to have a brief up-to-date report on the agricultural position and prospects in Rajputana, and to receive the earliest possible warning if there is cause for serious anxiety in any quarter.

No. 218.

Letter from G. G. White, Esq., M.I.C.E., Secretary to the Agents to the Governor-General and Chief Commissioner, in the Public Works Department, Rajputana and Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 3620-S., dated Mount Abu, the 3rd October, 1901.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your telegram No. 3644-I.-A., dated the 1st October, 1901, and in reply to report as follows:—

2. Kharif crops are withering or withered for want of rain, the need for which is universal. Prospects are generally unfavourable, except where irrigation from wells or tanks is possible. Commencement of operations for rabi has been reported in Alwar and Jaisalmer only, and the general shortness of the rainfall may, it is feared, arrest these elsewhere. Fodder and pasturage is sufficient everywhere. Agricultural stock is generally reported to be in good condition. It is to be remembered that in consequence of the large reduction in numbers of the cattle, owing to recent famine, a much smaller supply of fodder is now required than normally.

3. Prices of cheap staples show a general tendency to rise, but they are so far below 12 seers per rupee and range up to 20 seers.

4. The present general impression seems to be that although the prospects of a good kharif harvest have been lost in all states except Dholpur, Kotah, Jhallawar and Karauli, the failure will not be so great anywhere as to cause distress, except perhaps in a few small areas over which special watch is being kept, for instance, parts of Marwar.

5. No signs of emigration or restlessness have as yet been reported.

6. I am to add that measures have been taken by the Honourable the Agent to the Governor-General and Chief Commissioner to prevent being taken by surprise as follows:—

Political Officers in every State have been instructed to arrange with their respective Darbars to adopt the safeguards against the danger of unpreparedness prescribed in paragraph 24, Part VI., of the Report of the recent Famine Commission.

They are directed to report at once any unusual movements of flocks and herds in search of pasturage, and any unusual wandering of the people.

They are also to urge the Darbars to institute a system of registration both as regards numbers and destination of human beings and herds of cattle emigrating from the States, and to inform the Civil or Political Officers of the British District or Native State to which any emigration has taken place.

It has been explained to all the Darbars through Political Officers that the object in view is not to restrict but to organise and regulate emigration, and to maintain the protection due from the State to its subjects over emigrants after they have left its territory.

7. The views of the Government of India on the subject of the advantage to be gained by adopting the system of village works as the principal means of famine labour, as contained in paragraph 8 of their Resolution No. 12-43-30 in the Revenue and Agricultural Department (Famine) of the 26th August, 1901, have been communicated to all the Darbars, and the immediate preparation of revised programmes of such works for each State, advised.

8. In Ajmer-Merwara, action for the registration of emigrating herds of cattle and human beings has been taken, and the fullest effect is being given to all other requisite precautionary measures.

The local Revenue and Public Works officers, assisted by the Superintending Engineer on special duty for famine protective works and a staff of surveyors, are engaged in selecting and projecting a number of village works, principally improvements and additions to tanks, that will give suitable employment as village works if necessary to provide relief of the kind.

9. Detailed reports are now being called for of the prospects of Ajmer-Merwara, and of each State, on the receipt of which a further report will be submitted to the Government of India.

10. The rainfall has been particularly short in parts of Marwar, Sirohi, Bundi, Tonk, Shahpura, Alwar, Kishengarh, Bharatpur, and Ajmer-Merwara. The two British districts have had about half the normal rainfall.

No. 219.

Extract of Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, to the Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, Abu, No. 3801-I.-A., dated Simla, the 14th October, 1901.

Your Works letter 3620-S., October 3rd. Prospects in Rajputana. What is wanted just now is correct information, and it appears to Government of India that it would be an advantage, as a measure of precaution, to depute a special officer to make a rapid tour of the country, and to report on the actual outturn of the kharif, the prospects of sowing the rabi, and the existence of signs of distress. The course of prices should receive his careful attention, he

should have had sufficient revenue experience to form a rough judgment of agricultural prospects, and a man with actual experience of famine is required.

No. 220.

Extract of Telegram from the Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, to the Foreign Secretary, Simla, No. 5473-G., dated Abu, the 15th October, 1901.

Your telegram, 3801-I.-A.—I concur fully as to advantage of deputation of special officer to examine and report on crop prospects over affected area in Rajputana. If available, I would suggest Beville as being well suited by experience and qualifications for the appointment. I am submitting further report very shortly on the fresh information now collected. The position, though serious, is not so immediately threatening anywhere as it was at commencement of the last period of distress.

No. 221.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, to the Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, Abu, No. 3926-I.-A., dated Simla, the 27th October, 1901.

Your telegram 5473-G., October 15th.—Please expedite the promised further report which will presumably show to what extent position has improved owing to recent rain, and which should give your revised opinion as to question whether deputation of special officer is now necessary, and if necessary, when he should be appointed.

No. 222.

Telegram from the Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, to the Foreign Secretary, Simla. No. 4092, dated Abu, the 28th October, 1901.

Your telegram No. 3926-I.-A. I am in constant communication with Political Officers and Commissioner Ajmer, but official reports delay probably by change in conditions due to recent general fall of rain. I hope to submit a further detailed report about the 3rd proximo. At present, anxiety regarding any immediate occurrence of distress is confined to hilly tracts of Mewar where resident is making personal enquires. So far as I am at present informed, the deputation of a special officer for famine administration or enquiry may be deferred until 1st December.

No. 223.

Letter from G. G. White, Esq., M.I.C.E., Secretary to the Agents to the Governor-General Public Works Department, Rajputana and Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 4278 S., dated Mount Abu, the 5th November, 1901.

In continuation of my telegram in the Public Works Department, No. 4092, dated 28th October, 1901, I have the honour, by direction, to submit the

following report on the agricultural situation, crop prospects, and the proposed arrangements for famine relief, when the necessity arises, in the Native States of Rajputana. A similar report dealing with the districts of Ajmer-Merwara is being submitted separately.

2. *Rainfall.*—The marginal table shows the actual rainfall in each State from 1st June to end of

	1901.	Average.
Bikaner	5.54	10.47
Marwar	6.88	13.25
Jaisalmer	5.44	7.18
Sirohi	6.30	22.83
Mewar	17.11	25.67
Kherwara	11.34	26.99
Shahpura	13.52	16.20
Tonk	9.39	16.66
Bundi	17.28	Not known.
Kota	19.50	29.10
Jhalawar	31.04	37.39
Jaipur	14.12	24.12
Kishangarh	9.80	Not known.
Alwar	12.79	29.61
Bharatpur	13.23	25.34
Karanli	26.58	29.65
Dholpur	23.23	Not known.
Average	14.30	22.61

of damage will, it is believed, have in many places to be reckoned with in connection with the rabi crop from the time that the seed is put into the ground.

3. *Kharif outturn.*—As far as can be gathered from the general terms in which the information is available, the return on the area sown for the kharif in Bikaner and Western Rajputana is between half an anna in Jaisalmer, one anna in Bikaner, two annas in Sirohi, and four annas in Marwar. In the Bhil country in the Hilly Tracts of Mewar, the outturn is estimated at two annas, and severe distress is apprehended there. No figures have yet come to hand from Tonk, but I understand that the crops there have suffered severely. In the Bundi State, the harvest gathered over an area of 1,841 square miles is between six and eight annas and 12 annas over the rest. The estimated outturn in Kishangarh is only four annas; in Kota and the Shahpura Chiefship eight annas, and in Jhalawar something less than the normal. No estimates of the harvest have yet been furnished for the States of Dungarpur, Banswara, but Partabgarh reports that the Banswara Bhils are in an unsettled condition, and have commenced raiding over portions of the adjacent States of Central India and Partabgarh. At the same time the earlier reports of the crop prospects in these States were not altogether unfavourable.

In the affected tahsils of Malpura and Sambhar of Jaipur, an outturn of about seven or eight annas in the rupee is expected, and in the eastern tahsils, of that State 12 annas. In the Bharatpur State the kharif harvest in the Bharatpur and Kumer Tahsils has been a poor one, but it was somewhat better in the rest of the State. In Alwar and Karauli, the outturn is between 8 and 11 annas; in Dholpur 12 annas.

4. *Rabi prospects.*—The prospects of rabi over some of the above-mentioned areas are also bad. The rabi cultivation in Bikaner and Jaisalmer is restricted to about 1/7th of the normal, and in Sirohi to one-half. The Marwar Darbar anticipate rabi sowings of 1/6ths of the normal.

In the Hilly Tracts of Mewar rabi will only be sown on the banks of rivers and in the beds of tanks. The rabi sowings in Kota and Jhalawar will be about seven-eighths of the normal, and in Shahpura one-half. It is reported that in Kishangarh the want of rain in September and October has rendered the soil too hard to admit of rabi cultivation, except in the beds of tanks and round wells, and not more than a five or six annas rabi crop is at present anticipated. In Bundi, between 6 and 12 annas crop is expected. But the whole aspect of the rabi crops here and elsewhere may be altered for the better by seasonable rains in November and December. In the Bharatpur and Kumher Tahsils of the Bharatpur State, a very small area will be cultivated for the rabi, but in the other tahsils possibly the normal area. Alwar, Karauli and Dholpur also expect almost normal rabi sowings, and Jaipur more than half the normal.

5. *Effect of recent rain.*—The rainfall towards the end of October, 1901, which is shown in the margin, has been very beneficial to the cotton crops and the low lands in Kishangarh. In the Malpura Tahsil of Jaipur, it has given a stimulus to the rabi operations, as also in the Karauli and Bharatpur States. But where, as in Sirohi and parts of Jaipur, owing to the depredations of the locusts the injury to the crops was past remedy, there has not been much change in the situation. Taking the whole of Rajputana into consideration, unless a seasonable rainfall occurs in the winter, it

	Rainfall.
Marwar	0.56
Kherwara... ..	0.64
Shahpura	0.39
Tonk	1.55
Bundi	1.22
Kota	0.26
Jaipur	0.91
Kishangarh	0.50
Alwar	0.42
Bharatpur	2.35
Karauli	2.40
Dholpur	0.74

would not, I think, be safe to hope for a contraction of the affected area as above described.

6. *Food-stocks, fodder, &c.*—Fortunately, however, as previously reported, fodder and pasturage are sufficient everywhere, and the condition of the agricultural live stock continues to be good. There seems to be no cause for anxiety on the score of water-supply; with one exception the stocks of food-grains are reported to be sufficient, or are being replenished by imports. The exception is in the case of the Hilly Tracts of Mewar where the stocks are reported to be inadequate for local requirements, but it is understood that fresh supplies are being imported from Udaipur.

Prices.—The prices of the cheapest grains range from 22½ seers in the Bundi State to 11¼ in the Hilly Tracts of the Mewar State. The average price of the cheapest grain (arrived at by adding together the prices prevailing in each State and dividing by the total number of States) is at the end of October, 1901, 16 seers per rupee, as compared with 14 seers last year, 9¾ seers in the famine year of 1899, and 25 seers in the scarcity year 1898, for the corresponding week in each case. In comparing the above prices, it should be remembered that in October, 1900, famine was just over, and though in October prices were still high, they went down with a run in November to normal figures.

The agricultural population for the present finds sufficient work in gathering such crops as are left, fodder firewood and jungle products, or are repairing and deepening their wells by means of taccavi loans advanced by the bohras or the State. Instances of taccavi advances reported are as follows:—Jaipur, Kishangarh, Alwar and Bharatpur. The Honourable the Agent to the Governor-General hopes that no general necessity will arise for opening relief

works until about January, 1902, or later in some places, provided taccavi loans and other subsidiary relief measures are freely applied.

7. In the Bhil country of Mewar the outlook is less hopeful. Here relief in some shape will be required before the month of December. From the shy and timid nature of the Bhil, famine relief in those parts is, as experience taught last famine, a very difficult problem. The difficulties are enhanced by bad communications, and the financial embarrassments of the petty Chiefs, who hold that part of the country under the suzerainty of His Highness the Maharana of Udaipur. Major Pinhey has advised the Maharana to advance to these Chiefs the funds required for famine relief purposes, but recommends that an experienced Government Engineer, following the precedent of Mr. Wakefield's employment in Bednaur and Deogarh in the famine of 1899–1900, should be deputed to assist the Political Superintendent in organising relief works and supervising their execution. I am awaiting the results of Major Pinhey's correspondence with His Highness on the subject of these proposals, and am inclined to think that His Highness will, by assisting the Chiefs himself, render it unnecessary to apply to the Government of India for a famine loan.

Major Pinhey is now at Kherwara, and will report shortly on the measures proposed for relief.

8. *Famine loans.*—The question of famine loans to those Native States which may need assistance will form the subject of a separate communication. As already reported in my telegram No. 4111, dated the 29th October, 1901, I do not anticipate that more than two lakhs of rupees will be required within the next two months under this head. But all Political Officers have been addressed on the subject, and I am awaiting formal applications from the Darbars for such loans.

NO. 224.

Telegram from Foreign Secretary, Simla, to the Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, Mount Abu, No. 4199 I.A., dated the 13th November, 1901.

Your Works letter 4278 S., November 5th, appears to indicate that there is now no serious cause for anxiety, except in Mewar Hilly Tracts, where Pinhey will no doubt make satisfactory arrangements. I assume that October rains resulted in large increase of rabi sowings, especially as average provincial rate for cheapest grain was reported at nearly 17 seers the rupee on 5th November, against 15½ seers on 26th October, and under 10 seers in October, 1899. It seems probable that there may be a demand for relief next month in Bikaner, parts of Sirohi, Marwar, Kishangarh, and perhaps in Jaipur. You will no doubt advise the Darbars concerned to complete their arrangements for opening poor-houses whenever required. It appears reasonable to hope that relief works proper will hardly be necessary on any large scale, and that liberal taccavi advances, with organised grass-cutting operations and expansion of ordinary public works programmes, should suffice in most parts. Please let me know your own plans. If you could make a rapid tour to central points on railway within threatened area, your experience of famine and knowledge of the province would probably enable you to gauge the situation and might render the deputation of a special officer unnecessary. It would be an advantage if your future reports included statistics of rail-borne traffic in grain.

No. 225.

Telegram from the Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, Abu, to the Foreign Secretary, Simla, No. 6095 G., dated 18th November, 1901.

Your telegram, No. 4199 I.-A., of 13th instant. Latest reports from Resident, Mewar, have necessitated application, as already submitted, for famine loan for Hilly Tracts as urgent measure owing to failure of resources of Bhumat Chiefs an impossibility of procuring grain supplies locally for relief purposes. No immediate commencement of actual distress anticipated elsewhere by latest reports. October rains reported to have benefited cotton crops considerably, and assisted rabi cultivation of tank beds and low lands to certain extent. Falls generally insufficient to materially alter position, but much will depend on winter rainfall. Taccavi advances have been liberally arranged for in Ajmer, Merwara and in some Native States, but detailed reports not yet received. I am leaving for Ajmer to-morrow, and have arranged my tour so as to include areas most unfavourably reported on. Shall reach Kherwara early in December and proceed thence *via* Dungarpur, Banswara and Partabgarh to Haraoti and Tonk Agency. Will keep you informed of condition each district visited, but consider severe distress inevitable in areas affected remote from railway, more specially in smaller States under Mewara Residency and Bhils tracts generally. Anticipate services of Special Famine Assistant to carry on Secretariat work, and help in duties of supervision of relief measures in Native States will be necessary before end of December.

No. 226.

Telegram from the Secretary to the Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana in the Public Works Department, Abu, to the Foreign Secretary, Simla, No. 4480, dated the 15th November, 1901.

Reference this office No. 4278, dated 5th. Resident, Mewar, reports urgent need of relief in Hilly Tracts in December, on basis of estimated three-anna kharif crop and very limited rabi cultivation owing to ravages of rats and deficient moisture. It is doubtful whether negotiations for advances to Bhumat Chiefs can be completed with Mewar Darbar without considerable delay, whilst Resident considers it urgently necessary to provide funds immediately for preliminary expenditure, including importation of grain for relief works. Under these circumstances, Colonel Thornton solicits sanction by wire for famine loan of Rs. 50,000 to be placed at the disposal of Superintendent, Hilly Tracts, at the Ajmer Treasury on terms to be arranged hereafter between the Bhumat Chiefs and the Mewar Darbar. The above to be included in the two lakhs already reported as possibly required for famine loans to Native States.

No. 227.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, to the Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, Camp, No. 4281 I.-A., dated the 20th November, 1901.

Your telegram 4480, November 15th. Loan of Rs. 50,000 sanctioned for expenditure on famine relief in Mewar Hilly Tracts. Terms to be arranged hereafter.

No. 228.

Letter from G. G. White, Esq., M.I.C.E., Secretary to the Agents to the Governor-General in the Public Works Department, Rajputana and Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department. No. 451 S.C., dated Ajmer, the 23rd November, 1901.

(1) To the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 4480, dated 15th November 1901.

(2) From the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 4281 I.A., dated 20th November, 1901.

In continuation of telegrams as per margin on the subject of a famine loan of Rs. 50,000 for relief in the territories of the Bhumat Chiefs in the Hilly Tracts of Mewar, I am directed to submit the following further particulars regarding the coming scarcity and the proposed measures of relief in that country.

2. The results of the kharif harvest and the prospects of the rabi are shown in the following table:—

Estates.	Total area. Sqr. mile.	Kharif.	Rabi.
		Annas.	Annas.
Jawas	50	3	2
Para	60	2	Nil.
Madri	100	3	4 to 6
Chani	30	2	2
Thana	45	2	Nil.
Jura	500	The failure of the kharif harvest, and the prospects of the next spring harvest are no less serious in these than in the other estates.	
Panurwa	400		
Oghna	365		

3. It is reported that the stocks of grain with the dealers will be exhausted by the end of December. The water-supply will, it is expected, hold out for drinking purposes, but is insufficient in some places for irrigating the rabi. The plague of rats has further reduced the possibilities of rabi cultivation and so great is the multitude of these animals that, as Major Pinhey reports, it is dangerous on account of the innumerable rat holes to ride along the roads. Fodder is said to be sufficient at present, but jungle fires lighted by the people, with the idea of destroying the rats, are becoming frequent, and are rapidly consuming the grass.

4. There has been some hesitation on the part of the Mewar Darbar in accepting the Resident's proposals regarding the terms on which the Darbar should advance the required money to the Chiefs, and it was, therefore, found necessary, in view of the growing distress, to apply to the Supreme Government for assistance, leaving the question of repayment or adjustment of the loan for future settlement. A further communication will be made on this subject when the provisional negotiations have proceeded further.

5. The probable requirements of the Bhumat Chiefs are shown in the following table:—

Estate.					Amount required.
					Rs. (British currency.)
Jawas	...	...	...	...	13,530
Para	...	...	...	...	6,060
Madri	...	...	...	...	3,370
Chani	...	...	...	...	2,420
Thana	...	...	...	...	2,420
Jura	...	...	...	...	9,090
Panurwa	...	...	...	...	7,050
Oghna	...	...	...	...	6,060
Total	...	...	...	...	50,000

6. With regard to relief measures, the Honourable the Agent to the Governor-General proposes to follow the same lines as were followed in the famine of 1899-1900, and to place the administration of relief in the hands of Major Dawson, the Political Superintendent, Hilly Tracts, Mewar. A programme of works has been drawn up, and gratuitous relief will be provided as necessary. A competent British Engineer officer will be required to assist Major Dawson in the organisation and supervision of relief works, and Colonel Thornton takes this opportunity of requesting that an Assistant Engineer, one, if possible, who has already had some famine experience, may be placed at his disposal for this purpose as soon as possible. The cost of this officer's deputation might, it is suggested, be borne by the Supreme Government in view of the fact that Chiefs are not in a position to afford the charge.

7. The scheme of relief also includes the importation of grain for use on famine relief works in all the estates except Oghna. It is alleged by the local officers that the general objections to State interference with local trade do not apply to the case of the Hilly Tracts of Mewar. A description of the country need not be given here, as the Government of India are aware of its nature—wild, mountainous and remote from the railway. The condition of its roads, where there are any, is bad, and, as the Resident reports, the hire of a cart from Udaipur to Kherwara has already risen from Rs. 8 to Rs. 25. The petty local traders have expressed to the Resident their inability to cope with the difficulties of the situation. The Honourable the Officiating Agent to the Governor-General is, therefore, constrained to accept the proposal to import grain—a measure which is supported by the precedent of 1899-1900, when Rs. 70,000 were advanced by the Government of India for the purchase and sale of grain to the local dealers.

No. 229.

Letter from G. G. White, Esq., M.I.C.E., Secretary to the Agents to the Governor General in the Public Works Department, Rajputana and Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department. No. 734, S.C., dated Camp Goda, the 31st December, 1901.

In continuation of this office letter No. 4278 S., dated 5th November 1901, and with reference to your telegram No. 581 C., dated 14th December 1901, calling for report on the general situation in the Native States of Rajputana I

am directed to state that the areas and population affected by the failure of the last *kharif* crops are as shown in the table beneath:—

Name of State or Chiefship.	Total area. Sq. Miles.	Total Population.	Affected area. Sq. Miles.	Affected Population.
Bikaner	23,311	584,627	23,311	584,627
Marwar	34,963	1,935,565	16,904	712,664
Jaisalmer	16,062	73,370	16,062	73,370
Sirohi	1,964	154,544	1,964	154,544
Mewar, excluding Bhumat Hilly Tracts.	11,203	995,005	Not reported.	
Bhumat Hilly Tracts, Mewar	1,550	35,207	1,550	35,207
Partabgarh	886	52,025	Not reported.	
Banswara	1,606	149,128		
Kushalgarh	340	16,222		
Dungarpur	1,447	100,103	1,447	100,103
Shahpura	405	42,676	Not reported.	
Bundi	2,220	171,227	935	43,000
Tonk	1,114	143,330	977	126,168
Lawa	19	2,671	19	2,671
Jaipur	15,579	2,658,666	3,057	295,346
Kishangarh	858	90,970	858	90,970
Bharatpur	1,982	626,665	137	47,635

2. Conditions in Kotah and Jhallawar show no signs of scarcity. In Kotah, fodder is abundant and the gram crop covering a large area is looking well. The "Jao" crop in Jhallawar has also greatly improved.

3. The Alwar State Council report that there has been a change for the better since October last. No distress whatever is apparent in any part of the State.

4. The Dholpur State also has no cause for anxiety at present, but the hilly portion of the Bari and Baseri tehsils may feel a want of fodder later on. The area likely to be so affected is estimated at 300 square miles with a population of between 15,000 and 20,000.

5. The last of the States where no scarcity is apprehended is Karauli. The outturn of the *kharif* harvest in this State is said to be about 12 annas in the rupee. The revenue demand is being paid in by the cultivators without difficulty, and the *rabi* sowings are about three-fourth of the normal.

	Number.
To Punjab	25,628
„ Sind	14,800
„ Jaipur	256
„ Marwar	12
„ North-Western Provinces	125
„ Unknown places	6,448
Within Bikaner State	1,512
Total	48,781

6. Turning to the States included in the table at paragraph 1 above, the whole State of Bikaner is likely to be more or less affected. A large emigration, as shown in the margin, has taken place since the first indications of scarcity up to 23rd November, 1901. But the Darbar reports that these numbers are not as yet so high as those which ordinarily leave the country to seek agricultural employment during the winter months in other districts.

The remaining population are reported to find subsistence for the present by the collection of grass and fodder for sale, whilst such of them as possess means hope to be able to tide over the hard times, thanks to the cheapness of food-grains. No relief measures have therefore so far become necessary. His Highness the Maharaja and the Diwan are touring in different directions in order to gauge the necessities of the situation. In the meantime the Darbar have somewhat expanded their ordinary public works in the capital, on which about 1,500 able-bodied labourers are employed.

7. The Marwar Darbar has opened three test-works for the benefit of the criminal tribes. The number of persons employed on these at the end of November last was 249, excluding 311 persons paid under the ordinary contract system. The Darbar had also under consideration when its report for November was made out, the establishment of poor-houses at Barmer, Erinpura Road, Nawa and Bure. From the copy of the famine statement for November herewith enclosed, it will be observed that 79,475 persons have left the country.

Assuming that none have escaped registration, the number recorded represents 10 per cent. of the affected population. It is, however, known that practically the whole of these emigrants have gone to cultivate land or to find a subsistence by labour in Sind where the Nara valley canal works and other similar projects furnish a practically inexhaustible amount of remunerative employment. No complaints of pauperism or destitution amongst these emigrants have been received from the authorities in Sind with whom this office is in constant communication.

8. In the Jaisalmer State, the whole of which is returned as affected, the *kharif* outturn, as already reported, was a very poor one, about half an anna in the rupee, and the prospects of the *rabi* are equally unfavourable. In the three weeks ending the 7th December, 1901, 3,299 persons and 76 animals had left the country. The same remarks, however, apply to this emigration as above given for Marwar. The Darbar, moreover, proposes to open relief measures if any necessity arises in January, 1902.

9. The seriously affected area in the Sirohi State comprises the two tehsils of Jhorakharal and Magra where the present drought has been more pronounced than in the other tehsils, but up to the present time no necessity for opening test-works or introducing any special relief measures has been reported. There are, however, indications that some degree of distress will shortly have to be combated both in the above areas and in other portion of the State, but the State authorities have been kept on the alert, and the special attention of the Resident has been directed to the supervision of the Bhil and Grassia tracts in which Colonel Thornton considers relief measures will probably be required within the next few weeks.

The Sirohi Darbar has asked for and obtained a famine loan of Rs. 50,000 from the Government of India, the first instalment amounting to Rs. 20,000, being payable on the 1st January, 1902, so that relief arrangements can be started immediately they are required.

10. The report received from the Political Agent, Eastern Rajputana States, shows that although the Bharatpur Council have provided funds and selected relief works to be commenced in the event of any signs of distress occurring, the affected area is confined to portions of two tehsils whilst the condition of the State as a whole is satisfactory, and no apprehension of any serious development of distress need be entertained.

11. The Bundi Darbar apprehends scarcity in three tehsils lying in the hilly portion of the State where only a six-anna harvest was reaped, and the area sown for the *rabi* is about one-third of the normal. The Darbar does not, however, consider that relief measures are required at present. In the remaining tehsils the *kharif* outturn was between 8 and 12 annas, and the tanks and wells are fairly full to secure a *rabi* harvest in the same proportion. Speaking generally, there is much private demand for agricultural labour, but the numbers in the labouring class are so reduced, in consequence no doubt of the large mortality of 1899-1900, that it cannot keep the demand supplied.

12. Reporting on Shahpura in November last, Captain Prideaux stated that here the conditions were probably more serious than in Bundi, the water in

the tanks and wells was very low and the prospects of the *rabi*, as sowings were much restricted, were bad. More recent information received from the Political Agent, Haraoti and Tonk, goes, however, to show that the apprehension felt in November has been to a large extent dissipated by the more accurate information since obtained as to the *rabi* prospects. It is now anticipated that although a considerable falling off in the average revenue of the Chiefship will have to be faced, there will be no serious scarcity or demand for relief works. At the same time provision has been made for giving relief to those requiring it in isolated cases. The Government loan of Rs. 35,000 sanctioned for famine purposes will not therefore be required unless distress occurs unexpectedly towards the close of the hot weather.

13. Although there has been a serious failure of crops in the Tonk and Nimbahera parganas of the Tonk State, it is stated by the Laud Revenue Superintendent of the State that the only administrative action required for the present is the suspension of the land revenue demand, and that by doing this the necessity for relief works will have been deferred until a month or two before the rains break; but that if such suspensions be not granted, relief works on a large scale will be required in February 1902. The Darbar as yet has given no opinion on the situation. From the information available Mr. Edwards reports that there will be no need to start any form of relief for the present or for some time to come.

14. The average outturn of the *kharif* in Kishengarh was $3\frac{1}{2}$ annas. The *rabi* estimates are less than 6 annas on the whole. In no tehsil did the *kharif* outturn amount to more than $5\frac{1}{4}$ annas, nor does the *rabi* promise to be more than 7 annas anywhere.

The State Council have shown their alertness by opening test works in two tehsils worst affected, and the same will be done in the other two tehsils a few weeks later when agricultural work ceases. Over 400 persons are already in receipt of gratuitous relief in villages, the expenditure being met from private subscriptions. The numbers, it is anticipated, will eventually rise to 1,000, while the number of people requiring relief on works is estimated at 6,000. The Resident is satisfied that every possible effort is being made to afford relief in the coming months.

15. As much cannot be said of Jaipur, Mr. Cobb states that he cannot view the present position of affairs there without considerable misgivings. It seems that both His Highness the Maharaja and the Resident would have been left almost entirely in the dark as to the present scarcity if, at the Resident's strong request, special officers had not been sent out to the affected area. Severe scarcity has to be faced in Malpura and Sambhar, and the failure of crops over a considerable portion of Shekawati is as complete as it was during the last famine. The Resident proposes to visit Malpura and Sambhar, but in the meantime he has strongly urged on the Revenue Member of the Council the necessity of making early arrangements for famine relief.

The Honourable the Officiating Agent to the Governor-General has arranged to tour during the next fortnight through the affected Malpura tehsil and will then be in a better position to report on the sufficiency or otherwise of the measures initiated by the Jaipur Darbar. He has, however, no reason to apprehend any more severe or immediate distress in Jaipur than in other affected States in Rajputana.

16. No report has been received from Lawa of the precise present condition of this petty Chiefship, but sanction has been received for a Government famine loan of Rs. 5,000 to meet any possible emergency, and Colonel Thornton hopes to be able visit the estate or at least to interview the Thakur and his officials during his present tour.

17. No detailed report have yet been received from Mewar, Partabgarh, Banswara or Kushalgarh, but from the information collected by Colonel Thornton during his present tour through the above States (except Kushalgarh) the position of affairs has nowhere reached a critical stage.

In Mewar, the areas most affected are undoubtedly the hilly Bhil tracts in the south and west of the State. Relief works have been opened in the Bhumat

Chiefships under the Kherwara and Kotra Superintendencies where the failure of the *kharif* harvest is known to have been very general, whilst owing to the enormous numbers of the field rats which have spread over the whole country, no possibility of cultivating any *rabi* crop exists. The above indisputable facts fully justify the apprehension that distress of a more or less widespread and intense character must be experienced as the hot season approaches, but up to the present time no signs of insufficiency of food or physical deterioration were met with either in the Khalsa or Bhumat areas of Mewar.

18. The same remarks apply to Dungarpur and Banswara which were traversed by the Honourable the Officiating Agent to the Governor-General from end to end. Grain was being freely imported into all the States, but it is believed that the cultivating classes had still a proportion of the "mukki" crop of the last *kharif* harvest stored in their houses on which they were subsisting. It is also hoped that the mohwa crop may prove of material assistance in maintaining the foodstocks, but it was too early to form an estimate of this source of supply as the trees had not begun to flower.

The relief arrangements in Dungarpur are well advanced, and a loan of Rs. 50,000, of which the first instalment of Rs. 30,000 will be available on the 1st January, has been sanctioned by Government. One large test work had been opened in the Genji Zillah of Dungarpur at the time of Colonel Thornton's visit, but particulars of the numbers employed or of the precise conditions under which admissions to the work was regulated were not available at the time, though it is believed that the arrangements for enforcing a strict compliance with the rules prescribed for the conduct of such works have since been carried into effect as directed.

19. The prevailing conditions in Banswara were similar to those met with in Kherwara and Dungarpur, but fortunately the prospects of any severe distress in the future are slightly more favourable than in the latter States, for owing to financial disorder and the apathy and misgovernment of the present Chief regarding which a separate report is under preparation, no provision for famine relief expenditure has yet been made in this State. This matter is under investigation and elaboration by the special Assistant Resident, Captain Hamilton, and the Resident in Mewar, Major Pinhey, whose proposals will be submitted as soon as the enquiry is complete.

In Pertabgarh, the conditions are distinctly more favourable owing to the comparative slowness of the plague of rats and the prospects of a moderate *rabi* which only requires an average fall of rain to become secure.

In the event of this reasonable anticipation being realised it is hoped that relief measures may be altogether unnecessary in this State, but in any event the Darbar is prepared to carry out relief measures to the extent that may be required with the aid of the financial assistance recently given to the State by the Government of India.

20. The present conditions for the whole of Rajputana, excluding Ajmer Merwara, which is being separately dealt with, may therefore be summarised as follows :—

In no State has anything approaching actual present distress calling for extensive relief measures, as yet been reported or met with, and all the action taken up to this time has been of a precautionary measure. At the same time it is practically certain that more or less distress of a widespread character will have to be coped with in the Bhil and Grassite tracts of Sirohi-Mewar, Dungarpur and Banswara. In Jaipur certain of the tehsils on the western and northern border, the whole of Kishangarh and certain parts of Tonk, and possibly of Mewar, will become seriously affected and require the application of relief measures as the hot season progresses. With the exception of Mewar, which may require further supervision, all of the above Darbars have taken active steps to ascertain the probable amount of relief that will be required and to provide for its application, or are being impelled to this course by the Political Officers in charge of them.

In Marwar, Bikaner and Jaisalmer, it is probable that extensive emigration will reduce the necessity for relief measures to a minimum, but here also the

Darbars concerned are on the alert and have framed a scheme of operations to meet any emergency which may arise. All the Darbars affected by the anticipated distress have been offered pecuniary assistance to supplement their own resources, and loans have been arranged for all applicants with due regard to their financial position, and after full enquiry into the probable requirements of each State so far as our present information will permit.

No. 230.

Note by Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. C. Wyllie, C.I.E., Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, on the subject of the construction of tanks for irrigation purposes in Rajputana, dated Mount Abu, the 27th October, 1900.

The question of water-supply varies greatly in importance in different parts of the province. In the vast sandy tracts to the west of the Rajputana-Malwa Railway, comprising the States of Jodhpur, Bikaner, and Jaisalmer, scarcity of water for six months in the year may be said to be a natural condition of the country, while in central and north-east Rajputana the rainfall is precarious and capricious. On the other hand, in the more favoured States to the south-east, such as Kota, Jhalawar, Mewar, Partabgarh, Banswara and Dungarpur, a moderate to good rainfall is experienced, and severe drought only occurs at long intervals.

2. The following table, compiled from the administration reports, shows the sums devoted to irrigation works (including wells) during the last five years :—

State.	1894-95.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1898-99.	Total.	Average.	Remarks.
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Bikaner ...	15,230	21,596	17,180	6,18,677*	2,784	6,75,467	1,35,093	*Including cost of the Ghaggar canal.
Marwar ...	1,22,897	1,53,405	24,789	1,117	—	3,02,208	60,441	
Jaisalmer ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Sirohi ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Mewar ...	30,000	22,800	46,219	54,680	30,606	1,84,305	36,861	
Dungarpur...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Banswara ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Partabgarh ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Kushalgarh ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Shahpura ...	—	—	—	—	—	809	161	
Tonk ...	809	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Bundi ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Kota ...	38,032	29,577	10,253	18,926	39,780	1,36,568	27,313	
Jhalawar ...	3,511	—	1,219	15,020	25,950	45,700	9,140	
Jaipur ...	2,56,779	1,53,435	1,40,465	1,97,435	2,93,568	10,41,682	2,08,336	
Kishangarh ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Alwar ...	29,862	87,279	1,02,521	1,05,899	1,00,920	4,26,481	85,296	
Bharatpur ...	—	1,00,000	1,98,000	1,88,780	65,000	5,51,780	1,10,356	
Karauli ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Dholpur ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Total ...	4,97,120	5,68,092	5,40,546	12,00,534	5,58,608	33,65,000	6,72,997	

This table, although not exhaustive, shows that the Native States have been spending nearly 7 lakhs a year on irrigation, of which about 80 per cent. has been spent by the western, central and north-eastern States.

3. Most of the Rajputana rivers and tanks are fed by rain and rain only; therefore, when the monsoons fail, the rivers and tanks fail also. It follows that, while in years of ordinary rainfall tanks are undoubtedly of the greatest value in raising the crop production and increasing the resources of the Darbars and the people, it is possible to over-rate their utility as a protection against famine.

In the little British district of Merwara, a capital outlay of Rs. 8,77,885 has been incurred and almost every available site for a tank taken up, yet in no part of Rajputana has the stress of the recent famine been more acutely felt, as evidenced by the presence at one time of over 58 per cent. of the population on relief.

In Western Rajputana, which is more or less of a desert, nature is for ever struggling against man, and where the latter by the artificial contrivance of a water-supply increases the population, he at the same time adds to his difficulties when the rains hold off by the larger number of people he has to support.

In Jaisalmer, where the rainfall averages $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches and the population is 7 to the square mile, the generally sandy soil allows of no run-off of water; the formation of large tanks or reservoirs is, I believe, impossible, and the levels do not admit of a canal from the Indus. During the monsoon, according as the rains are favourable, two small streams, the Kahni and the Loathi-ka-Nadi, rise and run for a shorter or longer distance before losing themselves in the sand; but I doubt if they can be turned to account, and an inspection of their course in the dry season would probably not supply the needful information. In his famine note on Jaisalmer, Major Dunlop-Smith writes:—

“There is very little arable soil, cultivation being practically confined to the hollow depressions known as ‘kharins’ which lie to the east and north-west of the capital. There is no artificial irrigation and only rain crops, such as bajra, jawar and til, are grown. There is practically no rabi harvest. As the rainfall is so scanty and the culturable patches of soil are so few and far between, agriculture may be said to be of comparatively small concern to the most of the rural population, whose well-being depends for the most part on the numbers and condition of their cattle. The majority are a hard and thrifty race who lead a nomadic life for the best part of the year, grazing their flocks and herds.”

4. The following States possess the services of Engineers:—

Jaipur	... Colonel S. S. Jacob.
Jodhpur	... Mr. Walter Home.
Alwar	... Mr. Macdonald.
Bharatpur	... Mr. Devenish.
Kota and Jhalawar	... Mr. Tickell.
Mewar	... Mr. Lillie, chiefly for the Udaipur-Chitor Railway.
Tonk	... Mr. Wakefield (about to join).
Bikaner	... Mr. Clarke (Mining and General).
Dholpur	... Mr. Thorpe.

The States which may be said to lack Engineers are:—

Bundi.	Partabgarh.
Dungarpur.	Karauli.
Banswara.	Kishangarh.
	Sirohi.

The two last are fully alive to the value of irrigation works and have spent large sums on tanks which are not entered in the table given in the earlier part of this note. Sirohi has lately had the services of Mr. Knight and of Pandit Sham Nath, Executive Engineer, Mount Abu, under whose direction several big tanks have been undertaken.

Karauli enjoys an average rainfall of nearly 44 inches, is watered by the Chambal, and since the famine of 1868-69 has not suffered from famine.

5. The States, of which we know least in respect to possible irrigation projects are:—

* These States are watered by the Mahi and the Som which are perennial streams.	Bundi,	Banswara,*
	Dungarpur,*	Partabgarh,

all of which have been more or less affected by the late famine, and if the Government of India would be so good as to lend an officer with special irrigation experience to tour through these States during the present cold season, he might be able to throw valuable light on the subject under consideration—his attention might be more particularly directed to utilizing the streams which water these States by constructing dams across them. This has been effected with great success in Jodhpur by Mr. Home in the case of the Luni river at Bilara, where a lake has been created measuring approximately just now 7 miles in length and 4 in breadth.

6. The rains in Rajputana are so partial and capricious that I do not think any officer in the course of a hurried tour could express a useful opinion on the best sites for the storage of rain-water without precise figures, giving the rainfall in the catchment area for several years past.

The number of tanks in Ajmer-Merwara which pay no interest on the capital outlay show how difficult it is to frame remunerative projects, even when accurate figures are supposed to be available. As an instance, I may mention that a feeder channel constructed by Mr. Joscelyne (then Executive Engineer) in Ajmer about 1883, for the purpose of increasing the water-supply of the Anasagar lake only ran effectively for the first time this year, and the Kair tank in Ajmer made in the famine of 1891-92 at a cost of about two lakhs of rupees with a catchment area of 19 square miles had never even half filled up to this year.

7. In the event of an officer being deputed, I would recommend that he begin work in Partabgarh, which is easily reached from the Mandesaur Railway Station on the Nasirabad-Indore line, and that he march thence through Banswara to Dungarpur. This last State is under our management.

All four States are poor and three* are more or less financially embarrassed. It is not within their power to pay for the services

* Bundi, Partabgarh and Banswara. of an experienced Engineer, and the assistance it is suggested they should receive would be well bestowed, and I believe much appreciated by the Darbars. I have not, however, yet consulted the Chiefs on the subject.

No. 231.

Letter from T. C. Edwards, Esq., Officiating Under-Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign Department, to the Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, No. 175 I.-A. dated Fort William, the 11th January, 1901.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your note, dated the 27th October 1900, on the subject of irrigation works in Rajputana.

2. The Government of India agree with you as to the desirability of deputing an experienced officer to report on possible irrigation projects in Bundi, Dungarpur, Banswara and Partabgarh, and, very likely, in others of the States in addition; but they regret that it is impossible to spare a qualified officer during the remainder of the present cold weather season. Endeavour will be made to depute such an officer in the cold weather of 1901-1902. In the meantime, it would be useful if, during the intervening period, the Darbars of all the Rajputana States were invited to submit through their engineers or through such officers or persons as might be thought best qualified for the task, a report, with maps, tables of cost, &c., of the existing works, complete or incomplete, within their several areas, as well as a rough sketch of such future projects as seem to the local authorities to be worthy of examination or execution. Such a body of information should be of much assistance both to the Darbars, in the event of the recurrence of famine, and also to any independent examination which the Government of India may be desirous to institute at a later date. These reports should in each case be accompanied by a full and frank expression of opinion as to the possibility of developing by storage works, wells or otherwise, the agricultural resources of the State.

No. 232.

Letter from Major E. C. Spilsbury, R.E., Secretary to the Agents to the Governor-General and Chief Commissioner in the Public Works Department, Rajputana and Central India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 441-S., dated Mount Abu, the 23rd February, 1901.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No.175-I.A., dated 11th January 1901, regarding Irrigation works in Rajputana.

2. In reply I am to say that the matter is receiving the necessary attention in the Public Works Department. In November last Mr. T. Higham, Secretary and Inspector-General of Irrigation, visited Ajmer and conferred with the Superintending Engineer and Secretary in the Public Works Department on the subject. Previous to his visit, all the Political Officers in charge of States had been addressed, and preliminary reports obtained from them on the subject of your letter. A report embodying these reports was drawn up by the Secretary in the Public Works Department, Rajputana, for Mr. Higham's information, and the latter has issued a Note, from which it is understood that further action will be taken by the Government in the Public Works Department. In the meanwhile, additional detailed reports are being called for through Political Officers in respect to certain States which have no regularly organised Public Works Department, so that, in the event of a special officer being deputed, all essential information may be ready at his disposal.

3. I am, therefore, to say that, in the circumstances explained above, it is not proposed to take action on your letter under reply.

A copy of Superintending Engineer's report and of Mr. Higham's Note are herewith submitted. It would be convenient if printed copies could be sent for the use of this office.

Enclosure, in No. 232.

Notes by Major E. C. Spilsbury, R.E., Superintending Engineer, Rajputana and Central India, on a proposed systematic investigation for a programme of Protective Irrigation Works in Rajputana.

1. These notes are the outcome of some demi-official correspondence with Mr. T. Higham, C.I.E., Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, on a proposal to systematically investigate as to what can be best done in Rajputana and Central India for protection against famine. A memorandum accompanying the demi-official letter of 13th October, 1900, indicated the nature of the information to be collected, and a circular letter dated the 20th October, 1900, based on this memorandum, was sent to all Political Officers in Rajputana, and more or less full reports have been received from nearly all the States.

2. As the time available was very short, much of the information furnished could only be in general terms. In this connexion it will be useful to refer to a memorandum by Lieutenant-Colonel Walter, Agent to the Governor-General, Rajputana, on the condition of Irrigation in the Native States of Rajputana, which accompanied his letter No. 2502-G., dated 19th November, 1881, to the Foreign Department, herewith put up. From this memorandum it will be seen that this subject had nearly always engaged the attention of the rulers of Native States, and that much systematic work had even then been done in this direction.

3. A tabular statement of the Native States of Rajputana is attached, showing population, average rainfall, and the amounts expended on irrigation works from 1893-94 to 1898-99. Of the 19 States, the following seven have a

regularly organised Public Works Department under trained Engineers, lent by Government in most cases :—

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| (1) Jaipur. | (4) Bharatpur. |
| (2) Maiwar or Jodhpur. | (5) Alwar. |
| (3) Bikaner. | (6) & (7) Kotah (including Jhalawar). |

4. The following four States have or had recently Engineers of their own, but the Public Works Department is apparently not so well organised as in the first group :—

MEWAR OR UDAIPUR.

(8) This State has a Government Engineer in charge of the Udaipur-Chitor Railway and a State Engineer of its own.

DHOLPUR.

(9) Has a State Engineer of its own.

SIROHI.

(10) During the recent famine an Engineer was lent by Government, and he constructed several new tanks. He has lately left the State on close of relief-works.

KISHENGARH.

(11) This State seems to be well served by its native staff, and has made good progress. Being partly under Jaipur, it probably gets advice from the Public Works Department of this State.

5. The remaining eight States, viz :—

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| (12) Jaisalmer, | (16) Bundi, |
| (13) Dungarpur, | (17) Tonk, |
| (14) Banswara, | (18) Shahpura. |
| (15) Pertabgarh, | (19) Karauli, |

have no Public Works Department organisation of any kind, and in the event of any outside agency being deputed to investigate the matter, these eight States of the third group would certainly be the ones which it would be best to investigate, including probably Mewar of the second group. It will be seen from the reports further on that it will not be necessary, at any rate at first, to conduct any special investigation in any States of the first group, nor in those of the second group, except perhaps in Mewar.

6. It should here be mentioned that what is put down in these notes as to the advisability or necessity of investigating by outside agency is, as a rule, solely the personal opinion of the Political Officers concerned, and that the Darbars, as far as is known, have not been formally approached on the subject. It will, of course, be necessary to obtain their formal approval before taking any decided steps in the matter. The reports received from each State will now be noted on.

JAIPUR.

7. (a) The Resident has submitted a very full report by the Officiating Superintending Engineer of the State, herewith attached, together with the appendices A to H. This is probably the best organised State in Rajputana as regards its Public Works Department, and the report may be thus briefly summarised.

(b) The works carried out in the recent famine comprised roads, railways, and irrigation works, chiefly storage tanks. They are all parts of a previously matured scheme which would have been carried out in the ordinary course, and have all either been completed or will be in due course.

(c) There appears to be some 161 tanks of all sizes in the State under professional supervision, mostly efficient, besides many village tanks. There is scope for many more in the southern parts of the State, but not so much in the northern parts where there is much sand, and there is a regular policy of investigating and preparing projects for such works, and of carrying them out.

(d) The tanks in existence are stated to have been of the utmost use to mitigating the rigour of the famine, and many of them filled even with the scanty rainfall of 1899. In this State the tanks have shown their use in storing up sudden heavy falls of rain which occurred in 1899, and which would have been quite useless for ordinary crops. It appears that 19,462 acres were irrigated from tanks alone in 1899, not including bed cultivation. And the Resident further points out that, in the famine of 1877, the State only obtained Rs. 22,590 from irrigation from tanks, whereas in 1899 the revenue derived from the same source was Rs. 2,62,982.

(e) Jaipur is generally favourably situated as regards rainfall having an average of 24" in normal years. With the exception of the Banas, all rivers originate in the State itself. Investigation by outside agency is obviously not needed here.

MARWAR OR JODHPUR.

8. (a) The Resident's letter and tabular statement of works carried out in the recent famine are herewith attached. These works consisted of a few roads and railway earthwork, and some nine irrigation tanks. Most of these were finished or nearly so, but the largest one, the Dholera bund, which has a catchment of 400 square miles, and a capacity of 400 million cubic feet, is not yet completed. It is stated to be worth finishing, as it is expected to yield a profit of 12 per cent. on the capital cost, and it is proposed to complete it in the ordinary course.

(b) It is stated that there is only one irrigation tank of any importance in existence in the State. There are many small bunds for the temporary retention of the flow of water and subsequent cultivation of the land in the wetted bed.

(c) Generally speaking, the circumstances of Marwar are most unsuitable for the storage of water in tanks. The rainfall is scanty and capricious, the soil sandy and generally flat. The Resident, after consulting the Darbar, is of opinion that there is no scope for any further development of storage tanks for irrigation. He adds that the only possibility of further storage would be in the Luni River and its affluents, but as this river has its source in Ajmer-Merwara, the extensive system of tanks in these districts cuts off what might possibly reach Jodhpur. It may be here noted, however, that any rainfall in Ajmer-Merwara in the catchment area of the Luni is hardly likely to reach far into Jodhpur, owing to the long length of the wide and tortuous sandy bed of this river.

(d) Hence there would seem to be no need of investigation by outside agency, as this State has an efficient Public Works Department organization. Marwar is practically a desert; the people are accustomed to partial droughts, and regularly emigrate. It is not easy to see what more can be done under the local conditions obtaining, and artesian wells, if such are possible, would appear to be the only chance of ameliorating matters.

BIKANER.

9. (a) The letter with accompaniment from the Resident is herewith attached. The works carried out in the famine consisted of roads, railway, earthwork and minor tanks. The latter work appears to have been mainly the deepening of existing tanks. There are, it is stated, no storage tanks in existence in the State, except one which is used for a garden. The so-called tanks are very small affairs, apparently mainly used for watering cattle.

(b) The natural conditions are even worse here than in Marwar. Both the Resident and the Darbar are of opinion that there is no scope for further action.

Such tanks as existed dried up and were useless in the famine. The Resident refers to his letter No. 2823-G. of 25th December, 1897 (copy attached), which gives his opinion and is instructive, and it will be seen that his former opinions have been strengthened by recent events.

(c) The State has an organised Public Works Department, and its coal mines are a developing industry. It is understood that water is abundant in many parts at a depth of 300 feet or so. On the Punjab border, the Ghaggar canals were constructed two years ago, and these are the only irrigation works in the State.

(d) On the whole, it would appear that but little can be done in the matter of the storage of water. The only possible schemes seem to be the utilisation of the underground water, if it is sufficiently widely distributed, or some other scheme similar to the Ghaggar canals might perhaps be found possible. This State is essentially a desert tract, and the people are accustomed to migrate, as the natural condition of things is to be on the verge of a famine.

BHARATPUR.

10. (a) The report by the Political Agent and the State Council is attached, which enters very fully into the matter. This State has a well-organised system of Public Works. The storage and irrigation works have been systematically developed for some years, and there remains but little more to be done. A good deal of the irrigation in the State is regulated flooding from the Banganga and other rivers which rise elsewhere and flow through the State. The State has by treaty a right to a certain proportion of the water, and by suitable arrangements the water is passed over much low-lying land which is cultivated after the flood has run off.

(b) This State is as well off as probably any State in Rajputana in respect of water conservation, &c., and there would appear to be no need of any special attention to it in this respect.

ALWAR.

11. (a) The letter of the Political Agent and report of the State Engineer are attached. It appears that, though there are many tanks, only three of them are really storage ones, the remainder being, by custom, emptied for bed cultivation. Well cultivation is the most important feature in this State. The configuration of the ground generally prevents the construction of tanks of any large spread. On the whole, there does not appear to be much scope for any important extension of storage tanks, that is, of really remunerative ones. The Political Agent and the Settlement Officer are both of opinion that well extension is of more importance than the construction of new tanks, and that the wells were of more use in alleviating distress than the tanks. The latter, no doubt, indirectly benefited the wells in their vicinity.

(b) This State, it appears, is somewhat handicapped by treaty arrangements, which have prevented its using water from the Ruparel river, and by which the State of Bharatpur almost entirely benefits. There does not appear to be any need for investigation by outside agency in this State.

MEWAR OR UDAIPUR.

12. (a) The Resident's letter and report of the State Engineer are attached. There is no regularly organised Public Works Department in this State. In the last famine attention was mainly given to tank construction and repairs. A programme of famine works is also furnished. It appears that the State is well off for tanks, but they would appear to have been of no use in mitigating distress. They are of native construction and probably a good deal out of repair.

[N.B.—The railway earthwork (Baran-Ajmer-Marwar Railway) carried out in the last famine in this State was entirely supervised and conducted by Government, and the State had nothing to do with it beyond contributing the cost.]

(b) The Resident is of opinion that it would be most advantageous to depute an Engineer to examine into and report on the whole matter, as there is great scope for more work of the kind if the Darbar could be induced to agree to the proposal.

(c) It would, therefore, seem that in the State all the possibilities in this direction are by no means exhausted, and that investigation by outside agency is most desirable.

DHOLPUR.

13. The report by the Political Agent and State Engineer, herewith attached, are not very full. It appears that the subject is receiving careful attention, and as this State has a good rainfall as a rule, there does not seem very much need for outside investigation at present. The tanks, it is stated, were of use in mitigating the effects of the famine, but the famine was not very severe here.

SIROHI.

14. (a) The report of the Resident and a statement of works carried out in the famine is attached. During the recent famine, an Engineer was lent by Government to the State, and three new tanks were commenced, but not completed. It is proposed to complete the Chandela tank this year. There is only one completed tank in the State, and this was constructed as a contributory work by Government in 1899, and its distributaries are now being made. There are the usual field bunds and wells. The Resident is of opinion, after consulting the Darbar, that no possible scope exists for any further development of storage tanks on a large scale, but that well irrigation may be extended.

(b) This is a small State, and I know the Maharao personally, and that he is most anxious to extend irrigation by tanks if there are any promising sites; but except those already found, no others have been discovered. There does not seem to be any need to depute any one specially to this State, as, being close to Abu, the Executive Engineer, Mount Abu Division, can easily, if necessary, examine and report on any proposals, and, in fact, the Pindwara tank was recently carried out by that agency.

KISHENGARH.

15. (a) The Resident forwards a very full report by the Diwan, which is attached. The State has no regular Public Works Department, but in irrigation matters it appears to be well and intelligently managed, with a definite policy in respect of new tanks and of repairs to old ones, besides the extension of wells. A great number of works were carried out in the recent famine, most of which seem to have been completed. The existing tanks, with which the State is well supplied, are stated to have materially alleviated the severity of the drought, though it does not appear that many of them filled. The recent famine was specially severe in Kishengarh, I believe.

(b) This State is partly under Jaipur, and probably gets assistance from the Public Works Department of that State. There does not seem any need to introduce any outside agency for investigation.

JAISALMER.

16. (a) The resident in his letter gives a list of works carried out in the recent famine. But the works were of a very pretty character, and those that were left unfinished are stated to be not worth finishing. In this State the only tanks are small depressions or field bunds, where the soil is retentive enough in which water is collected and the bed subsequently cultivated. The Resident is of opinion that no system of storage or irrigation works will do more than utilise to the best advantage the actual rainfall of the year, and that no

portion of such rainfall can be retained to such an extent as to afford any appreciable benefit during a following year of drought.

(b) Jaisalmer is in fact still more of a desert than even Bikaner or Marwar, the rainfall scanty and uncertain, and the soil mostly sand. The Resident, after consulting the Darbar, is of opinion that there is no possible scope for any further development of irrigation works, and this is probably true, unless artesian wells should be practicable.

DUNGARPUR.

17. (a) The famine relief works in this State were few in number and unimportant. It is stated that there are a number of old native tanks, many in a good state of preservation, but they were of no material assistance in the famine. The rainfall of this State is more than the average of Rajputana. The Resident is of opinion that an investigation by an engineer of the possibilities in the way of storage would be of great use, and also to draw up a programme of relief works. But the State would be quite unable to pay for this.

BANSWARA AND PERTABGARH.

18. (a) These are both very small States. The Resident's letter is attached. Famine works on a small scale were carried out. A fair number of tanks exist, but were of no use in mitigating the effects of the famine.

(b) The Resident is of opinion that there is considerable scope for the improvement and extension of existing tanks, and that the deputation of an Engineer to examine into the question would be most advisable. But presumably neither of these two States could afford to pay for this.

BUNDI.

19. The letter of the Political Agent is attached. In the recent famine the relief works consisted of ballast collection and the earthwork of a railway (Baran-Ajmer-Marwar Railway), kunkar collection for a road, and repairs only of some tanks. There are a very large number of tanks in existence of all sizes, and they were of the utmost use in the famine. What little rain fell in 1899 came in heavy showers, and was largely stored up in the tanks. There are also a number of old, ruined and neglected tanks. He is of opinion that there is ample scope for new tanks and the repairs and improvement of old ones. As the State has no Engineer, it would be most useful to depute one to examine into the matter and prepare projects, and he enumerates some possible sites.

TONK.

20. During the famine the relief works consisted of metal collection, earthwork of a railway (Tonk-Jehazpur Line), the construction of ten new storage tanks, and the repairs of nineteen old ones. The tanks were all completed. The description and remarks in the case of Bundi apply to this State.

SHAHUPURA.

21. This little Chiefship during the famine carried out as relief works metal collection, earthwork of a railway (Baran-Ajmer-Marwar Railway), and three new storage tanks, which are complete. The deputation of an Engineer to examine into the water storage question, is considered advisable by the Political Agent.

22. No reports have been yet received from Kotah or Karauli, and they will be added as a supplement, if they should be received in time. The one striking feature in the reports of the States that have tank irrigation is the great difference in the utility of the tanks in mitigating the severity of the famine. The reason why tanks filled so well in some States is stated to have been that

the scanty rains of 1899 fell in a few heavy showers—a condition of things favourable to the filling of tanks. This is probably also the reason why the tanks in other States are reported to have been of no use, either because the rains of 1899 fell in slight showers or were very much less. Again, the large deep tanks, as in Jaipur, would last longer if filled than an equal amount in many small shallow tanks, and it may be said that most of the old native tanks are smaller ones. Hence it may be generally inferred that when the local conditions are suitable for tanks, *viz.*, a retentive soil, a fair amount of rain, a sufficient slope for a quick run off, and a suitable configuration of ground, tanks may be of great assistance, but are not by any means a preventative of famine.

24 Regarding the three desert States of Marwar, Bikaner, and Jaisalmer, it is clear that any extension of tanks in these States, except in some isolated instances will be useless. Unless artesian wells should be found practicable—and it might be worth while to try a series of experimental borings—it will probably have to be accepted that these States are practically deserts, and that the people must continue to migrate yearly as they have always been in the habit of doing. Even artesian wells would merely create a number of cases, and would not change the general condition of the country.

Enclosure 2 in No. 232.

Note by T. Higham, Esq., C.I.E., Inspector General of Irrigation, on Famine Works and Programmes in Rajputana and Central India, dated 30th November, 1900.

RAJPUTANA.

1. I arrived at Ajmer before daybreak on the 14th November, and left on the morning of the 16th. I met Major Spilsbury, the Public Works Secretary to the Agent to the Governor-General, and Mr. Manners-Smith, Executive Engineer, Ajmer Division. On the 14th I visited the Foy Sagar tank, and on the following day I inspected the site of the Oontra tank about 12 miles out of Ajmer, to the west of the Ajmer-Rewari road.

2. The irrigation works in the British Districts of Ajmer and Merwara consist of an immense number of tanks. In Marwara the whole area is covered with them, and in Ajmer, where the lie of the country is less favourable, they are numerous but more scattered. The total area reported as irrigated and protected by them, averaged for the five years ending 1897-98 about 35,000 acres, which may be taken as an index of their normal protective value, the rainfall during this period varying from 16 inches in 1895-96 to 27.64 inches in 1893-94. In 1898-99 the rainfall was only 12.35 inches and the area fell to 25,592 acres. I understand that the area in 1899-1900 was about one-sixth the average or not much more than 6,000 acres, but have not seen the report for this year during which it is evident that the tanks had a very small protective value. The capital outlay on these works is in round numbers Rs. 25,00,000, and the average cost of maintenance about Rs. 47,000 per annum. The net revenue yielded a return of 4.07 on the capital cost in 1893-94, which fell gradually to 2.68 per cent. in 1898-99, and must have been much less than this in 1899-1900. In good years, therefore, the works yield a fair return on their capital cost, and have undoubtedly a considerable protective value, though this is very small in a year of prolonged drought.

3. The capital cost of these works may thus be taken at about Rs. 70 per acre protected in an ordinary year, in which the tanks fill, and at this rate the financial results are fairly favourable. But new works cannot be constructed at anything like this rate per acre. Many of the existing works are old tanks which have merely been repaired or improved at a moderate cost, and all the most favourable sites have been long ago taken up. The Oontra tank, which I visited on the 15th, has been designed to impound 70 millions cubic feet of water, and it is estimated that this will irrigate only 700 acres, though the capital cost will be Rs. 1,26,000, exclusive of establishment charges, or Rs. 180

per acre protected in a good year. In a dry year the tank will probably not protect 100 acres, and its protective value will be practically *nil*. I understand that the cost per acre protected of other new tanks, is not likely to be much more favourable. Even if sites were available for new tanks, it is clear that an active policy in the construction of such works cannot be recommended if their cost will be as great as this in proportion to the area protected. At the same time, if famine labour has at any time to be employed, the construction of such works may be justified, for small as may be their protective value, they will probably be more useful than any others on which the labour could be employed, while the work is of a kind admirably suited for relief purposes. The conclusion is that in Ajmer-Merwara there is no longer any field for the construction of new tanks, either as remunerative projects or even as works that will provide protection against famine in any way commensurate with their great cost, but that if any such works can be proposed, they should be held in reserve as a means of employing famine labour for which they will be more useful or less useless than most other works that can be proposed. They are, in short, of greater importance as a means of providing employment for famine labour than on account of their protective value.

4. During the late famine six small tanks were completed by famine labour in Merwara, and three in Ajmer, and some feeder-channels to existing tanks were also constructed. These tanks all filled when the rains came, and will no doubt be of some protective value. Four tanks remained unfinished—the Makrera, Asan, Bar, and Oontra. On the last of these the concrete foundations for the face wall of a dam 8,000 feet long were laid and completed, the normal value of the work done being about Rs. 48,000, the total estimate being Rs. 1,26,000. The work was stopped shortly before the end of the famine by the orders of the Government of India, in consequence of the representations made by the Salt Commissioner as to the serious effect which might be anticipated from the construction of the tank on the supply to the Sambhar Lake. This is an illustration of the difficulty of constructing tanks in this district without interfering with existing interests. The local officers think that the water to be impounded by this tank would never be likely to reach the Sambhar Lake if not impounded, but the dam is never likely to be completed unless the Salt Commissioner withdraws his objections. Whether the local officer's view be right or wrong, there is not much to be said in favour of completing the tank, as the area to be protected will not exceed 700 acres, and would be much less in a dry year, and at least Rs. 78,000 will be required to complete the dam. If it is ever to be completed it should be merely for the sake of employing relief labourers, and nothing is at present required for the completion of this work. The expenditure already incurred is likely, therefore, to prove wholly infructuous, but it is satisfactory to note that famine labour has been employed successfully on the concrete work in the foundations, as work of this kind constantly occurs in tank work. The concrete which I examined was of very good quality.

5. The Makrera tank also had masonry foundations, which were not, however, quite completed. The Superintending Engineer recommends that these foundations should be completed now that all the materials have been collected and the trench excavated, and estimates the cost at Rs. 10,000 only. The earthen dam will then remain to be constructed at a cost of about Rs. 1,00,000 before the tank can be utilised, but this will prove such an excellent work for the employment of relief labour that it will be better to hold it in reserve for the next famine, merely completing the foundation work.

The Asan tank can be completed at a cost of Rs. 10,000, and this the Superintending Engineer recommends. The work at the Bar tank consists of a large masonry dam, which has been completed to a level of 6 feet only above the river bed. The Superintending Engineer does not recommend completing this work, at any rate for the present, as it will be very costly, and the return that may be expected on the expenditure will be very small. Some work is also required on one of the feeder projects which cost about Rs. 5,000. On the whole, an expenditure of about Rs. 25,000 will suffice for finishing off the irrigation works commenced in Ajmer-Merwara during the late famine to

the extent that is now considered desirable. This amount should be provided in the ordinary way under (43)—Minor Irrigation Works. Other works may be left to be completed on the next occurrence of famine, but it appears certain that there is practically no scope for any new irrigation works in these districts.

6. As to roads, a good deal of metalling was collected, but, unfortunately, consolidation by famine labour was not practicable owing to want of water. The ordinary grant for the current year has been increased to provide for consolidation on the Ajmer-Jaipur road, which has been much cut up by grain traffic, but no further special assistance appears to be required in connection with road expenditure.

7. Relief labour was also employed extensively on the Bara-Ajmer-Marwar railway. I understand that a railway officer, Mr. Harrison, whom I met in Ajmere, has been recently appointed to report on all the railway works in this and other provinces in which relief labour was employed during the late famine, for the purpose of determining which may be most advantageously completed, and the order in which they should be taken in hand. I shall not therefore refer again to railway works in this note.

NATIVE STATES IN THE RAJPUTANA AGENCY.

8. There are nineteen Native States in the Rajputana Agency, and reports on the relief works had been received from the Political Agents or Residents in all these States, except Kotah and Jhallawar. I read all these reports, which are very interesting, and which will no doubt be forwarded in due course to the Government of India. As regards Protective Irrigation Works, it may be said that conditions vary greatly. At one end of the scale there are States, such as Jaipur, Bharatpur, and Dholpur, in which there is considerable scope for the construction and extension of such works, with some prospects of an adequate financial return and of excellent results from a famine protective point of view. In these States the importance of irrigation works is fully recognised, considerable sums of money are annually devoted to their construction and maintenance, an organized Public Works establishment exists, and relief labour was largely employed during the late famine on the extension and improvement of works of this class, which proved in many cases of great protective value. Foremost among them stands Jaipur, where, under the able superintendence of Colonel Jacob, continuous progress has been made during the last 25 years, and nearly 47 lakhs have been spent on the construction and maintenance of irrigation works. Many of these works are said to have proved highly remunerative from a directly financial point of view, but it is difficult to compare the results attained with those shown for the works of the same class in Ajmer-Merwara without a close analysis of the figures that have been brought forward in each case. Of their protective value there can be little doubt. There are said to be 161 tanks, complete or incomplete, in this State which irrigated nearly 19,000 acres in 1899, though, according to the Jaipur Public Works Administration Report, the area irrigated during that year was approximately 33,000 acres. The present irrigating capacity of these works would appear to be nearly the same as that of the works in Ajmer-Merwara, although owing to more favourable rainfall the former works were more efficient during the late drought.

9. At the other end of the scale are the three desert States—Bikanir, Jeysulmir, and Marwar or Jodhpur, in which there is practically no scope whatever for storage works. During the late famine one large work, the Dholera tank, was commenced in Jodhpur which the State proposes to complete, and which is estimated to have a storage capacity of 400 millions cubic feet, though I do not know what are the prospects of the tank ever filling, but no other projects are thought possible, and the most that can be done in these States is the construction of small field bunds to hold up whatever rain water may fall. It appears to be hardly worth while to attempt any investigation of storage projects in these States.

10. Intermediate between these extremes are the States of Kotah, Jhallawar, Alwar, Mewar or Udaipur, Sirohi, Kishengarh, Tonk, Bundi, Dongarpur, Banswara, Pertabgarh, Shahpura, and Karauli. As already stated, I have

not seen the reports from Kotah and Jhallawar, but these States have in Mr. R. H. Tickell a competent Public Works Officer, who was for some years in the Punjab Irrigation Branch, and it is doubtful if they require any special assistance for the preparation of a programme of irrigation works. As to Alwar, the State Engineer, a Public Works Officer, thinks that some storage works may be possible in the hilly tracts, though it is very doubtful if they will prove remunerative, and Mr. Dwyer, whose opinion is entitled to great weight, considers that much greater protection may be afforded to Alwar by encouraging the construction of wells than by attempting new storage works. The existing tanks are said to have been of little use in mitigating distress during the late famine, but are probably a good deal out of repair. The Resident recommends further investigation, but this can possibly be undertaken by the State Engineer. It is said that there is little scope for storage works in Mewar, but the Superintending Engineer thinks that possibly something might be done to dam and utilize the perennial streams that flow through that State, and that the question is worth investigating. Three tanks were commenced in Sirohi during late famine, one of which, the Chandala, the State proposes to complete at once. Here, too, it is thought that greater protection can be obtained by encouraging the construction of wells than by making more storage tanks for which it is believed that no new sites are available. It is said that the Executive Engineer, Mount Abu, could very well examine and report on any proposals that this State may wish to bring forward. In Kishengarh many tank works were carried out during the late famine, most of which were completed, and the State is fully alive to the importance of such works. Major Spilsbury says that the State is connected with Jaipur, from which it probably receives some assistance in carrying out irrigation works, and that the deputation of a British officer does not appear to be necessary. As regards the remaining States, it is believed that a great deal can be done in the way of restoring old tanks and constructing new ones, and investigation by a competent officer is recommended, though it is said that the States are in too impoverished a condition to be able to bear the cost of a survey, and are still less able to find funds for the construction of any works that may be proposed. Ten small storage works were, however, undertaken in Tonk during the late famine, and three in Shahpura, all of which were completed, while many old tanks were repaired. The existing tanks in Bundi are said to have been of great service, as the rainfall was favourable.

11. It thus seems desirable to undertake an investigation of tank projects which will form a useful programme of relief works in the States of Tonk, Bundi, Dongarpur, Banswari, Pertabgarh, Shahpura and Karauli, and possibly also in Mewar, but the cost would apparently have to be borne by the British Government and the works would only be executed under pressure of famine, and as a means of affording employment to distressed labour. What is required is a programme of works that may be put in hand in case of necessity, similar to that which has been recently prepared by Captain Ewbank, R.E., for Bundelkhand.

It will, I am afraid, be impossible to depute a competent officer for this work during the present cold weather, for it is as much as we can do to find an officer for the more urgent work of a similar kind in the Central Provinces, and even if an officer were available, the best part of the cold weather would be gone before he could be set to work. On other grounds it would, I think, be better to defer the investigation until the cold weather of 1901-1902, and after further consultation with the Darbars of the States concerned, and the preparation of a definite programme of the sites to be examined and the order of investigation. I think it even a question whether the deputation of a Public Works Officer will be necessary. The works to be carried out will be generally of a simple character, for which is required not so much high engineering skill as actual experience in the design and management of works of this class. The subject is one which has received great attention in Jaipur State, where Colonel Jacob has under him a European engineer officer and a trained staff of surveyors, who are systematically employed on work of this kind. I would suggest, therefore, that before taking further action in the case of these small States, Colonel Jacob, who has made a special study of this subject, and

who is, I understand, on the way out from England, should be asked to give the benefit of his advice and assistance in the matter. If Government are prepared to bear the cost of an investigation, Colonel Jacob will be able to give very valuable hints or instructions for the guidance of the officer who may be deputed, and it is even possible that he may be able to provide and equip a competent staff from among his own trained subordinates to whom the work might with confidence be entrusted, all important estimates being subject before sanction to the professional scrutiny of the Public Works Secretary to the Agent to the Governor-General. I think it probable that well trained local experts of this kind would be the most satisfactory agency that could be employed in the investigation of irrigation projects in neighbouring States, and that if the proposal is feasible it will have many advantages.

CENTRAL INDIA.

12. Major Spilsbury accompanied me to Indore, which I visited on the 17th November, and where I met Mr. Bayley, Agent to the Governor-General, and Colonel Jennings, the Resident of Indore. Reports on recent famine operations, and on the possibility of constructing a programme of protective irrigation works had been received from all the Residents or Political Superintendents of Indore, Dewas, Gwalior, Bhopawar, Malwa, Bhopal, Bundelkhand and Bhagalkhand. As to Holkar, Colonel Jennings states that there is a great field for the improvement and restoration of existing tanks in this State which will greatly increase their protective value, and that this work is to be vigorously undertaken as ordinary Public Works expenditure. It is not considered advisable to defer the execution of such works for the sake of maintaining a programme of works reserved for famine labour, partly because famine does not often occur in this State, and partly because there are five large road projects which will be held in reserve as desirable famine relief works, and which will probably be found sufficient for the purpose. It is considered of greater importance to put these storage works into order as soon as possible, reliance being placed on the roads as a means of employing relief labour, if famine should occur after the irrigation works have been completed. It is not thought that many new storage projects can be proposed, but the repair or restoration of existing tanks will require all the money that can be assigned to this object for some years to come. Colonel Jennings does not think it necessary at present to apply to Government for professional assistance.

13. As regards the other Agencies, it appears to be considered that there is not much scope for storage works, but that something might be done in the way of damming and utilizing perennial streams in Malwa, Bhopal and Bhopawar, and perhaps also in Dewas. It is said, however that there are possible sites for storage works in Dhar, Ali Rajpur and Barwani States within the Bhopawar Agency, and that the Himatgarh Tank in Dhar should, if repaired, prove a very remunerative work. The importance of encouraging the construction of wells in this Agency is also insisted on. As already stated, Captain Ewbank has prepared a fairly extensive programme of storage works that may be undertaken in the Bundelkhand Agency in the event of famine, but which should be held in reserve for such a contingency. Fortunately Bundelkhand did not suffer much in the late famine, so that relief works were unnecessary. In Bhagalkhand there appears to be little scope for any larger works than field bunds.

14. The general impression conveyed by the reports is that there is not a very wide field for new storage works in the Central India, though something may be done in repairing old tanks, and possibly in utilizing some of the perennial streams. The larger States, such as Holkar or Gwalior, do not require Government assistance. In many of the smaller States investigation of irrigation projects is recommended by the Political Agents, but it is said that the States themselves will not be able to bear the cost. The case for investigation appears to be less urgent, and possibly also less promising than that in the Rajputana States.

I think that an investigation at the cost of Government should be contemplated, especially in the Bhopawar Agency, and that, if possible, it should be commenced in the cold weather of 1901-1902, but if establishment is not then available, the work should be taken up after that proposed in Rajputana has been completed, and possibly by the same agency. It must be remembered that these surveys are in both cases required mainly for the purpose of providing a programme of relief works, in case of emergency, and that, except in the event of famine, the immediate execution of any project, however promising, cannot be contemplated, as the States concerned are not likely to be able to provide the funds for some years to come. It is of course very desirable that programmes of useful relief works should be prepared as soon as possible, as we cannot tell when famine may be again upon us; but it is much to be regretted that the Public Works establishment is so short in all provinces as to render it impossible to depute at once officers to Native States and other places for which extra assistance is required. The late famine has put a great strain on the *personnel* of the Department, which has been a long time undermanned. There have been many casualties and breakdowns, and leave cannot be indefinitely suspended. If officers cannot be deputed at once to these Native States, the matter should not, however, be lost sight of, and arrangements should be made as soon as possible after the present stress is relieved. In the meanwhile something can possibly be done in the States in which investigation is most needed in the way of preparing lists of possible projects for examination by an expert as soon as available.

15. In all the Central India States relief labour has been extensively employed on road work. The Political Agent for Bhopawar has made an urgent appeal for an Imperial grant or contribution towards the completion of the Jhabua-Meghnagar, and the Umarkot-Raipura roads in the Jhabua and Jobat States; the earthwork only on which was completed during the famine. It is urged that in spite of the expenditure incurred by the State on these roads, they will be of little or no value unless the work are completed, that the roads themselves will have a great protective value in time of famine in facilitating the distribution of grain, and that they will also be useful feeders to the railway, and lastly that distress is likely to continue for some time in these two States. I refer to the matter here as these are the only two relief works in Central India, the immediate completion of which has been urgently recommended, but I do not know whether the case is one which would justify an imperial contribution, nor was I able to ascertain what the probable cost of completion would amount to.

V.

RELIEF MEASURES IN PATIALA STATE.

No. 233.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of the Punjab, No. 2142 I.A., dated the 15th May, 1900.

Government of India are very much shocked by state of affairs revealed in your letter of 2nd May* to Motamid of Patiala State, concerning neglect of famine relief in Narnaul and Kanaudh, and will be glad to know if offer made by Lieutenant-Governor in concluding paragraph has been accepted.

No. 234.

Letter from A. H. Diack, Esq., Revenue and Financial Secretary to the Government of the Punjab, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 780, dated Simla, the 29th May, 1900.

With reference to correspondence ending with your telegram No. 2142 I.A., dated the 15th May, 1900, regarding the neglect of famine relief measures in the Narnaul and Kanaudh Parganas of the Patiala State, I am directed to forward, for the information of the Government of India, a copy of my letter No. 773, dated the 26th May, 1900, to the Motamid of the Patiala State (and enclosure), from which it will be seen that His Highness the Maharaja has not accepted the Lieutenant-Governor's offer of the services of a British officer, but has deputed Mr. Rose, State Engineer, to be in charge of the relief works. The result of this action on the part of the Patiala Darbar will be anxiously watched by the Lieutenant-Governor.

2. I am to explain that Mr. Rose was appointed as Assistant Engineer in the Public Works Department of the Patiala State under the sanction given in Foreign Department letter No. 1476, dated 3rd May, 1890.

Enclosure in No. 234.

Letter from A. H. Diack, Esq., Revenue and Financial Secretary to the Government of the Punjab, to the Motamid of the Patiala State in attendance on His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab, No. 773, dated Simla, the 26th May, 1900.

I am directed to acknowledge your letter No. 84, dated 9th May, 1900, replying to my letter No. 673, dated 2nd May, 1900, bringing to the notice of His Highness the Maharaja the serious state of famine in the Narnaul and Kanaudh Parganas, and offering the services of a British officer to act under the orders of the Commissioner of the Delhi Division, and advise the local State

* See page 558 of Command Paper No. 206, presented in 1900.

officials as to the steps which are necessary at the present crisis. I am to add that the Government of India, to whom my letter was forwarded for information, has expressed itself as very much shocked by the state of affairs revealed in my letter, and has enquired whether the offer made by the Lieutenant-Governor has been accepted.

2. In the telegram from the Foreign Minister, which forms the enclosure to your letter above quoted, it is stated—

- (a) that besides the poor-house already ordered in Narnaul, another has been ordered at Kanaudh, and also that a road from Charkhi-Dadhri Railway Station to Narnaul *via* Kanaudh has also been ordered;
- (b) that Mr. Rose, State Engineer, has been appointed to be in charge of all these relief works with Pandit Sundur Lall and other officers under him, and that Mr. Rose is to report through Central Officers (presumably to His Highness the Maharaja) as to the opening of other relief works;
- (c) that Mr. Rose has been directed to see on his way the Commissioner of Delhi and take his advice;
- (d) that one lakh of rupees is to be sent at once to Narnaul for starting the above works.

3. In other words His Highness the Maharaja has not accepted the offer of the Lieutenant-Governor, but has deputed another official of the State to rectify the existing mismanagement, directing him to see on his way the Commissioner of Delhi and take his advice. By taking this course the Maharaja of Patiala in no way relieves himself of the responsibility for famine management in the parganas above-mentioned, and the Lieutenant-Governor thinks it necessary to emphasize this fact by reason of the signal failure of the State officials brought to notice in my letter of 2nd May. His Honour is not at all sure that the Maharaja is well advised in adopting this course. Mr. Rose will not have the advantage of the continued advice and direction of the Commissioner of Delhi, and the burden of setting matters right must rest upon him, subject to the Maharaja's direction. At the same time Sir Mackworth Young will await the result of Mr. Rose's deputation before taking any further action.

4. Although it was not the intention of the Lieutenant-Governor to offer that the Commissioner of Delhi should tender advice to the subordinate officers of the State, the Lieutenant-Governor has heard from Mr. Fanshawe that he has seen Mr. Rose and furnished him with some advice in the form of a note, of which a copy is herewith forwarded. The instructions therein contained appear to the Lieutenant-Governor to be well calculated to start matters on a better footing.

5. The Lieutenant-Governor does not withdraw his offer of assistance to the Patiala State in the difficulty it is now experiencing, and will continue to watch anxiously the position. He thinks it necessary to say that the circumstances are such as to call for His Highness's personal attention, and to ask that the Darbar should keep this Government fully informed of the progress of the famine by means of the statement contemplated in the Famine Rules for Native States, which should be duly prepared and submitted each month.

Annexure.

Memorandum of Commissioner, Delhi, dated the 13th May, 1900.

- (1.) The work on the Rewari-Phalera Railway can take as many Patiala subjects as wish to come upon it (some 3,000 are on it already), and this should be made widely known throughout Narnaul. No other relief work is, I imagine, needed in that tract.
- (2.) A large poor-house should be opened at once at Narnaul and another (probably a smaller one will do) at Kanaudh, and all miserable wandering people and those now

fed on the railway relief work should be swept into these at once and be fed there, special diet of milk, dallia, and khichri being given to all sadly reduced people, and a wheaten diet to all.

(3.) Gratuitous relief should be started at once throughout both tracts by the agencies of the Patwaris and Lambardars, who should be supplied with small sums for the relief of the worst cases until the lists can be checked by higher officials, which should, as far as possible, be done as they are completed for each village person.

(4.) I understand a relief work will be started on the road from Charkhi-Dadhri to Kanaudh. I think there should be one work at Kanaudh and one 8-10 miles north of this place; notice should be given to the people of the tract as in the case of Narnaul that work will be provided for all who wish to come on it.

(5.) It is too late to start hutting people who wish to reside on the Darbar relief works, and arrangements had better be made to place them in villages along the road.

(6.) Special arrangements should be made for lime to disinfect the wells in all such villages, and for the supply of water to the people on the works.

(7.) The drawings of Executive Engineer, Delhi, on the Narnaul Treasury will be about Rs. 15,000 per mensem, and the relief expenditure by the Darbar will come to rather more I should guess, say—

	Rs.
4,000 workers on relief works at Rs. 3 per mensem	12,000
800 persons in poor-houses at Rs. 2 per mensem	1,600
2,000 persons on gratuitous relief at Rs. 2 per mensem	4,000
Total	17,600

so that Rs. 35,000-40,000 per mensem, or Rs. 1,20,000 in the next three months, should be made available at the sub-treasury. *This is absolutely imperative* if real relief has to be properly administered.

(8.) The above numbers are very rough guesses of course. I do not know what the population of Narnaul and Kanaudh is, and many of the people must of course have left these tracts long ago.

(9.) These are general lines for relief only; probably Mr. Rose will be able to submit a detailed programme in a week's time or so, and probably may wish to suggest various modifications of them.

No. 235.

Letter from A. H. Diack, Esq., Revenue and Financial Secretary to the Government of the Punjab, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 870, dated Simla, the 13th June, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 780, dated the 29th May, 1900, I am directed to forward, for the information of the Government of India, a copy of a further letter No. 868 of the 13th June, 1900, addressed to the Motamid of the Patiala State as to the provision of funds for the administration of famine relief in Narnaul.

No. 236.

Letter from the Officiating Chief Secretary to the Government of the Punjab, to the Motamid of the Patiala State in attendance on His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab, No. 868, dated Simla, the 13th June, 1900.

In my letter No. 773, dated 26th May, 1900, it was stated that the Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor would await the result of Mr. Rose's

deputation to Narnaul and Kanaudh before taking any further action in connection with the famine in Patiala, but circumstances which have now been brought to his knowledge have compelled him to direct me to again address you on the subject.

2. In a letter, dated 2nd May, 1900, the Commissioner of Delhi asked His Honour to move the Darbar to provide at Narnaul Rs. 12,000 to Rs. 15,000 monthly to be paid against cheques drawn by the Punjab Public Works Department, so as to save them the risk and inconvenience of conveying specie to Narnaul for payment to the famine workers employed on the Rewari-Phalera Railway. The amount would have been repaid by the Punjab Government to the State on presentation of the cheques at a British treasury. The Commissioner further asked that half of this money should be in British copper coinage and in small silver in the proportion of two of copper and one of small silver. This letter was not forwarded to you, because it related for the most part to matters in regard to which you had been addressed in detail in my letter No. 673, dated 2nd May, 1900, and in connection with which the services of a British officer had been offered to His Highness the Maharaja. The subject of providing coin against cheques drawn by the Punjab Public Works Department was, however, referred to in my letter No. 698, dated 8th May, 1900, and again in paragraph (7) of the Memorandum of advice which was at the request of the Darbar given by the Commissioner of Delhi to Mr. Rose on May 13th, 1900, and of which a copy was sent by the Commissioner to the Kunwar Sahib of Patiala.

3. Sir Mackworth Young has now learned with great regret through a telegram addressed on the 8th instant by the Sub-Divisional Officer in charge of the railway relief work at Narnaul to the Commissioner of the Delhi Division that the State treasury is unable to meet his demand. The Lieutenant-Governor's regret is due not so much to the inability of the State to meet the wishes of the Public Works Department, for the provision of coin at Narnaul would have been a mere matter of convenience and a saving of the slight risk with which the carriage of large sums of money by road is attended. But he fears that, if the treasury at Narnaul does not contain sufficient coin to meet the demands of the British officers employed there on the railway relief work, it is obviously incapable of satisfying the requirements in the way of other relief works, gratuitous relief and the like, to which the attention of the Darbar has been drawn and which the Darbar has promised to supply. It is true that you have verbally reported that a sum of Rs. 43,500 has reached Narnaul in several remittances for the purpose of famine relief, but there would appear to be urgent need of the full sum of one lakh of rupees being immediately made available at Narnaul, which the Foreign Minister's telegram of 8th May received with your letter of 9th May promised should be sent there at once. And I am to ask that, if His Highness the Maharaja still adheres to his intention of fighting the famine by means of his own officials and without the assistance of the British officer whose services His Honour has offered to lend to him, some substantial proof may be furnished of the lakh of rupees having been received in Narnaul and devoted to the purpose of famine relief.

VI.

REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

RELATING TO

HYDERABAD.

No. 237.

Letter from the Officiating Resident at Hyderabad, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 237, dated Hyderabad, the 6th June, 1900.

As requested in your telegram No. 1835 I.-A., dated the 28th May, 1900, I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statement* of the Hyderabad State for the month of April, 1900, prepared in the form which accompanied Foreign Department circular letter No. 1881 I., dated the 7th May, 1892.

Enclosure in No. 237.

GENERAL REMARKS ACCOMPANYING FAMINE STATEMENT.

Private relief.—There is no organised system of private relief, but subscriptions have been raised in the four districts of the Aurangabad Division to the extent of Rs. 47,331.

Village relief.—Not attempted, but Patels have instructions to send deserving persons to the nearest poor-house.

Poor-houses.—Poor-houses are established at the head-quarters of districts and talukas, and in some large villages.

General character of relief works.—The people are kept as much as possible on large works, which are chiefly roads and railway banks.

Physical condition of the people.—The majority of the people show no signs of famine emaciation. The percentage of emaciation in the relief camps is perhaps 10 per cent.

Deaths from starvation.—A few deaths from starvation were reported in the Bir district before the works were organised. During the month under report no such deaths have been reported. Vital statistics in villages are, however, unreliable.

Food stocks.—Ample, but at famine prices. The rates, however, are cheaper than those that prevailed in the scarcity of 1896-97.

* Not printed.

Importation of grain.—The total imports of grain since October, 1899, are 24,58,000 maunds and exports 13,59,000, leaving a balance in favour of imports of 10,99,000 maunds.

General condition and prospects of affected area.—If the monsoon is favourable, a large number of persons may be expected to leave the relief works at once to prepare the land for crops, but there will be a difficulty about cattle, the full extent of which cannot, however, be judged until it is seen how many cattle return from the forest tracts where they were sent for grazing.

Changes in relief wages.—Following the action of the Bombay Government, the minimum wage has been reduced to 9½ chittacks. (In the month of May, this was raised again to 12 chittacks on the Jaluna-Khamgaon Railway adjoining Buldana district of Berar.)

Emigration and immigration.—Several complaints of the immigration of His Highness's subjects into British territory have been received. In all cases, the persons were brought back, but the numbers reported to have emigrated generally turned out to be exaggerated. Some British subjects have also come on works in His Highness's territory.

No. 238.

Letter from the Officiating Resident at Hyderabad, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 250, dated Hyderabad, the 13th June, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 237, dated the 6th June, 1900, I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statement* of the Hyderabad State for the month of May, 1900. The affected area remains unchanged.

Enclosure in No. 238.

GENERAL REMARKS ACCOMPANYING FAMINE STATEMENT.

There is no improvement in the situation as reported in the statement for month ending April, but rather the distress is intensifying and numbers on relief are increasing.

No. 239.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel D. W. K. Barr, C.S.I., Officiating Resident at Hyderabad, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 324, dated Hyderabad, the 1st August, 1900.

With reference to Foreign Department telegram No. 3247 I.-A., dated the 25th July, 1900, I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Government of India, a complete Famine Statement* of the Hyderabad State for the month of June, 1900, to be kindly substituted for the statement forwarded with my letter No. 291, dated the 14th July, 1900.

* Not printed.

2. The "General Remarks" which, through an oversight, were not copied in the first instance, furnish the information required by your telegram cited above.

Enclosure in No. 239.

General Remarks by A. J. Dunlop, Esq., Famine Commissioner to His Highness the Nizam's Government, dated Aurangabad, the 7th July, 1900.

Private relief.—The total subscriptions up to date, amount to about Hali Sicca Rs. 50,000 collected in four famine districts, most of which have been expended on the poor-houses for which the money was specifically subscribed.

In the end of June a donation of Government Rs. 50,000 was received through the Resident from the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund, and measures are now in progress for spending it.

Village relief.—There is no regular organised system of village relief, because there is no agency through which it can be carried out. Patels of villages are instructed to provide at Government expense for distressed persons, and, if possible, to send them to the nearest poor-house or relief work. The Police also have been specially enjoined to assist in this matter, and an advance of Rs. 1,000 has been given to each District Superintendent of Police for this purpose, and clear instructions issued that starving people are to be handed over to the nearest patel with a written order (and money) authorising grant of a dole of 12 chittaks grain until further orders.

If these instructions were fully carried out, all deserving cases would be brought to light. The Police returns have not yet been received, but I have little confidence in the orders being properly given effect to.

Poor-houses.—Poor-houses are established at the head-quarters of districts and talukas and in some large villages. Two poor-houses have lately been opened in the Telingana districts, and sanction given for two others. In all there are 57 poor-houses with an attendance of 99,267.

General character of relief works.—The people are kept on large works which are chiefly roads and railway works. There are no small village works, nor can these be attempted for want of supervision. But persons wishing to return to their villages for cultivation are being given help for the journey and a few days besides. A scheme is now under consideration for continuing village relief to persons of this class until they are able to support themselves.

Physical condition of the people.—The people who joined the works in June are considerably emaciated, showing that they put off resort to relief works as long as possible. The majority of workers are of normal strength. The marked feature is their laziness. Very few workers care to earn more than a minimum wage, and large numbers knowing that they get in any case the minimum will not even work up to that rate. Many ryots are reported as having returned to their villages for sowing operations, but their places have been taken by others. In some cases ryots have returned to the camps after sowing their fields.

Deaths from starvation.—No deaths from starvation reported, but the returns on this head from villages are quite unreliable. Fifty-two camp hospitals are in working order.

Public health.—There has been cholera in every district, but not to a great extent. The cholera cases in relief camps and poor-houses have been 1,444 attacks and 658 deaths. The diseases generally prevalent in relief camps are fever, dysentery, diarrhoea. The total cases reported are 9,590 attacks and 1,909 deaths, making with cholera a total of attacks 11,034 and deaths 2,567.

Food-stock.—The supply of grain is sufficient, but prices show no sign of falling; in fact are rather firmer. The quotations are:—

Districts.	Quotations.
Aurangabad	6½ seers per Hali Sicca rupees.
Bir	6 " "
Nander... ..	6½ " "
Parbhani	6½ " "
Gulburgah	7½ " "
Naldurg	6½ " "

In parts of the Parbhani district away from the railway and affected by impassable roads, the price has risen to as much as 4½ seers of jowari per rupee.

Importing grain.—The imports and exports of grain for May and up to 6th June were as follows:—

	Imports.	Exports.	Excess of Imports.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
May	444,255	67,509	376,746
Up to 6th June	84,936	18,795	66,141

From the beginning of the famine up to 6th June the imports of grain have been 3,112,710 maunds, the exports 1,466,910, and the excess of imports over exports 1,645,800 maunds, or about 61,000 tons.

General condition and prospects.—Although the monsoon was so late in setting in, and is still hanging off, good and fair rain has fallen in all parts of the famine area, and so far we are safe. The crops that have been sown have come up satisfactorily, and if the latter part of the monsoon season is favourable, all will be well. Everything depends on the rainfall in the latter part of the monsoon season.

It was anticipated that shortly after the rains set in, the numbers on relief would materially decrease, but this has not been the case. The number newly joined far exceeds the number that has left, and the total number on relief in the end of June was 516,601 as compared with 461,080 in the month of May, being an increase of 12·1 per cent.

The tendency is still for numbers to rise, and the situation is most critical. A prolonged break in the rains would, I believe, cause a large inrush on our works, while from the hitherto slightly affected districts of Elgandal and Indur, the reports are discouraging, and, if matters do not improve, the famine area may be largely increased. Poor-houses have had to be sanctioned for the head-quarters of Elgandal, Warangal and Indur districts, and, if the situation does not improve, relief works will have to be started in these districts.

Change in wages.—No changes have been made in the rate of wages.

Emigration and Immigration.—4,500 persons have been brought from the Basim district in Berar and employed on works near Hingoli or maintained in the poor-houses. From Sholapur also notice has come of some of His Highness's subjects being on British works, but, as pointed out before, the boundary is so irregular and villages so intermixed that it is impossible to avoid this. The

Collector of Sholapur in a recent letter recognises that the stream of emigration has been stopped, although people still continue to "dribble" into British territory.

In the Parendah poor-house there are 29 British subjects.

Taccavi advances.—Ten lakhs have been sanctioned for advances for purchase of bullocks and seed, and the Tahsildars are engaged in distributing the money.

No. 240.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel D. W. K. Barr, C.S.I., Officiating Resident at Hyderabad, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 351, dated Hyderabad, the 18th August, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 324, dated the 1st August, 1900, I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statement* of the Hyderabad State for the month of July, 1900, received from His Highness the Nizam's Minister, together with a copy of a general remarks of the Famine Commissioner thereon.

Enclosure in No. 240.

General Remarks by A. J. Dunlop, Esq., Famine Commissioner, dated Camp Aurangabad, the 7th August, 1900.

The total subscriptions up to date amount to about Government Rs. 40,000 collected in four famine districts, most of which have been expended on the poor-houses for which money was specially subscribed.

Private relief.—In the end of July another donation of Government Rs. 80,000 was received through the Resident from the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund, making in all Rs. 1,30,000 from this source. The money is being spent in clothing the poor in the famine districts.

Village relief.—There is no wide system of village relief. Patels and the Police are authorised to take charge of the distressed persons and pass them on to the nearest poor-house. In addition to this, persons in camp and poor-houses who wish to return to their homes are given food for the journey and also doles for 15 days after arrival through the Patel of the village. If longer relief is necessary, Patels are authorised to give it.

Poor-houses.—Poor-houses at the head-quarters of districts and talukas and in some large villages aggregate to 57 in number, having a total attendance of 106,565, which is 7,298 more than the figure of last month.

General character of relief work.—The people are as usual kept on large works which are chiefly roads and railway works, and persons wishing to return to their villages are being given help for the journey and 15 days' maintenance after arrival in their villages.

Physical condition of the people.—The physical condition of the people is much the same as last reported, but the people have apparently more heart in them since the rains have been favourable. A considerable number have returned to their homes, and in the course of a few weeks, if all goes well, I expect to see a large decrease in numbers.

Deaths from starvation.—No deaths from starvation reported, but the returns on this head from villages are quite unreliable.

* Not printed.

Some deaths have occurred at Nander poor-house from exposure to the weather when the sheds were blown down by high wind.

Public health.—Six camp hospitals were opened this month, and in all 58 camp hospitals are in working order. There has been cholera in all famine districts, but much less than in the preceding months, the deaths from this disease being 360 as against 658 in June. The other diseases prevalent in relief camps are ague, diarrhoea, dysentery, bronchitis, dyspepsia, ulcers, constipation, conjunctivitis and guinea worm. The total cases reported are 10,461 attacks and 2,330 deaths, making with cholera a total of attacks 11,285 and deaths 2,690.

Food-stock.—The supply of grain is sufficient, but prices show no sign of falling. In fact are rather firmer.

Importing grain.—Return of imports and exports of grain for the month have not yet been received. Imports, however, continue.

General condition and prospects.—The rainfall is favourable in every district, and good autumn crops may be expected. Until prices fall, however, there cannot be much improvement in the state of the labouring classes.

Changes in wages.—No changes have been made in wages.

Emigration and Immigration.—The returns have not been received. A few people from either side cross the border, but the numbers are not great now.

Taccavi advances.—The ten lakhs which was sanctioned by Government for the purchase of bullocks and seeds are being distributed by the Tahsildars, and 5 lakhs more have been asked for.

No. 241.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel D. W. K. Barr, C.S.I., Officiating Resident at Hyderabad, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 398, dated Hyderabad Residency, the 24th September, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 351, dated the 18th August, 1900, I have the honour to submit for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statement* of the Hyderabad State for the month of August, 1900, received from His Highness the Nizam's Minister, together with a copy of the general remarks of the Famine Commissioner thereon.

Enclosure in No. 241.

General Remarks by A. J. Dunlop, Esq., Famine Commissioner, dated 9th September, 1900.

Private relief.—The total subscription up to date amounts to about Government Rs. 40,000, collected in four famine districts, most of which has been expended in the poor-houses for which money was specially subscribed.

Another donation of one lakh of rupees has been received through the Resident from the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund, making in all Rs. 2,30,000 from this source.

The money is being spent in supplying clothes and in cash grants to deserving persons. It has also been resolved to supply bullocks to distressed cultivators, but there is a difficulty in purchasing them in sufficient quantities.

The experiment is going to be tried of supplying bullocks to the village community to be used in rotation by the poorest of the cultivators.

* Not printed.

Village relief.—Persons returning to their villages are given orders or chalans on the village Patel for 15 days' maintenance. The numbers who have availed themselves of this measure, according to returns received up to date, is 11,828, but many returns have still to be received. The number in relief camps has now fallen from Rs. 4,18,927 to Rs. 2,23,261, being a decrease of 46·7 per cent.

Poor-houses.—The same rule for giving 15 days' village relief applies to poor-houses, and people are returning from there to their villages. The number now in the poor-houses is Rs. 81,969, as compared with 98,237, which was the highest figure reached.

General character of relief.—The people are as usual kept on large works which are chiefly roads and railway works, but the number is decreasing. Several works have already been closed, and if all goes well in September it is expected that all able-bodied persons will have left the works by the end of the current month. A recent order has been introduced by which the gangs have been re-arranged, all persons below normal strength being grouped into separate gangs. In the case of the gangs composed entirely of strong able-bodied persons, the minimum wage has been abolished and payments are being paid according to work, subject only to a maximum wage. This measure is helping to reduce numbers. It is very desirable that the large camps should be broken up as early as possible, because many ryots are reported to be complaining that they cannot get labour for weeding their fields.

Physical condition of the people.—The physical condition of the people is undoubtedly improving, but there are still a considerable number of emaciated persons, while, on the other hand, in some camps, the people are all in good condition.

Deaths from starvation.—No deaths are reported from starvation.

Public health.—During the month of August, 1900, there have been 270 attacks and 226 deaths from cholera in relief camps and poor-houses. The total attacks and deaths from this epidemic up to the end of August are 8,529 attacks and 3,997 deaths in relief camps and poor-houses. The diseases generally prevalent in camps are ague, boils, dysentery, diarrhoea, dyspepsia, bronchitis, ulcers, abscesses, guinea-worm, and conjunctivitis. The total attacks and deaths from common diseases up to date are 41,641 attacks and 8,032 deaths.

Food stock.—The supply of grain is sufficient, but prices are still very dear. In many parts Jawari is selling at five seers per rupee, and the cheapest rate in the famine districts is eight seers per Hali Sicca rupee, or about 10 seers per British rupee.

Importing grain.—The imports and exports of grain for the month ending 7th July, 1900, have been as follows :—

	Maunds.
Imports	4,93,581
Exports	85,836
Excess of imports over exports	4,07,745

General condition and prospects.—The rainfall up to date is favourable, and a good khareef crop is expected. The rabi crop depends on a great measure on the rain that may fall later in the season.

Changes in wages.—No changes have been made in the rates of wages beyond the stoppage of minimum wages in the case of able-bodied gangs. All such gangs are now paid by results, subject only to a maximum.

Emigration and immigration.—No returns have been received.

Taccavi advances.—An additional five lakhs have been sanctioned during the month, making in all 15 lakhs which have been allotted to the famine districts for the purchase of bullocks and seed.

No. 242.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel D. W. K. Barr, C.S.I., Officiating Resident at Hyderabad, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 452, dated Hyderabad, the 20th October, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 398, dated the 24th September, 1900, I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statement* of the Hyderabad State for the month of September, 1900, received from His Highness the Nizam's Minister, together with a copy of the general remarks of the Famine Commissioner thereon.

Enclosure in No. 242.

General remarks by A. J. Dunlop, Esq., Famine Commissioner, dated Hyderabad, the 10th October, 1900.

Private relief.—The total subscriptions up to date amount to about Government Rs. 40,000 collected in four famine districts, most of which has been expended on the poor-houses for which money was specially subscribed.

Another donation of one lakh of rupees has been received from the Indian Charitable Famine Relief Fund, making in all Rs. 3,30,000. The money is being spent in supplying bullocks and clothes to the ryots, and in giving cash grants to deserving persons returning to their homes.

Village relief.—Persons returning to their villages are given orders or chalans on the village Patels for 15 days' maintenance. The total number of persons relieved in this way is 56,746. These persons are not included in the figures showing the number in receipt of relief, because it is not known whether they have returned to their villages.

Poor-houses.—There are 75 poor-houses open, in which the number relieved is 40,553 as against 81,969 last month.

General character of relief.—Vide last month's report.

Physical condition of the people.—The physical condition of the people has improved, and large numbers have left famine relief works for their homes.

Public health.—There were no cholera cases or deaths in any of the relief camps, and only 32 attacks, all of which proved fatal, in the Udgir poor-house in the Bider district. The total mortality from this epidemic in the famine camps and poor-houses to the end of September was 4,029 out of a total of 8,561 attacks.

Four hundred and forty-six persons, out of a total reported sick of 4,720, died in camps and poor-houses during the last month, bringing up the statistics to 46,361 cases and 8,478 deaths.

Food stocks.—The supply of grain is sufficient and prices have slightly fallen, except in the frontier and the inaccessible talukas of the famine area, the rate quoted in three talukas being still 5 seers per Sicca rupee. The cheapest rate in the famine area continues to be 8 seers per Halli Sicca rupee, or about 10 seers per British rupee.

* Not printed.

The imports and exports of grain for the month ending 7th August, 1900, have been :—

	Maunds.
Imports	593,911
Exports	118,335
Excess of imports over exports	475,576

General condition and prospects.—The rainfall up to date has been favourable and a good kharif crop has been assured. For the rabi crop in the famine area more rain is necessary, and on the later rainfall depends the future of this crop. If seasonable rain falls, the crop may be a full one. On the other hand, if rain does not fall, the rabi crop in the famine area will generally be a failure. In the hope of a favourable season, large numbers of persons have gone to their homes and the famine camps are being closed. During the month under report, there has been a total decrease of 202,047, the numbers now on relief being :—

	Number.	Number.
Workers	40,659	
Dependents	21,971	
		62,630
Gratuitously relieved in poor-houses		40,553
Total		103,183

Changes in wages.—No changes. See last report.

Emigration and immigration.—See last report.

Taccavi advances.—See last report.

No. 243.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel D. W. K. Barr, C.S.I., Officiating Resident at Hyderabad, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 511, dated Hyderabad, the 23rd November, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 452, dated the 20th October, 1900, I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statement* of the Hyderabad State for the month of October, 1900, received from His Highness the Nizam's Minister, with the general remarks of the Famine Commissioner thereon.

* Not printed.

Enclosure in No. 243.

Remarks by A. J. Dunlop, Esq., Famine Commissioner to His Highness the Nizam's Government dated Hyderabad, the 7th November, 1900.

The famine relief operations are now almost closed. There are only three camps in the Naldurg district with an attendance of 6,900, and 54 poor-houses with an attendance of 8,389.

Unless rain falls, there will be more distress in the districts on the north-western frontier, and further relief measures may become necessary. If rain falls now, all will be well.

No. 244.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel D. W. K. Barr, C.S.I., Officiating Resident at Hyderabad, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 550, dated Hyderabad, the 15th December, 1900.

In continuation of my letter No. 511, dated the 23rd November, 1900, I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Government of India, the Famine Statement* of the Hyderabad State for the month of November, 1900, received from His Highness the Nizam's Minister, with the general remarks of the Famine Commissioner thereon.

Enclosure in No. 244.

General remarks by A. J. Dunlop, Esq., Famine Commissioner.

The only camp in existence is in the Parinda Taluka of the Naldurg district where the attendance is 2,482. This camp is also to be closed under orders received through the Financial Secretary.

In parts of the western districts, the late crops have failed and orders have been issued to talukdars of districts to start well-sinking.

No. 245.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel D. W. K. Barr, C.S.I., Officiating Resident at Hyderabad, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 54 of 1901, dated Hyderabad Residency, the 24th January, 1901.

I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Government of India, a copy of this office letter No. 3024, dated the 14th December, 1900, to His Highness the Nizam's Minister, and of his reply thereto, No. 88, dated the 17th January 1901, regarding famine relief measures proposed to be taken by His Highness' Government to meet the threatened scarcity in certain districts of the Hyderabad State during the year 1901.

2, I thought it advisable as soon as I became aware of the probability of distress in certain districts of the Hyderabad State continuing during the year 1901 in consequence of scanty rainfall and failure of crops, to address His Highness' Minister. The reply now received shows that His Highness' Government are alive to the fact that relief measures are necessary in the districts referred to.

* Not printed.

3. Without further information as to the area and population of the affected districts I am not in a position to criticise the arrangements made and under contemplation by His Highness' Government. This information will be called for and a further report will be submitted.

4. The Minister will also be requested to furnish returns in the usual form showing the progress of relief measures.

The information now given, which will be furnished to the Government of Bombay, is, I trust, sufficient to show that His Highness' Government are prepared to meet the distress, which, it must be feared, will increase in intensity during the approaching hot weather.

Enclosure 1 in No. 245.

Letter from W. E. Jardine, Esq., First Assistant Resident, to His Highness the Nizam's Minister, Hyderabad, No. 3024, dated Hyderabad Residency, the 14th December, 1900.

The reports published in the *Bombay Government Gazette* show that the rainfall has been very deficient in the Sholapur and Ahmednagar districts, and that the numbers of persons on famine relief works have been steadily increasing during the past month. The prospects in the districts of the Bombay Presidency are generally unsatisfactory. Prices are very high, crops are withering, and reports have reached the Residency of large numbers of persons wandering towards Berar in search of employment.

2. In these circumstances it is probable that distress exists in the districts of His Highness' dominions bordering on the Bombay Presidency, viz., Naldurg, Bir, Aurangabad, and perhaps parts of Gulbarga. The Resident will be obliged by your informing him of the actual condition of these districts as regards (1) harvest of rain-crops; (2) prospects of the *rabi*; (3) prices of food-grains; (4) quantities of grain available; and (5) the general condition of the people.

3. The Resident presumes that full reports have been received by His Highness' Government from the Famine Commissioner and the local revenue officials, and he will be glad to receive for the information of the Government of India such details as can be promptly given on the points noted, as also an account of the measures which His Highness' Government purpose to take for meeting the distress, which probably already exists, in those districts where the rainfall has been scanty and crops have failed. Mention, you will find, has been made in the season report of the Hyderabad State for the week which ended on the 1st December, 1900, that matters have not improved in any way in the districts of Aurangabad, Bir, and Naldurg, and that in the Parenda taluq of the last named district the agricultural prospects have become 'uncheerful,' and that arrangements are in progress for starting relief works there. It is very necessary in the circumstances that steps should be taken at once to prevent people from leaving their villages in search of food and employment, and I am to enquire what form of relief has been sanctioned, and how many poor-houses and kitchens are already in existence or have been sanctioned, and where such works, poor-houses, &c., are situated.

4. This information, I am to add, is urgently required to enable this office to communicate it to the officers of neighbouring British districts and to the Commissioner, Hyderabad Assigned Districts.

Enclosure 2 in No. 245.

Letter from the Nawab Sir Vikar-ul-Umra Bahadur, K.C.I.E., His Highness the Nizam's Minister, to the Resident at Hyderabad, No. 88, dated Hyderabad, the 17th January, 1901.

With reference to your letter No. 3024, dated the 14th December, 1900, enquiring as to the condition of some of His Highness' districts bordering on the

Bombay Presidency, I write to inform you that it appears from the latest reports received from the Famine Commissioner and the local Revenue Officers that parts of three districts in the Aurangabad Subadari (viz., Aurangabad, Bir, and Parbhani), and of one district in the Gulbarga Division (viz., Naldurg) have been affected by the insufficient rainfall this year, which has to a certain extent retarded the crops, and caused a scarcity of drinking water. The area even in these few districts, over which distress will be probably felt as the season advances, is not very large, as only two taluqs in the Aurangabad district, viz., Gangapur and Vizapur, two in Bir, viz., Ashti and Patoda, one in Parbhani, viz., Jintur, and one in Naldurg, viz., Parenda, are reported to be in a bad state. In the Aurangabad taluqs the rainfall was so small that both the kharif and rabi crops suffered to a large extent. But in the taluqs of Bir and Parbhani districts above referred to only the rabi crops have been affected. In the Parenda taluq the total rainfall was less than 12 inches, or not even half the average normal rainfall. The kharif outturn was accordingly less than 8 annas in the rupee, and the rabi crops have also suffered, but no correct estimate can be yet made as to their outturn. In all the affected taluqs there will be a scarcity of drinking water, and as the hot weather approaches some hardship will be experienced on this account. There are at present no statistics to show the quantities of grain available in the affected taluqs, but prices have generally remained unchanged. The ryots as a class will not probably feel

* Petty village officers or servants who receive a share of the crops, &c.

the pinch to any considerable extent this year, as they can fall back upon the kharif crop, but the labouring classes and the balotedars* will suffer.

The Government has already taken active steps to meet the situation which has thus arisen. As the area affected is comparatively small and the need of relief will be chiefly confined to labourers, and as Mr. A. J. Dunlop, Famine Commissioner, is, moreover, shortly to proceed on leave, it has been considered desirable this year to entrust the work of relief to Revenue Officers, who, it is hoped, will be able to carry out the necessary measures efficiently. The sinking of wells for drinking and agricultural purposes has been sanctioned. The cost of the wells for drinking water will be met from the Local Funds, and where these funds are not sufficient the necessary amounts will be advanced by the Government. The cultivators or landholders will be encouraged and assisted by takavi to sink wells for irrigation on their lands, or where this is impracticable the work will be carried on directly under Government agency. A sum of three lakhs has already been allotted for these works in the affected taluqs of the Aurangabad Division, and of one lakh in the Naldurg district of the Gulbarga Division. A sufficient number of wells will be taken in hand immediately to afford employment to all labourers who may be in search of work; and as the wells will mostly be in, or near, the villages affected, the labourers will be able to find employment not far from their homes.

As it is doubtful, however, whether these proposals will suffice to give employment to all persons in want of relief, two of the relief works in the Naldurg district commenced during the last year's famine and left unfinished have been ordered to be completed, whilst as regards other works similarly undertaken in the Aurangabad and other affected districts a report has been called for from the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, General Branch, and as soon as it is received the necessary orders for their completion will be issued.

It is believed that the works detailed above will meet all the requirements of the case. But should the development of the situation call for further measures, arrangements will be made to employ those in search of relief on the great irrigation works in Telingana.

I may here state that the poor-houses opened in the Aurangabad, Parbhani and Naldurg districts are still in existence, and that at the end of December, 1900, there were 1,225 persons on the aggregate receiving relief therein. If necessary, the number of the poor-houses will be increased.

In case the existing Revenue establishments in any of the affected areas are found to be insufficient to cope with the situation, officials from the Settlement and Public Works Departments will be deputed to strengthen the present staff.

It will thus be seen that although the difficulties to be met this year are on a smaller and more limited scale, His Highness' Government has made every preparation rendered necessary by the present situation.

No. 246.

Letter from the Resident at Hyderabad to the Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign Department, No. 254, dated Hyderabad Residency, the 18th May, 1901.

In continuation of my letter No. 54, dated the 24th January, 1901, I have Letter No. 494, dated the 15th April 1901. the honour to submit, for the information of the Government of India, a copy of the marginally cited letters from His Highness the Nizam's Minister, regarding famine in the Hyderabad State.

2. The Minister has been requested with reference to the statement forwarded with his letter, No. 565, dated the 2nd May, 1901, to forward a map showing the affected tracts as required by Rule V. of the rules for Famine Reports relating to Native States received with Foreign Department letter, No. 1881 I., dated the 7th May, 1892. The map on receipt will be duly submitted to the Government of India.

3. The figures given in the statement now submitted have considerably increased during the past six weeks; the last season's report for the week ending 11th May shows 12,732 on relief works and 853 gratuitously relieved, or a total of 13,585.

Enclosure in No. 246.

Letter from His Highness the Nizam's Minister, Hyderabad, to the First Assistant to the Resident at Hyderabad, No. 494, dated the 15th April, 1901.

With reference to correspondence ending with your letter, No. 849, dated 6th April, 1901, regarding the submission of monthly returns in connection with famine measures, I beg to inform you that the famine operations for 1310 Fasli practically commenced from March, and the officers to whom the work has been entrusted this year have been instructed to submit monthly statements similar to those formerly sent in by the Famine Commissioner, and that these will be regularly transmitted to you from time to time.

No. 247.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel D. W. K. Barr, C.S.I., Resident at Hyderabad, to the Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign Department, No. 285, dated Hyderabad Residency, the 15th June, 1901.

I have the honour to submit for the information of the Government of India, a copy of the marginally-cited correspondence that has passed between this Residency and His Highness the Nizam's Minister, regarding the famine relief measures adopted by His Highness's Government.

Letter from His Highness the Nizam's Minister, No. 398, dated the 25th March, 1901.

Letter to His Highness the Nizam's Minister, No. 1,069, dated the 3rd May, 1901.

Letter from His Highness the Nizam's Minister, No. 665, dated the 22nd May, 1901.

* Forwarding famine statement—not printed.

2. I also submit for the information of the Government of India, with reference to paragraph 3 of my letter, No. 54, dated the 24th of January, 1901, a copy of a letter, No. 641, dated the 21st May, 1901, from His Highness's Minister, together with a copy of the statement therein referred to, showing the total area and population of each of the districts affected by the famine this year.

3. To enable me to furnish the monthly famine reports of the Hyderabad State to the Government of India within the prescribed time, I asked the Minister to arrange for the transmission of each statement by the 10th of the month following that to which it relates, and I enclose a copy of his reply,* which explains the difficulty of submitting this report punctually.

Under Rule VI. of the Rules for Famine Reports relating to Native States. Copy received under Foreign Department letter No. 1881 I., dated the 7th May, 1892.

* From His Highness's Minister. No. 643, dated the 21st May, 1901.

Enclosure 1 in No. 247.

Letter from Nawab Sir Vikar-ul-Umra, K.C.I.E., His Highness the Nizam's Minister, to Captain W. Haig, First Assistant to the Resident at Hyderabad, No. 398, dated the 25th March, 1901.

With reference to Mr. Jardine's letter, No. 615, dated 12th March, 1901, on the subject of famine relief works in His Highness's dominions in 1310 Fasli, I beg to inform you that the Subedars of Aurangabad and Gulburga have been instructed to inform the Collectors of the adjoining districts in British territory of all relief works already opened in His Highness's dominions, and to give them timely intimation of similar works which may be started in future.

2. I give below a list of the works already sanctioned for communication to the Government of Bombay, and intimation will be given in future of other works that may be sanctioned from time to time. I may add that orders have also been issued for the opening of poor-houses, where necessary, for the maintenance of the weak and infirm.

Annexure.

LIST OF WORKS.

AURANGABAD DISTRICT.

The Vizapur Taluk of this district has been somewhat largely affected, and the Gangapur and Bhokardan Taluks have also suffered to some extent. Well-sinking has, therefore, been started in these three taluks, and the following works besides have been sanctioned :—

- (1) The Vizapur-Ashti road.
- (2) The Lasora-Boregaon road.
- (3) Repair of Khuldabad tank.

BIR DISTRICT.

Only two taluks, Patodi and Ashti, are affected in this district, and for the present well-sinking has been commenced there.

PARBHANI DISTRICT.

A portion of one taluk only, viz., Jintur, is affected, and well-sinking has been accordingly undertaken.

NALDRUG DISTRICT.

In this district the Parenda Taluk and some villages of Taljapur have suffered. Consequently, the following works have been sanctioned in addition to well-sinking, which has already been commenced :—

- (1) The Ramdarah tank.
- (2) The Tuljapur Ghat.
- (3) The Dharaseo-Sholapur road.
- (4) The Yermala-Mominabad road.

Enclosure 2 in No. 247.

Letter from Captain W. Haig, First Assistant to the Resident at Hyderabad, to Nawab Sir Vikar-ul-Umra, K.C.I.E., His Highness the Nizam's Minister, No. 1,069, dated the 3rd May, 1901.

I am desired to address you, in continuation of the correspondence ending with my letter, No. 930, dated 18th April, 1901, on the subject of the continued increase in the number of recipients of famine relief, and especially of those gratuitously relieved, and to request the favour of an early reply to the letter cited above.

2. The Resident will be glad to learn, for the information of the Government of India, what system of relief has been adopted, the rates of wages, the kind of work opened for relief, and whether works are conducted on the principle of famine relief works as contemplated by the Code, or as ordinary labour under contractors, or by piece work.

3. The Resident wishes to be assured that all relief measures are under competent supervision, and that there is no danger of distress supervening to such an extent as to cause a sudden alteration in the system adopted by His Highness's Government.

Enclosure 3 in No. 247.

Letter from Nawab Sir Vikar-ul-Umra, K.C.I.E., His Highness the Nizam's Minister, to Lieutenant-Colonel D. W. K. Barr, C.S.I., Resident at Hyderabad, No. 665, dated the 22nd May, 1901

With reference to your letter, No. 1069, dated the 3rd May, 1901, on the subject of famine relief, I write to say that the statement asked for in your letter, No. 930, dated the 18th April, 1901, and in the preceding letters to which reference has been made therein, have already been sent to you. If you will kindly refer to paragraph 2 of your letter, No. 229, dated the 21st January 1901, in which the statements were first called for, you will see that you asked for information as to the area and population of each affected district in a tabular form, and that you also asked for returns similar to those furnished by Mr. A. J. Dunlop when he was the Famine Commissioner. A statement containing the information connected with the area and population of each affected district was sent to you, with my letter, No. 641, dated 21st May, 1901, and the monthly famine statement for March, 1901, was forwarded with my letter, No. 565, dated 2nd May, 1901. You will thus observe that no point referred to in the previous correspondence ending with your letter No. 930 remains unanswered.

2. As regards the information desired in paragraphs 2 and 3 of your letter under reply, I may mention that the system of relief adopted this year has been fully described in my letter to you, No. 88, dated 17th January, 1901. I have also, in my letter, No. 398, dated the 25th March, 1901, furnished details as to irrigation wells which have been taken in hand, and also as regards the roads, the construction of which was commenced during the last famine, and which are now being pushed forward to completion.

3. The undermentioned further works have since been sanctioned :—

AURANGABAD DISTRICT.

- (1.) Repairs to Khaksar Shah Saheb's tank.
- (2.) The Abpashi Burrah tank.
- (3.) The platform of the Khuldabad bungalow.
- (4.) Completion of the Gangapur-Lasora road.
- (5.) Completion of the Patan road.

BIR DISTRICT.

- (1.) Completion of the 1st section of the Jamkhed-Ahmednagar road.
- (2.) Completion of the 2nd section of the Jamkhed-Ahmednagar road.

NALDRUG DISTRICT.

- (1.) Completion of the Barsi-Parenda road.
- (2.) The Latur-Yedsi road.

4. As it was recently reported that some distress was being felt in the Patti Amrabad owing to want of work, sanction has been granted for the construction of a road from Mannanur to the summit of the Amrabad hill in the Mahbubnagar district.

5. A sum of one lakh of rupees has also been sanctioned as taccavi to cultivators for purchase of agricultural cattle in the affected taluks.

6. The work as regards wells are being carried out under the supervision of the Revenue officers, whilst the roads are being constructed as ordinary public works under the superintendence of the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department.

7. I may assure you that all work connected with relief measures has been entrusted to competent officers, and that the Talukdars and Subedars of the affected areas are exercising proper supervision. No famine, much less a severe famine, can at present be said to be actually in existence anywhere, there being only a scarcity in the localities affected. Under these circumstances, His Highness's Government do not consider that there is any ground to apprehend that it may be necessary to introduce any change in the present system of relief.

Annexure I.

Letter from Nawab Sir Vikar-ul-Umra, K.C.I.E., His Highness the Nizam's Minister, to Captain W. Haig, First Assistant to the Resident at Hyderabad, No. 641, dated the 21st May, 1901.

With reference to your letter, No. 930, dated 18th April, 1901, I beg to forward herewith a statement showing the total area and population of each of the districts affected by the famine this year, as well as the area and population affected in each district.

Statement of area and population of the districts affected by famine in His Highness the Nizam's Dominions.

No.	Name of District.	Total area and population of the district.		Area affected and its population.		Remarks.
		Area in square miles.	Population.	Area in square miles.	Population.	
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.
1.	Aurangabad	6,176	719,049	783	59,478	
2.	Bir	4,460	470,722	126	10,862	
3.	Parbhani	5,087	644,815	24	1,068	
4.	Naldurg	4,010	540,925	331	34,851	
	Total	19,733	2,375,511	1,264	106,259	

Annexure II.

Letter from Nawab Sir Vikar-ul-Umra, K.C.I.E., His Highness the Nizam's Minister, to Captain W. Haig, First Assistant to the Resident at Hyderabad, No. 643, dated the 21st May, 1901.

With reference to your letter, No. 1081, dated the 4th May, 1901, I beg to say that the utmost practicable despatch will be used in transmitting the statement for famine operations. But as they have to pass through several offices, for instance, in the case of

work carried out by the Revenue Department, they have to be sent from the tahsil to the district, and from the district office to the Subedari and thence to Government, it is difficult to arrange that they should reach the Honourable the Resident not later than the 10th of the month following that to which they relate.

No. 248.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel D. W. K. Barr, C.S.I., Resident at Hyderabad, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 430, dated, Hyderabad Residency, the 7th December, 1901.

I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Government of India, a copy of a letter, No. 1739, dated the 1st December, 1901, from His Highness the Nizam's Minister on the subject of relief operations in the Hyderabad State.

2. His Highness's Government do not, it will be seen, consider it necessary to furnish any further monthly statements of famine relief operations in the State, and in the circumstances the monthly statement, hitherto forwarded by this office, will be discontinued.

Enclosure in No. 248.

Letter from Maharaja Peshkar Kishen Pershad Bahadur, Officiating Minister to His Highness the Nizam of Hyderabad, to Lieutenant-Colonel D. W. K. Barr, C.S.I., Resident at Hyderabad, No. 1739, dated the 1st December, 1901.

In continuation of my letter No. 1663, dated 21st November, 1901, forwarding the monthly statement of the famine relief operations in His Highness's Dominions, I beg to state that the Subedar of Aurangabad reports that all famine relief works have now been closed, and the construction of irrigation wells by cultivators or through the Public Works Department has also been stopped, because most of the wells are finished, and the work on those not yet completed has been put off on account of the cultivators being engaged in other agricultural operations at present.

These unfinished wells will be again taken in hand and completed when the cultivators are free to resume work. All the wells in the Aurangabad District, the construction of which was entrusted to the Public Works Department, have been finished. No intimation has yet been received by the Subedar of the completion of the Ahmednagar-Jamkhed Road, but from the weekly returns he gathers that that works also is at present not in progress, and that for the reasons above alluded to, the number of labourers employed is very small. Under these circumstances it does not appear necessary to furnish any further monthly statements of famine relief operations in this State, and therefore the statement hitherto sent will be discontinued from the current month, November.

VII.

CORRESPONDENCE

RELATING TO

AGRICULTURAL ADVANCES

IN

BALUCHISTAN.

No. 249.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Calcutta, to the Agent to the Governor-General in Baluchistan, Camp, No. 1175 I.-A., dated the 7th March, 1900.

Your letters 11 C., February 8th ; * 270 C., February 23rd ; * and 312 C., February 27th,* regarding scarcity in Baluchistan. Grants of Rs. 18,000 for Marri and Bugti grain doles, and of Rs. 25,000 for road works are sanctioned for the current financial year. For next financial year provision of Rs. 7,000 will be made for Marris and Bugtis, and Rs. 1,40,000 for roads or other relief works. These are in addition to annual assignment to Baluchistan revenues. Rs. 20,000 additional for taccavi will also be granted.

No. 250.

Letter from H. S. Barnes, Esq., C.S.I., Agent to the Governor-General in Baluchistan, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 4725, dated Quetta, the 21st May, 1900.

With reference to the correspondence ending with your telegram, No. 1175 I.-A., dated the 7th March, 1900, regarding the scarcity in Baluchistan, I have the honour to forward, for the

From the Revenue Commissioner, No. 1470, dated the 15th May, 1900, and enclosure. orders of the Government, copies of the correspondence, cited in the margin, on the subject of a further increase in the Agency allotment

in the current year for agricultural loans.

2. I beg to support very strongly the proposal made by the Revenue Commissioner that the allotment be increased by a further sum of Rs. 40,000, to a total for the year of Rs. 1,10,000. As I have already reported to the Government of India, the loss of cattle in parts of the Zhob and the Thal-Chotiali districts has been very heavy, and the further enquiries since made show that in many villages the people are quite unable to cultivate their lands unless assistance can be given to them for seed grain, and for the purchase of plough bullocks. The kharif harvest in Sibi, Duki, Barkhan and Sharigh is a

* See pages 534, 552, and 556 of Command Paper No. 206, presented in 1900.

valuable one, and in these tahsils and in parts of Zhob, recent rain and floods have given the people the opportunity of cultivation if they are able to take advantage of it at once. But to enable them to do so, it is imperative that they should be given some help to replace the plough cattle which they have lost, and to procure the necessary seed. Without assistance not only will the people lose an opportunity of recovering their prosperity, but the Government will also lose revenue, which in these tahsils is chiefly taken by "batai" or division of the crops, and we may also be confronted later on with further demands for expenditure on relief works. On every ground therefore, I think it will prove to be both politic and economical to spend some money in giving the assistance which is asked for.

3. As explained by the Revenue Commissioner, the ordinary annual grant for agricultural loans* in this Agency stands

* Foreign Department letter No. 1610 E., dated the 4th August, 1890.

† Foreign Department telegram No. 1175, I-A., dated the 7th March, 1900.

at Rs. 50,000, and this has recently been increased in the current year to Rs. 70,000.† The ordinary grant of Rs. 50,000 is generally spent in loans under the Land Improvement Act for the construction and repair of Karezes and other irrigation channels, and as the demand for these advances throughout the Agency is very large, and many applications were refused last year from want of funds, it would, I think, be very short-sighted to grant no advances of this kind in the current year, more especially as the scarcity of rain has led to the drying up or diminution of many karezes, so that the demands for assistance in deepening and repairing works of this kind are more numerous than usual. Moreover, some grants under this head have already been made in Quetta and Pishin and more have been promised. On the other hand, the demand, owing to the scarcity, for special loans under the Agriculturists Loans Act for the purchase of bullocks and seed grain now amount to Rs. 70,000 in Thal-Chotiali and Zhob alone, and these demands would swallow up the whole of the grant for the year even if it were all available. I may mention that recently in the Thalli village alone in the Sibi district I have had to sanction an immediate advance of Rs. 4,000 to enable the people to take advantage of the opportunity of cultivation afforded by the recent rains, and the requirements of other villages are equally urgent. Assuming then that we restrict advances under the Land Improvement Act to Rs. 40,000 for the year, which is, I think, the lowest sum with which we can manage, the account stands as follows:—

	Rs.	Rs.
Ordinary taccavi advances throughout the Agency under the Land Improvement Act.	40,000	
Special advances now required for seed grain and plough bullocks in Thal-Chotiali.	50,000	
Special advances now required for seed grain and plough bullocks in Zhob.	20,000	
Total		1,10,000
Deduct grant sanctioned for the year—		
Ordinary	50,000	
Special	20,000	
Total		70,000
Still required		40,000

For the reasons now given I would beg very earnestly that this additional grant may be sanctioned, and as the matter is urgent, if cattle are to be purchased and lands are to be sown for the kharif, I would ask that orders may be communicated to me by telegram.

4. As regards the question alluded to by the Revenue Commissioner, of interest on the special loans for seed grain and plough cattle, I believe the Government of India are prepared in this year of scarcity to deal very liberally with those who are compelled by their heavy losses to ask for loans of this kind. I propose in this matter to deal with each case on its merits, and to sanction the loans that may be given either subject to the usual rate of interest or at a lower rate, or without interest, as may seem expedient in each instance. If any special instructions have been issued this year on this subject, I should be glad if I can be supplied with copies.

Enclosure in No. 250.

Letter from E. G. Colvin, Esq., Revenue Commissioner in Baluchistan, to the Agent to the Governor-General in Baluchistan, No. 1470, dated the 15th May, 1900.

I have the honour to submit, for favour of your early consideration, the question of an additional grant for taccavi advances during the current year.

2. The ordinary annual grant for taccavi advances of the Agency is Rs. 50,000, and a further sum of Rs. 20,000 was sanctioned by the Government of India for this year.

Foreign Department telegram No. 1175 I-A., dated the 7th March, 1900.

3. During the drought of the last three years, a large number of plough cattle have died throughout the Agency, the mortality being especially heavy in the Thal-Chotiali and Zhob districts. In Quetta-Pishin the winter snow improved prospects greatly, and the demand for plough cattle is not so urgent. The mortality of cattle in Thal-Chotiali and Zhob, coupled with the later rainfall in these districts, has created an unusually large demand for taccavi advances for seed grain and plough cattle. It is, I think, necessary to meet these demands, not only in the interests of the cultivators, but in the interests of Government as well; if plough cattle are not replaced at once, the revenue will undoubtedly suffer very seriously. I beg to enclose a copy of letter, No. 315 C., dated the 30th April, 1900, from the Political Agent, Thal-Chotiali, in which Captain Archer, has stated the case for his district, and explains that at least Rs. 50,000 are required for special loans for seed and bullocks. The Political Agent, Zhob, has, at present, only communicated his requirements by telegram, and they are as follows:—

	Rs.
Special loans for seed and bullocks ...	20,000
Ordinary taccavi	7,000

A further report giving further details will be submitted in regard to Zhob when received, but the circumstances are no doubt the same as in Thal-Chotiali, the loss in cattle in the Bori and Musa Khel Tahsils having been specially heavy. The extraordinary requirements of the two districts during the present year cannot, I think, be adequately met with less than Rs. 70,000. The ordinary taccavi grant for the province might, on the other hand, be reduced

this year from Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 40,000. It will thus be seen that the total amount required this year comes to Rs. 1,10,000, or Rs. 40,000 more than has at present been sanctioned. The circumstances, are, I think, of a special nature, and I would, therefore, suggest that an early application may be made to the Government of India for a further grant of Rs. 40,000 for the current year.

4. In his letter dated the 30th April, 1900, Captain Archer has raised the question of interest, but I do not think any special orders of the Government of India are necessary on this point. The rules in force seem to give sufficient authority to the Local Government and the Political Agents to decide in each case whether interest should be charged or not. I see no reason why the advances for seed should not be recovered from the next two harvests. The period for repayment of advances on account of cattle might be postponed for three years.

Annexure.

Letter from Captain C. Archer, Deputy Commissioner, Thal-Chotiali, to the Revenue Commissioner in Baluchistan, No. 315 C., dated the 30th April, 1900.

I have the honour to address you on the subject of the allotments for taccavi advances in the Thal-Chotiali district for the year 1900-1901.

2. I have not yet received intimation of the amount which it will be practicable to allot to the district this year, but presumably it will not at the outside exceed one-third of the total allotment for the Agency, which I understand has been raised this year to Rs. 70,000. Thus, in the most favourable circumstances, Thal-Chotiali cannot hope to receive more than Rs. 24,000.

3. I anticipated that there would be a great demand for taccavi advances this year to replace the plough cattle lost during the drought, but the applications have far exceeded my expectations both in number and amount. The recent favourable rains in the Duki, Barkhan, and Sharigh Tahsils have flooded a large amount of "sailaba" land, and have given opportunities of cultivation which the people are eager to seize upon as their only chance of retrieving their losses during the last disastrous years. On my arrival at Duki recently I was flooded with petitions for advances for the purchase of bullocks and seed grain amounting in all to over Rs. 20,000 in that tahsil alone. According to detailed lists furnished by the Maliks, the total losses of bullocks in the tahsil amount to 1,230. Further enquiry may show that this number is exaggerated, but there is no doubt that the losses have been very heavy, the mortality owing to the cold in January and February having undoubtedly been great. In some villages there are not enough bullocks left for the rabi harvesting operations, not to mention the work on "bunds" and the ploughing required for the next kharif. Even if the alleged total losses were reduced by one-third, we should have a total of 900 bullocks lost, and it must, I think, be assumed that the cultivation of the tahsil will suffer seriously unless these are replaced. Assuming that half of the owners are in a position to replace them at their own expense, or can obtain credit from banias, there would remain 450 bullocks lost by owners who cannot replace them without Government help. There are about 50 villages, large and small, in the tahsil, and this would give an average of nine bullocks per village to be replaced, which, in my opinion, is not at all high. Taking the average cost of each bullock at Rs. 30 (and the demand in Baluchistan and throughout India being what it is, this is a very low estimate), we arrive at a total of over Rs. 15,000 required in Duki alone.

4. Returns from the other tahsils show a similar state of things. Barkhan asks for Rs. 10,000, Kohlu for at least Rs. 1,200, Sharigh for Rs. 7,700, while the Sibi villages, if there is a good summer rainfall to flood the "sailaba" lands, will require Rs. 15,300; allowing only Rs. 800 for for Sinjawi (which is below the mark), the total arrived at is Rs. 50,000. For these tahsils detailed information as to the total losses in cattle are not as yet available, but the necessity for the advances applied for has been carefully considered by the Extra Assistant Commissioner in each case, and the totals asked for, in my opinion, are not at all likely to exceed the actual requirements.

5. It will be seen that no provision has been made in this estimate for advances under the Land Improvement Act for improvements to land, construction of water-courses, &c. A number of applications for loans on this account remained pending last year for want of funds, and more are expected in the ordinary course. It would be very unfortunate if these had to be held over, but I do not think we should be justified in postponing to loans for improvements, any of the loans for the purchase of cattle and seed which is a still more urgent matter. I estimate that about Rs. 10,000, the ordinary allotment of the district, will be required for loans under the Land Improvement Act.

6. I earnestly trust that, under the circumstances, the Agent to the Governor-General will move the Government of India to make a further allotment for taccavi advances, so as to admit of the grant of the full amount above estimated as necessary. I am strongly of opinion that this will be the most economical and the least objectionable way of providing the relief required. If we give help now on a liberal scale, we may hope that, with the return of good seasons, the zamindars will shortly regain their ordinary level of prosperity. If, on the other hand, we do not give them the wherewithal to resume cultivation, good seasons will be of little use to them, their lands will fall out of cultivation, and we may have to face the necessity for expending large sums on gratuitous relief.

7. It will, I think, be necessary in most instances to extend the time allowed for the repayment of these loans in the case of those for seed grain to two years, and in that of loans for the purchase of bullocks to five years. It would greatly increase the benefit conferred by the loans if they could be made without interest, and in the special circumstances I trust that this may be sanctioned. If this is considered inadvisable, I would urge that the interest should be reduced to 3½ per cent.

8. As the grant of these loans is a matter of great urgency in all cases except that of Sibi, I trust that I may be favoured with very early orders on this application.

No. 251.

Telegram from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, to the Agent to the Governor-General in Baluchistan, No. 2430 I.-A., dated the 4th June, 1900.

Your letter, 4725, May 21st. Increase of Rs. 40,000 to Agency Allotment for agricultural loans in current year is sanctioned. Orders regarding recovery of advances for seed and cattle will be posted to you.

No. 252.

Letter from Captain P. T. Spence, Assistant Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, to the Agent to the Governor-General in Baluchistan, No. 2439 I.-A., dated Simla, the 5th June, 1900.

In continuation of the telegram from the Government of India in the Foreign Department, No. 2430 I.-A., dated the 4th June, 1900, From the Government of India in the Revenue and Agricultural Department to certain Local Governments, Nos. 1042-1045 F., dated the 21st May, 1900.* I am directed to forward for your guidance a copy of the letter marginally cited, containing orders regarding the special terms on which

* Copy below.

advances for seed, cattle, &c., are to be made.

2. The terms of the letter may be applied to these loans in Baluchistan.

Enclosure in No. 252.

Circular Letter from T. W. Holderness, Esq., C.S.I., Secretary to the Government of India, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay, the Chief Secretary to the Government of the Punjab, the Chief Commissioner Central Provinces, the Chief Commissioner of Ajmer-Merwara, Nos. 1042-1045 F., dated Simla, 21st May, 1900.

I am directed to say that, as a special measure, undertaken with the object of facilitating the recovery of agriculturists in famine tracts from

the losses sustained from drought, the Government of India are pleased to direct—

- (1) That all advances made in famine tracts under the Agriculturists' Loans Act for seed, cattle and subsistence of cultivators, in connection with agriculture operations undertaken during the approaching rains, may be made free of interest ;
- (2) That the first instalment in repayment of the principal of such advances may be postponed for 12 months from date of the advance. The dates for the remaining instalments will be determined by the Local Government with reference to the existing rules applicable to advances under the Act ;
- (3) That the Local Government may hereafter grant remissions in respect of the principal of such advances, according to the circumstances of the debtors, up to one-half the aggregate sum advanced in the province.

VIII.

INSTRUCTIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA REGARDING MEASURES FOR PROVIDING RESERVES OF FODDER.

No. 253.

Letter from O. W. Bosanquet, Esq., the Deputy Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign Department, to Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. C. Wyllie, C.I.E., Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, and C. S. Bayley, Esq., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, Nos. 1175-1176 L.-A. dated Fort William, the 18th March, 1901.

The mortality among cattle which has been so marked a feature of the late famine, has again attracted attention to the importance of providing reserves of fodder for use in years of drought.

2. The subject has been repeatedly considered in the direction both of the formation of grass and fodder reserves and of the storage of cut fodder. Some details of the discussions will

*No. 16 A. dated the 1st March, 1883 } published
No. 17—105, dated the 15th July, 1891 } in the Sup-
plement to the *Gazette of India*. be found in the marginally
cited Resolutions* of the
Government of India in the

Revenue and Agricultural Department which may usefully be studied. It has been proved that even in the most barren tracts, the exclusion of animals, particularly sheep and goats, is sufficient in a few years to ensure a plentiful vegetation, which when once established can be successfully maintained. The present seems a peculiarly favourable opportunity for undertaking measures of the kind. With the contraction in the number of cattle, the restriction of the free-grazing area would not be felt ; while their recent losses should enlist the intelligent co-operation of the people in a scheme, the ultimate advantage of which to themselves they can hardly fail to recognise. The sites to be reserved must be carefully selected so that on the one hand they may be accessible to,

† Letter from the Govern-
ment of India in the Foreign
Department, No. 2969 L.-A.,
dated the 13th October, 1899.

and sufficiently large for, the tract which they are designed to protect, and that on the other hand they shall not encroach on existing cultivation, where this can be avoided, or interfere with the future extension of cultivation where it can be profitably and safely undertaken. The importance of an adequate water-supply has been separately brought to your notice.†

3. Fodder and grass reserves already exist in some States, and there will probably be little difficulty in persuading the Darbars to improve and add to the area. Both in Rajputana and Central India there are numerous grasses, plants, and trees, which yield excellent fodder. Better results may be expected from the propagation of these indigenous species than from the introduction of exotics : and the experience of the recent famine should furnish important data as to their respective drought-resisting and productive qualities. The practice of cutting and stacking grass for private use obtains also to some extent throughout

Rajputana and Bundelkhand. It has hitherto been limited by the poverty or apathy of the agriculturist ; but apparently, if encouraged by the States, it might be largely and profitably extended, so as to provide a valuable reserve against years of excessive drought when other sources of supply are less dependable.

4. The Government of India are of opinion that the subject is one which may usefully be brought to the notice of the Darbars in the Rajputana (Central India) Agency. They do not overlook the fact that there is great difficulty in making any satisfactory provision for grass and fodder in a year of extreme drought. But in ordinary dry years, grass reserves and forests are a great resource, and it is very desirable that Political Officers should place before the Darbars the results of the deliberations of the Government of India, and encourage them to maintain existing grass preserves and grazing grounds, and to increase the grass areas so far as this can be done without injury to cultivation. The attention of the States should also be directed to the practice of storing fodder. At a later date the Government of India will be glad to receive from you a report as to the attitude of the Darbars on this important question and as to the measures which they are inclined to adopt.

IX.

STATEMENT OF LOANS.

Statement of Famine Loans to Native States (other than those of the Bombay Presidency) sanctioned by the Government of India from October, 1899, to 27th March, 1902.

States.	AMOUNTS		CONDITIONS.		REMARKS.
	Applied for.	Sanctioned.	Interest per annum.	Term of repayment.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
CLASS I.—LOANS BY THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.					
<i>Central India.</i>	Rs.	Rs.			
Barwani	1,50,000	1,50,000	4 per cent.		
Jaora	3,85,000(a)	3,85,000		7 years.	
Multhan	22,000	22,000	4 per cent.	5½ "	(a) See under Clause III. for Central India.
Sohawal	2,000	2,000		2 "	
Jhabua	1,35,000	1,35,000			
Jobat	50,000	50,000			
All Rajpur	50,000	50,000			
<i>Rajputana.</i>					
Bundi	4,56,333*	3,00,000		3 years.	
Dungarpur	2,00,000	2,00,000		5 "	
Jaisalmer	50,000	50,000		Within ten years.	
Kishengarh	1,50,000	1,50,000		4 years.	
Kota	18,50,000*	12,42,380†			
Lawa	20,000	20,000			
Marwar	35,35,000	35,35,000	4 per cent.		
Mewar	5,00,000	5,00,000			
Mewar Hill Tracts	1,97,200	1,97,200		Within 10 years.	
Partabgarh	2,00,000	2,00,000			
Shahpura	1,50,000*	1,00,000			
Sirohi	2,00,000	2,00,000		Half yearly instalments of Rs. 10,000 including principal and interest.	
Tonk	7,50,000*	6,00,000			
Whole Agency	1,50,000	1,50,000			
<i>Hyderabad.</i>					
Hyderabad	2,00,00,000	2,00,00,000	4 per cent.		
				Repayable by instalments of 3 lakhs payable by the Nizam and by 13 lakhs out of Berar surplus.	
					†(1) The Nizam's Government should pay to the Government of India a minimum sum of three lakhs of rupees annually on the 1st November. Payment of any additional amount that it may be possible and desirable to spare in any year may be made, provided that notice be given, not later than the 15th February on each occasion, of the intention to make such excess payment.
					(2) Fifteen lakhs of rupees a year should be paid to the Government of India from the Berar surplus (when the latter is sufficiently large to admit of the payment). But in years when the Berar surplus is less than 15 lakhs of rupees, the whole of the surplus should be devoted to repayment of the loan. The amount by which the repayment in such years falls short of 15 lakhs of rupees shall be recovered from the surplus of any succeeding year or years that is in excess of 15 lakhs.
					(3) Compound interest will not be charged in respect of any year in which the Berar surplus falls short by more than 3 lakhs of rupees of the simple interest due.

Statement of Famine Loans to Native States—continued.

States.	AMOUNTS		CONDITIONS.		REMARKS.
	Applied for.	Sanctioned.	Interest per annum.	Term of repayment.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
CLASS I.—LOANS BY THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.—contd.					
<i>Central Provinces.</i>	Rs.	Rs.			
Bhopur	9,000	9,000	4 per cent.	5 years	Suspension of tribute. The Political Agent expected that with favourable harvests the amount could be recovered in one instalment.
Khairgarh	1,20,000	1,20,000(a)	Ditto	Ditto	(a) Includes Rs. 70,000 on account of suspension of tribute.
Nandgaon	2,50,506	2,50,506(b)	Ditto	10 years	(b) Includes Rs. 70,000 on account of suspension of tribute and Rs. 60,506 on account of suspension of nazarana.
Sakti	25,000	25,000(c)	Ditto	Ditto	(c) Provided by re-appropriation from the Provincial Loan Account.
Jatna	28,500	28,500(d)	Ditto	6 years	(d) Includes Rs. 8,500 on account of suspension of tribute.
<i>Bengal.</i>					
Tributary States of Orissa.	20,000	20,000	Not known		
<i>Punjab.</i>					
Dujana					
Loharu					
Pataudi	1,65,000	1,65,000	4 per cent.	3 years	Provided by re-appropriation from the Provincial Loan Account.
CLASS II.—LOANS FROM FUNDS SUPPLIED BY HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA SINDHIA.					
<i>Central India.</i>					
Dewas (Junior) ..	2,00,000	2,00,000			
Dewas (Senior) ..	2,00,000	2,00,000			
Jhabua	1,00,000	1,00,000			
Jobat	25,000	25,000			
Karaulia	5,000	5,000			
Nagode	60,000	60,000	4 per cent.		
Pathankot	2,000	2,000			
Piploda	75,000	75,000			
Sallana	1,00,000	1,00,000			
Sohawal	7,000	7,000			
Rutlam	1,00,000	1,00,000		4 years	
Jaora	3,25,000	3,25,000		6 "	
TOTAL ..	11,99,000	11,99,000			
CLASS III.—LOANS TO BE BORROWED IN THE OPEN MARKET OR FROM OTHER STATES UNDER GOVERNMENT GUARANTEE OR WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE GOVERNMENT.					
<i>Central India.</i>					
Barwani	1,00,000	1,00,000	5 per cent.		
Dhar	5,00,000	5,00,000	5 "	5 years	
Barwani	1,00,000	1,00,000	5 "	3 "	
Jaora	2,25,000	2,25,000	4½ "	3 "	
Dewas (Senior) ..	1,00,000	1,00,000	4 "		
Dewas (Junior) ..	2,00,000	2,00,000	4 "		
<i>Baroda.</i>					
Baroda	50 to 125 lakhs.	4503,000	4 per cent.	1 year.	Loans obtained from Indore. Contingent payments (about Rs. 32,000 in all) postponed for one year.

Statement of famine loans sanctioned and actually advanced to
1899-1900 up to the

						Loans by Gov-			
No.	Name of State.	Area.	Popula- tion.	Revenue.	Estimated annual surplus.	1899-1900.		1900-1901.	
						Sanctioned.	Advanced.	Sanctioned.	Advanced.
KATHIAWAR AGENCY (a).									
Class I.									
1	Navanagar	3,791'3	336,119	29,00,000 0 0	8,00,000 0 0				
2	Bhavnagar	2,860	410,510	45,00,000 0 0	2,00,000 0 0		6,01,249 12 0		15,00,000 0 0
3	Dhrangadhra	1,156'5	70,746	6,13,772 0 0	1,57,250 0 0		3,05,278 0 0		4,50,000 0 0
Class II.									
4	Vankaner	414'5	27,191	3,00,000 0 0	75,000 0 0		1,44,500 0 0		2,80,000 0 0
5	Dhrol	282'7	21,807	1,64,000 0 0	41,000 0 0		71,000 0 0		30,000 0 0
6	Rajkot	281'71	49,682	4,12,845 0 0	—		—		1,69,500 0 0
7	Wadhwan	236'1	34,753	4,25,000 0 0	80,000 0 0		1,38,000 0 0		2,71,500 0 0
Class III.									
8	Sayla	222'1	11,635	1,00,000 0 0	22,000 0 0		66,000 0 0		4,000 0 0
9	Chuda	78'2	11,919	92,000 0 0	23,000 0 0		50,000 0 0		10,000 0 0
Class IV.									
10	Lathi	41'8	8,816	1,22,000 0 0	—		26,600 0 0		15,000 0 0
11	Muli	133'2	15,091	84,870 0 0	—		16,000 0 0		23,000 0 0
12	Bajana	183'12	10,290	1,00,000 0 0	25,000 0 0		50,000 0 0		40,000 0 0
13	Virpur	66'9	6,146	80,000 0 0	20,000 0 0		—		—
14	Malia	102'8	9,076	1,10,000 0 0	27,500 0 0		88,400 0 0		36,900 0 0
15	Kotda Sangani	74'4	8,836	1,25,000 0 0	90,000 0 3		46,000 0 0		56,000 0 0
16	Azam Vala Naja Kala ..	Not ascertain- able.	—	1,25,000 0 0	31,250 0 0		25,000 0 0		38,000 0 0
17	Sardargadh			69,241 0 0	6,769 0 0		—	—	
Class V.									
18	Jalia Divani	35'9	2,341	24,900 0 0	679 0 0	21,25,000 0 0		42,00,000 0 0	
19	Kotharia	—	2,129	20,000 0 0	—		—		—
20	Gavridad	27'4	1,916	17,275 0 0	—		—		—
21	Pal	21'2	1,359	15,000 0 0	—		—		—
22	Gadhka	23'1	1,636	18,900 0 0	2,925 0 0		5,000 0 0		—
23	Mengni	34'5	3,354	33,000 0 0	—		12,920 0 0		7,000 0 0
24	Jetpur-Vala Godad and Valsur Punja ..	Not ascertain- able.	—	67,000 0 0	7,000 0 0		—		—
25	Jetpur-Vala Ala Bhima ..			86,000 0 0	2,500 0 0		—	—	
26	Vanod	—	3,804	40,000 0 0	—		10,000 0 0		13,230 12 10
27	Bantwa Bahi Rustam- khanji	Not ascertainable	—	27,000 0 0	9,800 0 0		—		—
Class VI.									
28	Shapur	—	1,137	16,028 0 0	—		—		—
29	Bhadva	—	1,051	16,000 0 0	—		9,000 0 0		2,200 0 0
30	Rajpara	—	1,862	26,228 0 0	1,766 0 0		6,000 0 0		6,000 0 0
31	Jetpur, Vala Rana Mamaiya ..	Not ascertain- able.	—	16,000 0 0	4,000 0 0		2,500 0 0		4,000 0 0
32	Jetpur, Vala Loma Matra ..			31,000 0 0	7,750 0 0		6,000 0 0		6,000 0 0
33	Jetpur, Bhima Valera ..			46,330 0 0	—		—		—
34	Jetpur, Vala Kala Bhan ..			30,200 0 0	—		—		—
35	Jetpur, Vala Nag Hamir ..			31,000 0 0	7,750 0 0		14,000 0 0		—
36	Jetpur, Vala Rukhad Gorkha ..	Not ascertain- able.	—	62,500 0 0	15,825 0 0		27,000 0 0		10,000 0 0
37	Bagasra, Vala Ram Harsur ..			—	—		28,000 0 0		24,391 0 0
38	Bagasra, Valsur Valera ..			46,700 0 0	10,000 0 0		—		—

(a) The terms of repayment of the majority of the loans in the Kathiawar Agency were sanctioned in Foreign Department letter

Native States in the Bombay Presidency from the year
15th November, 1901.

ernment.				Total advanced.	Loans under guarantee. Amount received.	Total of famine loans.	Amount repaid.	Amount of advances to cultivators.	Remarks.
1901-1902.									
Sanctioned.	Advanced.								
Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	
	—	15,00,000 0 0	1,40,000 0 0	16,40,000 0 0	—	—	—	—	
	—	6,01,249 12 0	30,00,000 0 0	36,01,249 12 0	6,01,249 12 0	—	—	—	Interest paid Rs. a. p. 9,549 9 4
	—	7,55,278 0 0	—	7,55,278 0 0	—	—	—	—	
	—	4,24,500 0 0	—	4,24,500 0 0	—	—	—	—	Interest paid 14,325 5 5
	—	1,01,000 0 0	—	1,01,000 0 0	1,01,000 0 0	—	—	—	Do. 1,685 14 8
	—	1,68,500 0 0	—	1,68,500 0 0	—	—	—	—	Do. 3,978 2 3
	—	4,09,500 0 0	—	4,09,500 0 0	—	—	—	—	
	—	70,000 0 0	1,05,000 0 0	1,75,000 0 0	70,000 0 0	—	—	—	Interest paid 1,280 10 6
	—	60,000 0 0	—	60,000 0 0	60,000 0 0	—	—	—	Do. 916 11 1
	—	41,600 0 0	—	41,600 0 0	20,000 0 0	—	—	—	
	—	39,000 0 0	—	39,000 0 0	39,000 0 0	—	—	—	
50,000 0 0	—	1,40,000 0 0	—	1,40,000 0 0	—	—	—	—	
	—	—	1,00,000 0 0	1,00,000 0 0	—	—	—	—	
38,000 0 0	—	1,64,300 0 0	—	1,64,300 0 0	1,26,300 0 0	—	—	—	Interest paid 1,997 9 3
	—	1,02,000 0 0	—	1,02,000 0 0	—	—	—	—	Do. 3,716 9 7
	—	63,000 0 0	—	63,000 0 0	63,000 0 0	—	—	—	Do. 739 2 17
	—	—	55,000 0 0	55,000 0 0	—	—	—	—	
8,00,000 0 0	—	—	20,000 0 0	20,000 0 0	—	—	—	—	
	—	—	25,000 0 0	25,000 0 0	—	—	—	—	
	—	—	20,000 0 0	20,000 0 0	—	—	—	—	
	—	—	20,000 0 0	20,000 0 0	—	—	—	—	
	—	5,000 0 0	20,000 0 0	25,000 0 0	5,000 0 0	—	—	—	Interest paid 491 3 10
	—	19,920 0 0	—	19,920 0 0	19,920 0 0	—	—	—	Do. 273 13 10
	—	—	60,000 0 0	60,000 0 0	—	—	—	—	
	—	—	61,000 0 0	61,000 0 0	—	—	—	—	
6,200 0 0	—	29,430 12 10	—	29,430 12 10	23,230 12 10	—	—	—	
	—	—	19,000 0 0	19,000 0 0	—	—	—	—	
	—	—	12,000 0 0	12,000 0 0	—	—	—	—	
	—	11,200 0 0	—	11,200 0 0	11,200 0 0	—	—	—	
	—	12,000 0 0	20,000 0 0	32,000 0 0	12,000 0 0	—	—	—	
	—	6,500 0 0	—	6,500 0 0	6,500 0 0	—	—	—	Interest paid 72 14 1
	—	12,000 0 0	—	12,000 0 0	12,000 0 0	—	—	—	Do. 387 9 3
	—	—	33,000 0 0	33,000 0 0	—	—	—	—	
	—	—	25,000 0 0	25,000 0 0	—	—	—	—	
	—	14,000 0 0	—	14,000 0 0	14,000 0 0	—	—	—	Do. 197 11 1
	—	37,000 0 0	—	37,000 0 0	37,000 0 0	—	—	—	Do. 511 12 1
	—	50,391 0 0	—	50,391 0 0	—	—	—	—	
	—	—	47,500 0 0	47,500 0 0	—	—	—	—	

No. 3563-I.A., dated the 23rd September, 1901. Proposals as regards the remainder are awaited from the Political Agent.

Statement of famine loans sanctioned and actually advanced to Native States in the

Loans by Gov-									
No.	Name of State.	Area.	Popula- tion.	Revenue.	Estimated annual surplus.	1899-1900.		1900-1901.	
						Sanctioned.	Advanced	Sanctioned.	Advanced.
				Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
KATHIAWAR AGENCY—cont.									
Class VII.									
39	Khirastra	—	3,117	—	—	—	—	—	—
40	Lodhika, Jadeja Hari- singji.	—	1,111	20,000 0 0	—	—	—	—	—
41	Vadali	—	409	—	—	—	—	—	—
THANA CIRCLES.									
Wadhwan, District Thana.									
42	Thana in general	196'475	15,356	1,73,899 0 0	43,425 0 0	—	21,052 0 11	—	76,888 6 2
43	Jhala Udesingh Atabbai and others, share- holders of Vana.	Included in Thana in general.		—	—	—	—	—	—
44	Jhala Khasubha Devi- singh, share-holder of Vana.			—	—	—	—	—	—
45	Jhala Juwansinh and Khimubha Nagbha, shareholders of Vana.			—	—	—	—	—	—
46	Jhala Jurnaji Motibha ..			—	—	—	—	—	—
47	Jhala Gagubha Amarsinh, of Talana.			1,500 0 0	400 0 0	—	—	—	—
48	Jhala Jainsinh Harisinh, of Vana.			7,200 0 0	1,180 0 0	—	—	—	—
49	Jhala Dhirsinh Patabhai, of Palali.			715 0 0	415 0 0	—	—	—	—
50	Jhala Naghbhai Jethibhai, of Palali.			508 0 0	290 0 0	—	—	—	—
51	Jhala Ramsinhji Kalab- hai, of Palali.			508 0 0	8,290 0 0	—	—	—	—
52	Jhala Patabhai Jalam- sinh, Palali.			317 0 0	180 0 0	—	—	—	—
53	Jaswatsinh Shivsinh, of Palali.			208 0 0	75 0 0	—	—	—	—
54	Kalubha Junabbhai, share- holder of Devalia.			1,296 0 0	688 0 0	—	—	—	—
55	Rana Harisinhji Agar- sinhji and others, share- holders of Kesria.			1,377 0 0	377 0 0	—	—	—	—
56	Sardarsinh Udesinh, shareholder of Vanod.			400 0 0	100 0 0	—	—	—	—
57	Jhala Manubhai and Vakhatsinh, Vajesinh, of Palali.			1,130 0 0	414 0 0	—	—	—	—
57A	Jhala Takhsatsinh Mulu- bhai, of Palali.			272 0 0	138 0 0	—	—	—	—
58	Halubhai Nayabhai, of Palali.			364 0 0	164 0 0	21,25,000 0 0	—	42,00,000 0 0	—
59	Bhimsinh and Fatesinh Amarsinh, Talukdars and shareholders of Jhamar.			885 0 0	295 0 0	—	—	—	—
Chotila Thana.									
60	Thana in general	387'9	15,611	90,100 0 0	22,525 0 0	1,58,050 0 0	—	4,02,749 0 6	—
61	Khachar Jethsur Mansur, Anandpur Talukdar.	Included in Thana in general.		—	—	—	—	—	—
62	Bhoj Desi, shareholder of Anandpur.			10,000 0 0	4,500 0 0	—	—	—	—
Bhoika Thana.									
63	Thana in general	178'388	15,896	327,300 0 0	81,825 0 0	6,317 0 0	—	99,386 7 9	—
64	Rana Jemabhai Ramab- hai and Prabhatsinh Dharabhai, share- holders of Samla.	Included in Thana in general.		1,413 0 0	500 0 0	—	—	—	—
65	Jhala Prabhatsinh Har- bhamji and others, shareholders of Bhal- ganda.			1,500 0 0	—	—	—	—	—
Palud Thana.									
66	Thana in general	227'3	13,913	80,850 0 0	20,213 0 0	17,000 0 0	—	1,41,951 10 8	—
67	Khachar Chela Odha, shareholder of Palud.	Included in Thana in general.		2,048 0 0	745 0 0	—	—	—	—
68	Khachar Oghad Odha, shareholder of Palud.			2,048 0 0	600 0 0	—	—	—	—
69	Khachar Laxman Mulu- shareholder of Palud.			6,420 0 0	25 0 0	—	—	—	—
70	Khachar Lakha Giga, being minor, through his mother Devubai and Alag Dhana, Bhagdars of Khumbhara.			2,072 0 0	1,000 0 0	—	—	—	—
71	Khavads Vala Vira and Jina Rana and Bhoja Punja, shareholders of Sudamda Dhandbalpur.			5,250 0 0	1,880 0 0	—	—	—	—

Bombay Presidency from the year 1899-1900 up to the 15th November, 1901—cont.

ernment.		1901-1902.		Total advanced.	Loans under guarantee. Amount received.	Total of famine loans.	Amount repaid.	Amount of advances to cultivators.	Remarks.
Sanctioned.	Advanced.								
Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	
	—	—	18,000 0 0	18,000 0 0	—	—			
	—	—	25,000 0 0	25,000 0 0	—	—			
	500 0 0	*500 0 0	4,000 0 0	4,500 0 0	—	—			*The whole Taluka has since been brought under management. This sum was advanced to the Talukdar and his co-sharers Nos. 126 and 128.
	—	97,940 7 1		97,940 7 1	—	—			
	—		2,001 0 0	2,001 0 0	—	—			
	—	—	350 0 0	350 0 0	—	—			
	—	—	350 0 0	350 0 0	—	—			
	—	—	350 0 0	350 0 0	—	—			
	—	—	2,001 0 0	2,001 0 0	—	—			
	—	—	5,001 0 0	5,001 0 0	—	—			
	—	—	115 0 0	115 0 0	—	—			
	—	—	280 0 0	280 0 0	—	—			
	—	—	280 0 0	280 0 0	—	—			
	—	—	250 0 0	250 0 0	—	—			
	—	—	180 0 0	180 0 0	—	—			
	—	—	735 0 0	735 0 0	—	—			
	—	—	725 0 0	725 0 0	—	—			
	—	—	800 0 0	800 0 0	—	—			
	—	—	500 0 0	500 0 0	—	—			
	—	—	220 0 0	220 0 0	—	—			
8,00,000 0 0	—	—	190 0 0	190 0 0	—	—			
	—	—	600 0 0	600 0 0	—	—			
	42,975 10 1	6,03,774 10 1	—	6,03,774 10 1	2,968 13	—			
	—	—	11,500 0 0	11,500 0 0	—	—			
	—	—	6,000 0 0	6,000 0 0	—	—			
	—	1,05,703 7 9	—	1,05,703 7 9	—	—			
	—	—	925 0 0	925 0 0	—	—			
	—	—	1,105 0 0	1,105 0 0	—	—			
	12,812 1 4	1,74,763 12 0	—	1,74,763 12 0	520 15 10	—			
	—	—	550 0 0	550 0 0	—	—			
	—	—	550 0 0	550 0 0	—	—			
	—	—	3,300 0 0	3,300 0 0	—	—			
	—	—	900 0 0	900 0 0	—	—			
	—	—	3,000 0 0	3,000 0 0	—	—			

Statement of famine loans sanctioned and actually advanced to Native States in the

Loans by Gov									
No.	Name of State.	Area.	Popula- tion.	Revenue.	Estimated annual surplus.	1899-1900.		1900-1901.	
						Sanctioned.	Advanced.	Sanctioned.	Advanced.
				Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
KATHIAWAR AGENCY—cont.									
Dasada Thana.									
72	Thana in general	119'76	10,941	1,69,000 0 0	42,250 0 0		17,300 0 0		10,995 0 0
73	Malek Motima <i>alias</i> Rasulkhanji Jafar- khanji, Dasada Talu- kdar.	Included in Thana in general.	{	23,331 0 0	9,220 0 0		—		4,120 0 0
74	Malek Saheb, of Dasada			—	—		—		4,800 0 0
75	Malek Jesarkhanji, of Dasada.			—	—		—		9,900 0 0
Vithalghad Thana.									
76	Bhaskarrao Vithal and his sons, Talukdars of Vithalghad (Hadala and Rasal Pipalva).	Not ascertainable		30,380 0 0	—		—		—
Jhinjhuvada Thana.									
77	Thana in general	181'6	11,732	1,50,000 0 0	37,500 0 0		25,579 15 8		85,136 0 0
78	Rozwa under Jhinjhuvada.	Included in Thana in general.	{	—	—		—		1,280 0 0
79	Thakor Bathiji Kanthat and Naruji Bhogoji, shareholders of Jhin- jhuvada.			2,775 0 0	1,575 0 0		—		—
80	Thakor Prathiraj Sabhaji, shareholder of Jhinjhuvada.			5,082 0 0	2,492 0 0		—		—
Bagasra Thana.									
81	Vala Ram and Vira Mulu	Not ascertainable		—	—		8,000 0 0		12,148 0 0
Lakhapadar Thana.									
82	Thana in general	137'2	13,177	1,91,789 0 0	47,947 0 0		20,000 0 0		42,065 0 0
83	Devubai, widow of Vala Jethsur Sumait, share- holder of Dholarva.	Included in Thana in general.	{	1,000 0 0	250 0 0		—		—
84	Vala Punja Bhima, share- holder of Dholarva.			500 0 0	125 0 0		—		—
85	Vala Nag Dan and Vala Jetha Unad, share- holders of Charkha.			2,500 0 0	625 0 0	21,25,000 0 0	—	42,00,000 0 0	—
86	Vala Devdan Mulu, share- holder of Charkha.			2,500 0 0	625 0 0		—		—
87	Vala Jivna Mulu, share- holder of Charkha.			2,500 0 0	625 0 0		—		—
88	Vala Dewait Ram, share- holder of Bhathan.			1,200 0 0	300 0 0		—		—
89	Vala Sadul and Harsoor Moka, shareholders of Charkha.			5,000 0 0	1,250 0 0		—		—
90	Vala Ebbal Golam, guard- ian of Vala Punja and Giga Vikamthi and Vala Ebbal, shareholders of Charkha.			5,000 0 0	1,250 0 0		—		—
91	Vala Umad Mansur, shareholder of Khijadia.			1,500 0 0	375 0 0		—		—
92	Vala Naja and Vira Bhoj, shareholders of Charkha.			2,500 0 0	625 0 0		—		—
93	Vala Punja Jaita, share- holder of Monvel.			1,400 0 0	350 0 0		—		—
94	Vala Hamir Hathia, Talukdar of Halaris.			4,500 0 0	1,500 0 0		—		—
95	Vala Bawa Jaga, Taluk- dar of Garmali Moti.			600 0 0	160 0 0		—		—
Dedan Thana.									
96	Kotila Naja Raning, of Dedan.	Not ascer- tainable.	{	—	—		4,000 0 0		5,648 0 0
97	Mota Barman			—	—		—		1,322 0 0
98	Kotila Jetwal Chapraj, shareholder of Dedan.			8,700 0 0	—		—		—
Songadh Thana.									
99	Thana in general	Not ascertainable		—	—		—		19,647 14 0
100	Gohel Pratapsinhji, &c., of Limbda.	12,627 Included in Thana in general.		—	—		5,000 0 0		4,315 12 0
101	Gohel Harisinhji Jesinhji, Talukdar, Limbda.	—		11,020 0 0	—		—		—

Bombay Presidency from the year 1899-1900 up to the 15th November, 1901—cont.

Amount.		Total advanced.	Loans under guarantee. Amount received.	Total of famine loans.	Amount repaid.	Amount of advances to cultivators.	Remarks.
1901-1902.							
Sanctioned.	Advanced.						
Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	
	—	28,285 0 0	—	28,285 0 0	—	—	
	—	4,120 0 0	21,000 0 0	25,120 0 0	4,120 0 0	—	Interest paid Rs. a. p. 60 8 0
	—	4,800 0 0	—	4,800 0 0	—	—	
	—	9,900 0 0	—	9,900 0 0	—	—	
	—	—	25,000 0 0	25,000 0 0	—	—	
	9,084 8 8	1,19,800 6 4	—	1,19,800 8 4	—	—	
	—	1,280 0 0	—	1,280 0 0	—	—	
	—	—	2,001 0 0	2,001 0 0	—	—	
	—	—	4,001 0 0	4,001 0 0	—	—	
	—	20,148 0 0	—	20,148 0 0	10,000 0 0	—	
	—	62,065 0 0	—	62,065 0 0	—	—	
	—	—	450 0 0	450 0 0	—	—	
	—	—	300 0 0	300 0 0	—	—	
8,00,000 0 0	—	—	1,450 0 0	1,450 0 0	—	—	
	—	—	777 0 0	777 0 0	—	—	
	—	—	777 0 0	777 0 0	—	—	
	—	—	851 0 0	851 0 0	—	—	
	—	—	2,172 0 0	2,172 0 0	—	—	
	—	—	1,200 0 0	1,200 0 0	—	—	
	—	—	1,100 0 0	1,100 0 0	—	—	
	—	—	557 0 0	557 0 0	—	—	
	—	—	500 0 0	500 0 0	—	—	
	—	—	4,401 0 0	4,401 0 0	—	—	
	—	—	670 0 0	670 0 0	—	—	
	—	9,848 0 0	—	9,848 0 0	—	—	
	—	1,822 0 0	—	1,822 0 0	122 0 0	—	
	—	—	1,000 0 0	1,000 0 0	—	—	
	—	19,647 14 0	—	19,647 14 0	1,234 1 3	—	
	—	9,315 12 0	—	9,315 12 0	—	—	
	—	—	3,501 0 0	3,501 0 0	—	—	

Statement of famine loans sanctioned and actually advanced to Native States in the

No.	Name of State.	Area.	Population.	Revenue	Estimated annual surplus.	Loans by Govt.			
						1899-1900.		1900-1901.	
						Sanctioned.	Advanced.	Sanctioned.	Advanced.
				Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
	KATHIAWAR AGENCY—cont.								
	<i>Chamardi Thana.</i>								
102	Thana in general	72	10,494	—	—				27,252 0 0
103	Rawal Harbhamji and Modhbhai Vejabbhai and Khodabbhai Gamansing, of Vadod.	Included in Thana in general.		1,200 0 0	400 0 0				—
	<i>Bibra Thana.</i>								
104	Thana in general	298'7	24,067	—	—		49,000 0 0		1,37,978 0 7
105	Vala Jaga Godad, of Babra.	Included in Thana in general.		—	—		—		5,000 0 0
106	Khachar Mulu, Bhoj and his son, shareholders of Kariana.			9,000 0 0	3,000 0 0		—		—
107	Khachar Rana Khoda, shareholder of Kariana.			4,850 0 0	1,850 0 0		—		—
108	Khachar Champraj Mansur, shareholder of Bhadli.			5,769 0 0	—		—		—
109	Vala Biaya Hathia and others of Kotda Pitha.			7,000 0 0	4,500 0 0		—		—
110	Vala Champraj Ebhal, of Babra.			9,500 0 0	—		—		—
111	Vala Ala Matra, of Kotda Pitha.			3,000 0 0	500 0 0		—		—
112	Khachar Ram Dewait, Itaria Talukdar.			5,000 0 0	500 0 0		—		—
113	Knachar Sadul, Dewait, Ram Itaria shareholder.			5,500 0 0	800 0 0		—		—
114	Salyod Ruseinmia Gulamia, of Bandhia.			500 0 0	200 0 0		—		—
115	Khachar Dada Kala, shareholder of Bhadli.			2,600 0 0	500 0 0		—		—
116	Khachar Raning Ohomla, shareholder of Bhadli.			5,245 0 0	1,045 0 0		—		—
117	Vala Devdan Desa, shareholder of Kotda Pitha.			4,630 0 0	630 0 0		—		—
118	Khachar Lakha Matra, of Kariana.			2,500 0 0	500 0 0		—		—
119	Vala Punja Jiva and others of Babra.			6,800 0 0	1,800 0 0		—		—
120	Khachar Lakha Kala, of Bhadli.			2,503 0 0	400 0 0		—		—
121	Khachar Ram Bhim, of Bhadli.			2,500 0 0	300 0 0		—		—
122	Khachar Vasta Vagha ..			2,000 0 0	500 0 0	21,25,000 0 0	—	42,00,000 0 0	—
	<i>Ditha Thana.</i>								
123	Unadji Pathiraj, heir of Sarvaiya Pathiraj Adabbhai, shareholder of Pasni.	Not ascertainable.		1,500 0 0	500 0 0		—		—
124	Sarvaiya Hanuirji and others, of Pasni.			3,050 0 0	1,050 0 0		—		—
	<i>Lodhika Thana.</i>								
125	Thana in general	265'2	5,870	46,200 0 0	—		9,554 0 0		5,470 0 0
126	Jadeja Pathabbhai Mulji and others, shareholders of Vadali.	Included in Thana in general.		2,000 0 0	—		—		—
127	Jadeja Govindji and Rasabbhai Amarsinh, shareholders of Mawa and Vajdi.			—	—		—		—
128	Jadeja Bhuraji Pragji, shareholder of Vadali.			—	—		—		—
129	Jadeja Madhavsing Jethji, shareholder of Sisang Chandli.			300 0 0	—		—		—
130	Jadeja Khimaji Jamalji and his brothers, shareholders of Sisang Chandli.			800 0 0	—		—		—
131	Jadeja Gagubha and Jethibhai, shareholders of Virwa.			2,300 0 0	300 0 0		—		—
132	Jadeja Nathaji Dadaji, shareholder of Nana Mama.			400 0 0	100 0 0		—		—
133	Jadeja Dewaji Dajibhai, shareholder of Nana Mama.			250 0 0	—		—		—
134	Jadeja Ratansinh Gajabbhai, shareholder of Dewalia under Bhadwa.			685 0 0	116 0 0		—		—
135	Jadeja Bhimji Kasaji, shareholder of Sisang Chandli.			275 0 0	140 0 0		—		—
136	Jadeja Dipalsingji Vajesinhji and others, of Thebachda.			800 0 0	300 0 0		—		—

Bombay Presidency from the year 1899-1900 up to the 15th November, 1901—*cont.*

Sanctioned.		Advanced.		Total advanced.		Loans under guarantee. Amount received.		Total of famine loans.		Amount repaid.		Amount of advances to cultivators.		Remarks.	
Rs.	a. p.	Rs.	a. p.	Rs.	a. p.	Rs.	a. p.	Rs.	a. p.	Rs.	a. p.	Rs.	a. p.		
27,262	0 0	—	—	27,262	0 0	232	4 7	—	—						
—	—	600	0 0	—	—	—	—	—	—						
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—						
21,586	14 9	2,11,573	15 4	—	—	2,11,573	15 4	2,903	5 0	—	Interest paid Rs. a. p. 7 2 5				
—	—	5,000	0 0	—	—	5,000	0 0	—	—						
—	—	—	—	3,500	0 0	3,500	0 0	—	—						
—	—	—	—	3,500	0 0	3,500	0 0	—	—						
—	—	—	—	6,000	0 0	6,000	0 0	—	—						
—	—	—	—	5,500	0 0	5,500	0 0	—	—						
—	—	—	—	4,000	0 0	4,000	0 0	—	—						
—	—	—	—	1,000	0 0	1,000	0 0	—	—						
—	—	—	—	3,000	0 0	3,000	0 0	—	—						
—	—	—	—	2,000	0 0	2,000	0 0	—	—						
—	—	—	—	400	0 0	400	0 0	—	—						
—	—	—	—	2,000	0 0	2,000	0 0	—	—						
—	—	—	—	2,500	0 0	2,500	0 0	—	—						
—	—	—	—	3,000	0 0	3,000	0 0	—	—						
—	—	—	—	2,000	0 0	2,000	0 0	—	—						
—	—	—	—	5,500	0 0	5,500	0 0	—	—						
—	—	—	—	1,500	0 0	1,500	0 0	—	—						
—	—	—	—	1,500	0 0	1,500	0 0	—	—						
—	—	—	—	1,000	0 0	1,000	0 0	—	—						
8,00,000	0 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—						
—	—	—	—	105	0 0	105	0 0	—	—						
—	—	—	—	2,000	0 0	2,000	0 0	—	—						
—	—	15,024	0 0	—	—	15,024	0 0	6,779	7 6	—	Interest paid Rs. a. p. 189 1 8				
—	—	—	—	2,900	0 0	2,900	0 0	—	—						
—	—	—	—	700	0 0	700	0 0	—	—						
—	—	—	—	3,000	0 0	3,000	0 0	—	—						
—	—	—	—	200	0 0	200	0 0	—	—						
—	—	—	—	350	0 0	350	0 0	—	—						
—	—	—	—	2,200	0 0	2,200	0 0	—	—						
—	—	—	—	200	0 0	200	0 0	—	—						
—	—	—	—	150	0 0	150	0 0	—	—						
—	—	—	—	1,000	0 0	1,000	0 0	—	—						
—	—	—	—	105	0 0	105	0 0	—	—						
—	—	—	—	400	0 0	400	0 0	—	—						

Statement of famine loans sanctioned and actually advanced to Native States in the

No.	Name of State.	Area.	Popula- tion.	Revenue.	Estimated annual surplus.	Loans by Gov			
						1890-1900.		1900-1901	
						Sanctioned.	Advanced.	Sanctioned.	Advanced.
				Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
KATHIAWAR AGENCY—cont.									
<i>Lodhika Thana—cont.</i>									
137	Jadeja Dewaji Jijibhai and others of Thebachda.			425 0 0	125 0 0	—	—	—	—
138	Bai Jamba and Jamjiba, widows of Jadeja Bhupatsing, Talukdar of Kankasali.			1,650 0 0	500 0 0	—	—	—	—
139	Jadeja Harsinh and Jijibhai Mansinh, of Nana Mama.			300 0 0	125 0 0	—	—	—	—
140	Jadeja Mulubhai and others, shareholders of Manekwada under Rajapara.			1,200 0 0	1,000 0 0	—	—	—	—
141	Jadeja Chakubha Bechar-sing, of Thebachda.			400 0 0	125 0 0	—	—	—	—
142	Jadeja Chandrasinhji Lakhaji and others, of Sesang Chandli.			1,800 0 0	800 0 0	—	—	—	—
143	Jadeja Jorsinh Jayaji and others, of Manekwada.			925 0 0	352 0 0	—	—	—	—
144	Jadeja Harisinh Ramaji, Kotda Nayani Talukdar.			1,857 0 0	899 0 0	—	—	—	—
145	Ratansinh Bhawsinhji and others of Manekwada under Guduka.			2,500 0 0	500 0 0	—	—	—	—
146	Jadeja Bapubhai Jivan and others, of Sisang Chandli.			2,500 0 0	950 0 0	—	—	—	—
147	Jadeja Sardarsinh Bhana-ji, shareholder of Kotda Nayani.			200 0 0	50 0 0	—	—	—	—
148	Jadeja Saiwatsinh and others, shareholders of Ramki.			2,080 0 0	150 0 0	—	—	—	—
149	Jadeja Dolatsinh Viraji and Rahubha Udesinh, of Dewalia under Bhadwa.			2,500 0 0	500 0 0	—	—	—	—
150	Akhubha Hamirji and others, of Manekwada.	Included in Thana in general.		2,700 0 0	1,000 0 0	—	—	—	—
151	Jadeja Nathuji Amarji and others, of Bhada.			1,000 0 0	200 0 0	—	—	—	—
152	Jadeja Narsinh Jadeji and others, of Sisang Chandli.			750 0 0	200 0 0	—	—	—	—
153	Jadeja Nanubhai Patha-bhai and others, of Sulia.			1,400 0 0	400 0 0	—	—	—	—
154	Jadeja Meruji Punaji, shareholder of Kotda Nayani.			200 0 0	50 0 0	—	—	—	—
155	Jadeja Dewnaji Ramabhai, Mulgirasia of Jhileria under Khirasra.			900 0 0	—	—	—	—	—
156	Patubhai and Prabhat-sinh Desaiji, share-holder of Thebachda.			550 0 0	—	—	—	—	—
157	Jadeja Partapsinh and Nathuji Varsaji, share-holders of Sisang Chandli.			600 0 0	—	—	—	—	—
158	Jadeja Bhansinh Moti-bhai, shareholder of Sisang Chandli.			125 0 0	—	—	—	—	—
159	Jadeja Jesinhji Motibhai, shareholders of Sisang Chandli.			100 0 0	—	—	—	—	—
160	Jadeja Kalubha Dudaji, shareholder of Thebachda.			900 0 0	300 0 0	—	—	—	—
161	Jadeja Bhanabhai Kesri-sinh, shareholders of Mama Vajdi.			2,200 0 0	1,000 0 0	—	—	—	—
162	Jadeja Jesaji Hamirji, Bhagdar of Vadwai Vajdi under Khirasra.			1,200 0 0	800 0 0	—	—	—	—
163	Jadeja Kasuba Radhu-bhai, of Sisang Chandli.			400 0 0	—	—	—	—	—
164	Modji Raghobhai and others, of Sulia and Vadipara.			2,400 0 0	—	—	—	—	—
Dhrafa Thana.									
165	Thana in general ..	207'7	9,895	1,06,000 0 0	78,500 0 0	16,000 0 0	77,450 0 0		
166	Jadeja Sainatsinh Manu-bha and others, share-holders of Dhrafa.	Included in Thana in general.		2,000 0 0	500 0 0	—	—	—	—
167	Jadeja Jiyaji Gagibhai, shareholder of Dhrafa.			1,300 0 0	300 0 0	—	—	—	—
168	Jadeja Raghobhai and Habbubhai Halaji, shareholders of Dhrafa.			1,100 0 0	300 0 0	—	—	—	—
169	Jadeja Madhavsing Mu-luji, shareholder of Dhrafa.			500 0 0	50 0 0	—	—	—	—

Bombay Presidency from the year 1899-1900 up to the 15th November, 1901—cont.

Government.	1901-1902.		Total advanced.	Loans under guarantee. Amount received.	Total of famine loans.	Amount repaid.	Amount of advances to cultivators.	Remarks.
	Sanctioned.	Advanced.						
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	
				500 0 0	500 0 0	—	—	
				2,000 0 0	2,000 0 0	—	—	
				230 0 0	230 0 0	—	—	
				550 0 0	550 0 0	—	—	
				400 0 0	400 0 0	—	—	
				1,001 0 0	1,001 0 0	—	—	
				1,000 0 0	1,000 0 0	—	—	
				2,550 0 0	2,550 0 0	—	—	
				2,100 0 0	2,100 0 0	—	—	
				1,118 0 0	1,118 0 0	—	—	
				250 0 0	250 0 0	—	—	
				1,470 0 0	1,470 0 0	—	—	
				3,000 0 0	3,000 0 0	—	—	
				1,200 0 0	1,200 0 0	—	—	
				750 0 0	750 0 0	—	—	
				420 0 0	420 0 0	—	—	
				1,250 0 0	1,250 0 0	—	—	
				200 0 0	200 0 0	—	—	
				425 0 0	425 0 0	—	—	
				200 0 0	200 0 0	—	—	
				600 0 0	600 0 0	—	—	
				95 0 0	95 0 0	—	—	
				68 0 0	68 0 0	—	—	
				500 0 0	500 0 0	—	—	
				2,500 0 0	2,500 0 0	—	—	
				1,000 0 0	1,000 0 0	—	—	
				180 0 0	180 0 0	—	—	
				1,300 0 0	1,300 0 0	—	—	
	8,431 6 3	1,02,881 6 3		—	1,02,881 6 3	9,386 10 9	—	
				500 0 0	500 0 0	—	—	
				401 0 0	400 0 0	—	—	
				600 0 0	600 0 0	—	—	
				300 0 0	300 0 0	—	—	

Statement of famine loans sanctioned and actually advanced to Native States in the

No.	Name of State.	Area.	Popula- tion.	Revenue.	Estimated annual surplus.	Loans by Govt.			
						1899-1900.		1900-1901.	
						Sanctioned.	Advanced.	Sanctioned.	Advanced.
				Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
KATHIAWAR AGENCY—cont.									
Dhrafu Thana—cont.									
170	Jadeja Vajesinh Dhangaji and others, shareholders of Mulita Machhiawad.	Included in Thana in general.		1,250 0 0	250 0 0	—	—	—	—
171	Jadeja Bhawabhai Hathibhai, shareholder of Mulita Machhiawad.			800 0 0	200 0 0	—	—	—	—
172	Jadeja Vajesinh Patabhai, shareholder of Satudad.			50 0 0	—	—	—	—	—
173	Jadeja Khanjibhai Jemalji, shareholder of Vavdi.			100 0 0	—	—	—	—	—
174	Jadeja Jibhai Umedsinh and others, shareholders of Dhrafu.			1,500 0 0	200 0 0	—	—	—	—
175	Jadeja Rumsinh Dudaji and others, shareholders of Vavdi.			250 0 0	50 0 0	—	—	—	—
176	Jadeja Shivabhai Hathibhai and others, shareholders of Dhrafu.			5,400 0 0	600 0 0	—	—	—	—
177	Jadeja Oghadbhai Nar-sinhji, shareholders of Dhrafu.			500 0 0	100 0 0	—	—	—	—
178	Jadeja Abhesinh Dudaji and others, shareholders of Dhrafu.			300 0 0	—	—	—	—	—
179	Malek Abhramkhan Kanabhai, shareholder of Amrapur.			500 0 0	80 0 0	—	—	—	—
180	Malek Bapubhai Mamdubhai, shareholder of Amrapur.			700 0 0	250 0 0	—	—	—	—
181	Jadeja Jhinabhai Muluji and others, shareholders of Dhrafu.		500 0 0	100 0 0	—	—	—	—	
182	Jadeja Kalubhai and Bhurabhai Sabhaji, shareholders of Dhrafu.		800 0 0	—	21,25,000 0 0	—	42,00,000 0 0	—	
183	Jadeja Rupabhai Nathuji and others, shareholders of Satudad.		500 0 0	200 0 0	—	—	—	—	
Bhagdars and others not under Thana.									
184	Malek Hamirkhan Dosabhai and others, Bhayats of Mera under Vanod.	Not ascertain- able.		5,000 0 0	1,000 0 0	—	—	—	—
185	Vala Naja Mamaiya, of Jetpur.			16,000 0 0	4,000 0 0	—	2,000 0 0	—	—
186	Sardar Mahomedkhanji, of Sardargadh.			—	—	—	—	5,000 0 0	—
187	Jorawarkhan and others, of Bantwa.			—	—	—	—	6,000 0 0	—
188	Jadeja Pratapsinh Jiyaji, shareholder of Kalamdi under Mengni.			2,800 0 0	600 0 0	—	—	—	—
189	Jadeja Jorsinh and Ramabhai Bhavsinhji, shareholders of Campa Beda under Mengni.			425 0 0	—	—	—	—	—
190	Bhaobhai and Vaghubhai Batansinh, shareholders of Kalamdi Mengni.			941 0 0	200 0 0	—	—	—	—
	Ballast work, Wadhwan		—	—	—	—	—	13,276 0 0	—
	Whole Agency		—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL				—	—	21,25,000 0 0	21,06,300 12 7	42,00,000 0 0	42,00,001 0 0
BIJAPUR AGENCY.									
1	Jath (a)	884	61,000	1,61,500 0 0	45,000 0 0	40,000 0 0	40,000 0 0	2,00,000 0 0	2,00,000 0 0
2	Daphlapur Estate (b)	97	6,787	16,000 0 0	2,000 0 0	—	—	—	—
KOLHAPUR AND SOUTHERN MARATHA COUNTRY AGENCY.									
1	Wadi Estate (c)	—	1,180	5,620 0 0	—	—	—	5,000 0 0	5,000 0 0

(a) The Political Agent has promised to submit proposals for repayment of the loans shortly.
(b) For terms of repayment vide Foreign Department letter No. 1441-L. A., dated the 12th April, 1901.

Bombay Presidency from the year 1899-1900 up to the 15th November, 1901—cont.

Government.	1901-1902.		Total advanced.	Loans under guarantee. Amount received.	Total of famine loans.	Amount repaid.	Amount of advances to cultivators.	Remarks.
	Sanctioned.	Advanced.						
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	
	—	—	—	1,101 0 0	1,101 0 0	—	—	
	—	—	—	282 8 0	282 8 0	—	—	
	—	—	—	30 0 0	30 0 0	—	—	
	—	—	—	75 0 0	75 0 0	—	—	
	—	—	—	800 0 0	800 0 0	—	—	
	—	—	—	75 0 0	75 0 0	—	—	
	—	—	—	1,001 0 0	1,001 0 0	—	—	
	—	—	—	200 0 0	200 0 0	—	—	
	—	—	—	140 0 0	140 0 0	—	—	
	—	—	—	400 0 0	400 0 0	—	—	
	—	—	—	525 0 0	525 0 0	—	—	
	—	—	—	200 0 0	200 0 0	—	—	
	—	—	—	140 0 0	140 0 0	—	—	
	—	—	—	225 0 0	225 0 0	—	—	
8,00,000 0 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	—	—	—	7,500 0 0	7,500 0 0	—	—	
	—	—	2,000 0 0	13,000 0 0	15,000 0 0	2,000 0 0	—	Interest paid Rs. a. p. 49 15 4
	—	—	5,000 0 0	—	5,000 0 0	5,000 0 0	—	Do. 45 6 7
	—	—	6,000 0 0	—	6,000 0 0	3,000 0 0	—	
	—	—	—	1,500 0 0	1,500 0 0	—	—	* Distribution not yet known.
	—	—	—	200 0 0	200 0 0	—	—	† Re. 1 was repaid to Paliad Thana in 1900-1901. It was refunded on 14th June, 1901.
	—	—	—	600 0 0	600 0 0	—	—	Orders have been issued for the payment of Rs. 79,000 from this amount, but it has not yet been paid.
4,00,000 0 0	4,00,000 0 0	13,276 0 0	—	13,276 0 0	—	—	—	Rs. a. p. 4,000 0 0
13,00,000 0 0	1,93,589 7 1	88,99,901 3 8	40,74,436 8 0	1,09,74,337 11 8	1,09,74,337 11 8	—	—	Vain Ram Hirsur, 4,000 0 0 of Bagasra, Chuda, 10,000 0 0 Mulli, 38,000 0 0 Bajana, 10,000 0 0 Sayla, 17,000 0 0
3,00,000 0 0	3,00,000 0 0	5,40,000 0 0	2,00,000 0 0	6,40,000 0 0	—	—	—	Rs. 68,222, which is recoverable.
12,000 0 0	12,000 0 0	—	—	12,000 0 0	—	—	—	
	—	5,000 0 0	—	5,000 0 0	1,000 0 0	—	—	Rs. 1,370, which is recoverable.

(c) The Bombay Government have sanctioned the repayment of the loan in annual instalments of Rs. 1,000. As the Chief is a minor, no agreement has been taken.

Statement of famine loans sanctioned and actually advanced to Native States in the

No.	Name of State.	Area.	Population.	Revenue.	Estimated annual surplus.	Loans by Gov.			
						1899-1900.		1900-1901.	
						Sanctioned.	Advanced.	Sanctioned.	Advanced.
				Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
MAHIKANTHA AGENCY. (a)									
1	Idar	1,900	1,68,522	3,97,045 0 0	25,473 0 0	10,000 0 0	10,000 0 0	3,40,000 0 0	3,40,000 0 0
2	Pol	140	3,859	20,372 0 0	1,216 0 0	—	—	10,000 0 0	10,000 0 0
3	Malpur	75	8,065	34,381 0 0	62 0 0	—	—	8,000 0 0	8,000 0 0
4	Mohanpur	85	10,041	25,742 0 0	36 0 0	—	—	7,686 0 0	7,686 0 0
5	Varsoda	15	3,656	21,754 0 0	4,082 0 0	—	—	—	—
6	Pethapur	10	5,751	18,153 0 0	146 0 0	—	—	3,248 0 0	3,248 0 0
7	Ghodasar	12	6,219	31,019 0 0	40 0 0	1,000 0 0	1,000 0 0	12,000 0 0	4,000 0 0
8	Katosan	20	1,510	31,124 0 0	331 0 0	—	—	13,809 0 0	13,809 0 0
9	Ilol	10	3,306	22,271 0 0	1,100 0 0	300 0 0	300 0 0	12,497 0 0	12,497 0 0
10	Amliara	80	7,227	36,936 0 0	3,104 0 0	500 0 0	500 0 0	3,000 0 0	3,000 0 0
11	Valasna	25	2,749	6,209 0 0	1,000 0 0	—	—	32 0 0	32 0 0
12	Dabha	10	1,307	6,306 0 0	—	—	—	5,032 0 0	5,032 0 0
13	Vasna	9	4,494	14,370 0 0	—	1,297 5 8	1,297 5 8	10,703 10 4	10,703 10 4
14	Rupal	9	3,113	2,516 0 0	—	—	—	—	—
15	Magodi	25	1,527	8,750 0 0	56 0 0	500 0 0	500 0 0	4,200 0 0	4,200 0 0
16	Vadagam	35	2,121	8,351 0 0	90 0 0	—	—	2,750 0 0	2,750 0 0
17	Sothamba	20	3,022	8,945 0 0	538 0 0	—	—	—	—
18	Ramas	10	805	2,382 0 0	323 0 0	100 0 0	100 0 0	957 0 0	957 0 0
19	Bolundra	7	740	2,105 0 0	5 0 0	—	—	32 0 0	32 0 0
20	Khedawda	27	804	4,045 0 0	500 0 0	—	—	750 0 0	750 0 0
21	Hajpa	9	838	834 0 0	501 0 0	—	—	2,625 0 0	2,625 0 0
22	Likhi	30	959	3,145 0 0	—	—	—	4,000 0 0	4,000 0 0
23	Gabat	15	604	6,574 0 0	120 0 0	500 0 0	500 0 0	850 0 0	850 0 0
24	Ijpura Bhagdar	5	342	1,100 0 0	—	—	—	1,500 0 0	1,500 0 0
25	Maguna Bhagdars 3 shares	8	750	13,500 0 0	250 0 0	—	—	500 0 0	500 0 0
26	Do. 8 shares	—	—	—	1,600 0 0	—	—	3,300 0 0	3,300 0 0
27	Rampura	2	199	1,800 0 0	200 0 0	—	—	250 0 0	250 0 0
28	Ranipura	4	253	3,250 0 0	250 0 0	—	—	250 0 0	250 0 0
29	Tejpura	4	356	2,900 0 0	—	—	—	5,000 0 0	5,000 0 0
30	Mehmedpara Pratapsing	—	—	—	—	—	—	900 0 0	900 0 0
31	Do. Agarsing	5	449	900 0 0	75 0 0	—	—	600 0 0	600 0 0
32	Do. Basiji	—	—	—	—	—	—	300 0 0	300 0 0
33	Virsoda Gambhirsing	5	748	3,000 0 0	—	—	—	850 0 0	850 0 0
34	Do. Agarsing	—	—	—	—	—	—	650 0 0	650 0 0
35	Sudasha	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
36	Bavai Thana	—	—	—	—	—	20,000 0 0	74,000 5 0	—
37	Gadhwa Thana	—	—	—	—	—	6,000 0 0	28,12 11 9	—
38	Katosan Thana	—	—	—	—	—	—	25,409 12 3	—
39	Vatrak Kantha Thana	—	—	—	—	—	300 0 0	20,731 12 0	—
40	Sabarkantha Thana	—	—	—	—	—	3,800 0 0	6,587 0 0	—
41	Sadra Bazar	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	Whole Agency	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
REWA KANTHA AGENCY.									
1	Rajpipla (b)	1,514	1,17,101	8,50,406 6 0	1,12,035 0 0	75,000 0 0	75,000 0 0	1,50,000 0 0	1,50,000 0 0
2	Balasinar (c)	180	32,626	1,97,139 0 0	14,647 0 0	15,000 0 0	15,000 0 0	70,000 0 0	70,000 0 0
3	Bhadarwa (d)	27	8,783	52,416 0 0	2,634 0 0	—	—	13,000 0 0	10,000 0 0
4	Mandwa (e)	16	4,987	32,836 0 0	4,014 0 0	—	—	20,000 0 0	20,000 0 0

(a) The loans to the Mahi Kantha States and Talukas are repayable in 10 years. The Political Agent has been asked to take acknowledgments of the loans up to date and to submit proposals for the recovery of the advances made to the Thanas.

(b) For terms of repayment, vide Bombay Government letter No. 8307, dated the 22nd November, 1900.

Bombay Presidency from the year 1899-1900 up to the 15th November, 1901—cont.

Sanctionment.	1901-1902.	Total advanced.	Loans under guarantee. Amount received.	Total of famine loans.	Amount repaid.	Amount of advances to cultivators.	Remarks.	
	Sanctioned.	Advanced.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Includes proportion due on account of—	
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Establishment.	Contingencies.
1,00,000 0 0	—	—	4,50,805 6 10	—	4,50,805 6 10	—	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
	—	—	10,000 5 8	—	10,000 5 8	—	752 5 3	53 1 7
	—	—	8,000 0 0	—	8,000 0 0	—	5 14 9	0 6 9
	1,400 0 0	—	9,086 0 0	—	9,086 0 0	—	—	—
	—	—	—	5,000 0 0	5,000 0 0	—	—	—
	—	—	3,248 0 0	—	3,248 0 0	—	—	—
	—	—	5,015 6 7	—	5,015 6 7	—	14 5 11	1 0 8
	2,600 0 0	—	16,431 5 0	—	16,431 5 0	—	20 13 2	1 7 10
	800 0 0	—	13,612 0 8	—	13,612 0 8	—	14 0 4	1 0 4
	—	—	33,504 7 6	20,000 0 0	23,504 7 6	—	4 2 8	0 4 10
	—	—	32 0 0	—	32 0 0	—	—	—
50,000 0 0	—	—	5,032 0 0	—	5,032 0 0	—	—	—
	1,800 0 0	—	13,616 5 7	—	13,616 5 7	—	14 4 11	1 0 8
	—	—	2,877 6 0	—	2,877 6 0	—	—	—
	800 0 0	—	5,503 2 9	—	5,503 2 9	—	2 15 5	0 3 4
	—	—	2,750 0 0	—	2,750 0 0	—	—	—
	—	—	—	5,000 0 0	5,000 0 0	—	—	—
	400 0 0	—	1,457 15 5	—	1,457 15 5	—	0 14 1	0 1 4
	300 0 0	—	332 0 0	—	332 0 0	—	—	—
	—	—	750 0 0	—	750 0 0	—	—	—
	—	—	2,625 0 0	—	2,625 0 0	—	—	—
	—	—	4,000 0 0	—	4,000 0 0	—	—	—
4,000 0 0	4,000 0 0	—	5,354 2 2	—	5,354 2 2	—	3 13 8	0 4 6
	—	—	1,500 0 0	—	1,500 0 0	—	—	—
	—	—	500 0 0	—	500 0 0	—	—	—
	—	—	3,300 0 0	—	3,300 0 0	—	—	—
	—	—	250 0 0	—	250 0 0	—	—	—
	—	—	250 0 0	—	250 0 0	—	—	—
	—	—	5,000 0 0	—	5,000 0 0	—	—	—
	—	—	900 0 0	—	900 0 0	—	—	—
	—	—	600 0 0	—	600 0 0	—	—	—
	—	—	300 0 0	—	300 0 0	—	—	—
50,000 0 0	—	—	850 0 0	—	850 0 0	—	—	—
	—	—	650 0 0	—	650 0 0	—	—	—
	800 0 0	—	800 0 0	—	800 0 0	—	—	—
	20,000 0 0	—	1,15,391 6 5	—	1,15,391 6 5	218 3 9	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
	—	—	35,283 10 6	—	35,283 10 6	874 8 4	774 0 1	14 1 4
	8,280 0 0	—	35,465 4 4	—	34,466 4 4	1,895 8 6	1,064 11 1	6 3 8
	4,200 0 0	—	25,439 11 3	—	25,439 11 3	1,381 15 1	769 4 6	6 3 7
	1,280 0 0	—	11,761 4 4	—	11,761 4 4	982 12 7	204 4 6	8 10 9
	360 0 0	—	360 0 0	—	360 0 0	—	92 7 6	1 12 10
150,000 0 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	† Distribution not yet known.	
4,00,000 0 0	—	—	6,25,000 0 0	—	6,25,000 0 0	22,700 0 0	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
90,000 0 0	90,000 0 0	—	1,75,000 0 0	—	1,75,000 0 0	8,500 0 0	774 0 1	14 1 4
3,000 0 0	3,000 0 0	—	13,000 0 0	—	13,000 0 0	—	1,064 11 1	6 3 8
—	—	—	20,000 0 0	—	20,000 0 0	—	769 4 6	6 3 7
	—	—	—	—	—	—	204 4 6	8 10 9
	—	—	—	—	—	—	92 7 6	1 12 10
	—	—	—	—	—	—	† Out of general revenues and loan. Much of this will be eventually found to be irrecoverable.	
	—	—	—	—	—	—	54,030 8 0	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—	3,538 14 3	—
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For terms of repayment, as regards the first two loans: as for the loan of Rs. 50,000, vide Foreign Department letter No. 2512, dated the 1st July, 1901.

For terms of repayment, vide Bombay Government letter No. 6286, dated the 7th September, 1901.

The loans are repayable in 10 years.

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