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 * செப்பனுவதற்காக எடுத்த *
 * கொள்ளப்பட்ட *
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 * மாதம் வருடம் *
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 * செப்பனிட முடித்த *
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 * *1983* மாதம் வருடம் *
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 * *28/6* *
 * ஆராய்ச்சி உதவியாளரின் *
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SELECTIONS FROM THE RECORDS

OF THE
 COLLECTOR OF SOUTH CANARA.

Published by Authority.

REPORT

OF

MR. H. M. BLAIR,

PRINCIPAL COLLECTOR,

ON THE

SETTLEMENT OF THE LAND REVENUE

OF

SOUTH CANARA DISTRICT,

FOR

FASLI 1254.

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

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MANGALORE,
21st OCTOBER 1845.

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Fort St. George.

Sir,

I have the honor to submit my report on the settlement of the Land Revenue of this District for the past Fasli 1254, together with the usual accounts and Statements.

English.

A, B, C, D, E, F, G & H.
Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 12 & 13.

Hindoo.

E, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N & O.
Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 12 & 13.

2. The several Taluks were settled in the following manner, viz., Bekal, Udipi, Barkur, Coondapoor, Sondah and

by the Sub-Collector Mr. Parker; Mangalore, Bantval and Honore by the Additional Collector Mr. Ward; and Ankola and Supah by the Head Assistant Mr. Forbes. Some change in the charge of the different Taluks, necessarily took place at the time Parker was Acting Principal Collector, two of the Taluks, viz., Sondah and Bilghi, which were settled by him, are included in Mr. Ward's report; and Mangalore, and Bantval which were settled by that Gentleman, are reported upon by Mr. Parker.

3. The season was on the whole favorable, though the crops of Bett land suffered materially from a deficiency of rain in the early part of the season, and the heavy rains which interfered in some cases with the regular cultivation of the Byle land. Both Rice crops and Garden products, are considered to have been above the out-turn of the preceding year.

4. The season proved very injurious to the Salt Manufacture, the late rains in November having delayed the preparation of the Pans, and the early showers in May, having put a stop to the manufacture altogether. The quantity of Salt manufactured fell short of the preceding year, to the extent of 1017 Garce, and of the estimate by 1076 Garce.

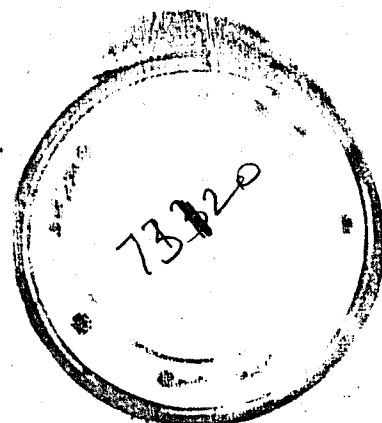
	GARCE.	MUGGALS.
Salt manufactured in 1253	3,423	319.
Ditto. ditto. in 1254	2,406	33.
Decrease	1,017	286
Estimate for ... 1254	3,482	367.
Manufactured in ditto.	2,406	33.
Decrease	1,076	374.

This failure occasioned very heavy loss to the Salt manufacturing ryots.

5. The season was less healthy than usual, the Cholera, and small pox having raged in several parts of the District. By the former disease, 1419 persons appear to have been carried off; and by the latter 1386. A severe epidemic also prevailed among the Cattle, by which upwards of 12,000 heads are stated to have perished.

6. The triennial census taken during the past Fasli, exhibits an increase of 53,530 in the population of the District; and an accession of 46,293 in the cattle. The particulars are given in the subjoined Statement:—

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	1251	1254	Increase.	Percentage.
Hindoos. ...	7,30,963	8,24,854	43,891	5 1/2
Moosulman ...	58,010	66,244	8,234	14 "
Christians ...	28,088	29,493	1,405	5 "
Total population ...	8,67,061	9,20,591	53,530	6 "
Cattle ...	6,59,278	7,05,577	46,299	7 "

7. The export of rice by sea, during the year under report, exceeds both that of

EXPORTS OF RICE.				the preceding year, and the	
		CORGES.	MOORAS.	average of five former years,	
1253 ...	...	28,934	4 1/4	by 2386 Corges over the	
1254 ...	...	31,320	16 1/4	former, and 4602 Corges over	
	INCREASE ...	2,386	12 1/4	the latter. The subjoined state-	
Average of 5 past years ...	...	26,717	36 1/2	ment distinguishes the produce	
	INCREASE ...	4,602	22	of Canara and Mysore:—	

		Canara.		Mysore and Coorg.		TOTAL.	
		CORGES	M.	CORGES	M.	CORGES	M.
Fasli 1253	...	23,923	2½	5,311	1½	28,934	4¼
" 1254	...	26,040	8	6,280	8½	31,320	16½
INCREASE		1,117	5½	969	7	2,386	12¼
PERCENTAGE		6	—	18	10	8	10
Average of the last 5 years		22,926	37½	3,790	41	26,717	36½
INCREASE		2,113	12½	2,189	9½	46.2	22
PERCENTAGE		9	6	65	28	17	9.

8. The prices of grain as compared with the previous year, exhibit an increase in favor of the year under report, though still below the commutation price. The increase in the Payenghaut Taluks, was more considerable than in the Bala ghaunt, but when compared with the average of the past five years, there is a falling off in the prices, both in upper, and lower Canara, as exhibited in the subjoined Table:—

	PAYENGHAUT TALUKS.						BALAGHAUT TALUKS.	
	Average per Corge of Jeera rice.		Average per Corge of Muscaty Rice.		Average per Corge of Rassi Rice.		Average per Corge of Paddy.	
Fasli 1253 ...	69	10 9	57	11 5	52	0 8	15	11 5
" 1254 ...	71	11 6	61	5 6	54	4 5	15	15 6
	INCREASE ...	2	0 9	3	10 1	2	3 9	0 4 1
	PERCENTAGE ...	2	15 5	6	5 10	4	4 9	1 11 2
Average of the past 5 years ...	75	7 7	62	11 8	55	2 9	20	6 6
	DECREASE ...	3	12 1	1	6 2	0	14 4	4 7 0
	PERCENTAGE ...	4	15 4	2	3 9	1	10 0	22 3 0

9. The prices of garden products were higher than those of the preceding year, but, when compared with the average of former years, they exhibit an increase in Betelnut and Cardamums, and a decrease in Pepper.

	Betelnut per Candy.			Pepper per Candy.			Cardamums per Candy.		
Fasli 1253 ...	34	9	8	43	1	0	376	7	4
" 1254 ...	39	0	7	46	1	0	516	4	0
	INCREASE ...	4	8	11	3	0	139	12	8
	PERCENTAGE ...	12	7	0	7	0	37	2	0
Average of the last 5 years ...	35	2	5	60	11	2	374	4	5
	INCREASE ...	3	14	2	4	10	141	15	7
	PERCENTAGE ...	11	1	0	9	0	37	13	0

10. It has been usual to show the quantity of garden products exported by sea and land as a criterion by which the produce of each article might be estimated; but in consequence of the frontier Chowkis having been abolished in February last, no account could be obtained of the quantity exported by land since that time. Owing to the want of this information, the statement only of the export by sea would give but an imperfect estimate of the produce; the Statement has, therefore, been omitted altogether. In future years, the necessary data for framing an estimate of the garden cultivation will be obtained through the Land Revenue Establishment.

	PER THOUSAND.		11. The price of Cocoanuts, one of the Staples of Lower Canara, was
Fasli 1253 ...	13	7	6
" 1254 ...	13	1	3
	DECREASE ...	0	6
Average of the last 5 years ...	15	0	2
	DECREASE ...	1	11

12. The Settlement of the Land Revenue, with the additions and reductions in each Taluk, is exhibited in the subjoined table, showing an increase of Rs. 6,255—9—3, over the Settlement of the preceding Fasli:—

Taluk.	Tharoo 1254.	Settlement of 1253 exclusive of Salt Pans & Bez.		ALTERATIONS IN 1254.		Settlement of 1254.	Increase in 1254 over 1253.
				Additions.	Reductions.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Mangalore ...	2,19,413	6	7	2,15,536	7	6	404
Bikal ...	2,05,532	10	8	2,03,840	6	9	242
Bunawala ...	8,07,841	0	0	2,64,831	7	0	1,394
Udipi ...	1,79,105	7	10	1,76,226	11	2	239
Barkur ...	1,94,421	5	6	1,88,806	12	0	249
Coondapoor ...	2,50,601	3	6	2,32,341	4	5	900
Honnawar ...	2,09,904	5	9	1,82,048	12	0	2,748
Arkola ...	1,5,808	10	10	1,18,862	0	6	944
Soorab ...	1,14,101	13	2	84,403	12	0	2,769
Sonda ...	1,68,731	5	5	1,27,849	2	0	1,838
Bugli ...	68,341	5	5	57,450	0	10	1,072
TOTAL ...	20,71,551	11	8	18,51,530	13	2	13,053
QUIT RENT ...	...	6,58	11	11	...	...	308
		18,52,189	9	1			18,52,189

— 5 — 5

Remissions granted in 1253	7,466—13—5
Ditto 1254	6,797—9—11
DECREASE	669—3—6

15. The amount of the instalments as previously settled to be brought up in the year under report, was Rs. 5,911-1-3, of which Rs. 4,801-9-5 was realized, leaving a balance of Rs. 1,109-7-10, which it was deemed necessary to postpone for a further period. The loss of cattle and the sickness prevailing among the people, occasioned certain estates to be left partially waste, added to which the continued low prices of grain diminished the means of the ryots, and rendered it unadvisable rigidly to enforce the instalments in all cases.

17. The alterations made in the classification of Estates during the year under report, are shown in abstract in the subjoined table,
* I and I beg to refer the Board to the detailed* statement for further particulars:—

[illegible]

BHARTI WARGs.		
	No. of Kuls.	Assessment.
1253	42,682.	14,98,920-6-11
1254	43,188.	15,19,593-0-5
Increase..	506.	21,272-9-6

raised on these Wargs in the fasli under report, was Rupees 2,616-12-7, the settlement of the same during the preceding year having been Rupees 18,655-12-11.

ENTIRELY WASTE ESTATES.		
1253	2,225.	44,782-9-0
1254	2,153.	43,974-14-3
Decrease	72.	757-10-9

TANAKHI.		
	Kuls.	Rs. A. P.
1253	6,525.	2,51,852-5-11
1254	6,380.	2,47,391-6-2
Decrease	145.	4,460-15-9

	R.	A.	P.
Demand	18,57,786	6	10
Collection	18,19,699	6	8
Balance on the 11th July 1254	38,087	0	2
Since collected	31,223	10	10
Balance on the 15th Octr. 1845	6,863	5	4
Percentage	0	5	10

Rs. 0-5-10 per cent of the demand for the year.

22. The arrears of Land revenue outstanding at the beginning of Fasli 1254, amounted to Rupees 56,501-6-5, viz:

	Rs.	A.	P.
On account of 1253	48,023	9	9
Ditto. of former years	8,477	12	8
Total	56,501	6	5

Of this sum Rupees 47,728-15-2 were realized during the past Fasli, viz:

	Rs.	A.	P.
On account of 1253	45,651	1	11
Ditto of former years	2,077	13	3
Total	47,728	15	2

18. The foregoing Statement, shows an addition to the head of Bharti, of 506 Wargs, the assessment on which amounts to Rupees 21,272-9-6. The amount

19. The number of entirely waste wargs has been reduced in the past year by 72, the present assessment on which amounts to Rs. 757-10-9.

20. There is also a decrease in the number of Estates under inquiry, or Tanaki, to the extent of 145 the assessment of which amounts to Rupees 4,460-15-9.

21. Of the total demand amounting to Rupees 18,57,786-6-10, Rupees 18,19,699-6-8 was realized within the Fasli, leaving a balance of Rs. 38,087-0-2 which has since been reduced to Rupees 6,863-5-4 being

Arrears outstanding on the 11th July 1254: 8,772-7-3
Since collected .. 514-8-9
Amount remissions since sanctioned .. 1,502-11-10.

2,017-4-7
Outstanding on the 15th October 1845 .. 6,755-2-8

leaving a balance of Rupees 8,772-7-3 of which Rs. 2,017-4-7 has since been collected, including remissions sanctioned by Government dated 30th June and 5th August last.

23. With respect to the arrears outstanding as above I propose shortly to submit a separate report.

24. Of the advances for cultivation, made in 1254, there remains a sum of Rupees 93-10-3 which will be collected before the end of January following. The amount outstanding is too small to call for any particular explanation.

25. The subjoined Comparative Statement of the revenues from all sources exhibits a decrease in the year under report of Rs. 61,642-6-10:-

Items.	1253.	1254.	Increase.	Decrease.
1	2	3	4	5
Land Revenue	17,45,607	17,51,862	6,255	...
Devadiem	1,03,923	1,05,923	...	...
Quit Rent	658	308	...	350
Total	18,52,189	18,53,094	6,255	350
Salt	3,28,767	4,15,772	87,005	...
Sayer	2,92,217	1,90,546	...	1,11,671
Sea Customs	3,24,045	2,81,977	...	42,068
Abkari	59,647	65,456	5,809	...
Ferry Farms	5,739	5,559	...	180
Sundry Farms	5,393	6,312	918	...
Mohturpha	15,957	15,503	...	453
Tobacco	2,75,739	2,84,401	8,661	...
Stamps	35,791	23,210	...	2,581
Ameendevis	23,023	10,939	...	12,987
Total	13,67,223	12,69,675	1,02,394	1,59,941
Grand Total	32,19,413	31,57,770	1,08,649	1,76,292
Deduct Increase			1,08,649	12 11
Net Decrease				61,642 6 10

Villages.	No. of Kuls.	No. of Guntas under cultivation.	Assessment at 1 Rupee for 60 Guntas.		
			Rs.	A.	P.
Siddapoor in Mulghi..	6	187	3	1	10
Coppa in ditto. . .	3	107½	1	12	10
	9	294½	4	14	8

26. The statement in the margin will show that an extent of 294½ Guntas has been brought under Kumeri cultivation on the sides of the Sirsi Road, the assessment remitted on which is Rs. 4—14—10.

27. I now proceed to submit my replies to such of the observations of the Board in their proceedings on the settlements of Faslis 1252 and 1253, dated respectively 5th December 1844, and 29th May 1845 as call for remark.

28. With respect to the ravages of insects in the Udipi Taluk, I beg to state, that the amount of remissions, viz. Rupees 298—1—1, which from an inquiry made during the settlement of the past Fasli, appeared necessary, will be included in the remissions to be recommended by me in a separate report.

29. In para 4 of their Proceedings dated 5th December 1844, the Board have inferred, that the increase of Beriz from new cultivation in the Fasli under their review, amounting to Rupees 561—13—11, was owing to encroachments on the Sirkar Geni wargs and Kulnust.

30. I beg to state, that this is not the case, nor can I perceive any sufficient ground for the Board having arrived at such a conclusion. As explained in Mr. Thompson's report in Fasli 1253, the increase in question arose exclusively from an accession of new cultivation, and the transfer of Geni* wargs to the head of Muli.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount of Beriz transferred from Geni to Muli	138	14	3
Ditto on Hossagame cultivation	422	15	8
	561	13	11

31. With respect to the observations of the Board in the same para, that there has been no alteration in the number of Government wargs notwithstanding the sum of Rs. 138—14—3 was transferred from that head, to the head of Muli, I beg to explain that the number deducted from the Government wargs, and the number added to them,

	No. of wargs.	Amount of Beriz.		
Geni wargs on the close of 1251.	12,429	2,95,633	4	10
Add from Hossagame in 1252 . .	3	48	7	2
	12,432	2,95,676	12	0
Deduct transferred to Muli in 1252	3	182	5	5
Remaining for 1252	12,429	2,95,494	6	7
Difference between 1251 and 1252		138	14	3

32. In para 6 of their proceedings under reply, the Board observe, that of Rs. 127—5—10 deducted from the permanent remissions of Beriz on Salt Pans, Rupees 50—11—4 being brought to account, it does not appear how the remainder is accounted for.

33. The following is the explanation of this Item:—
Some Wargdars who had obtained a permanent remission of the Beriz on their worked Salt Pans, laid a claim for a further remission on certain unworked Pans, forming part of their Estates. On an inquiry being made it appeared, that the remissions allowed exceeded the proportion to be borne by the worked Pans, in reference to the actual produce of the entire Estates. The excess of Rupees 127—5—10 was deducted from permanent remission, and Rs. 42—14—3 out of that sum, transferred to the head of Beriz suspended on Pans unworked, leaving a balance of Rs. 84—7—2 of which Rs. 50—11—4 were carried to account in 1252, and for Rs. 33—11—10 instalments were fixed, as to collect the whole at once would have distressed the wargdars, so as to interfere with the regular discharge of their respective kists. At the time this arrangement was made, some other portion of Beriz on the same Estates, which had been suspended pending some inquiries, was settled to be brought up by instalments. The instalments under both these heads, amounted to Rs. 74—9—2, and were fixed as shown in the Statement in the margin.

Salt Beriz as above	76	10	6
Other Beriz	40	13	4
	117	7	10
Deduct on account of portions of waste Pans	42	14	8
Remaining for Instalments	74	9	2

34. In the same para the Board observe that the remission on new cultivation in one statement, differs from that in another, by Rupees 183—9—11.

35. The Board are aware, that the accounts of the Hossagame Beriz have

Total Hossagame Beriz from 1243 to 1252. See Statement J. Column 26 ..	3,884	13	10
Deduct Statement in 1252, Column 27 ..	1,029	15	11
	2,854	13	11
Deduct amount of assessment on 26 Estates under Tanaki Column 57 .. 437—4—3			
Settlement in ditto. .. 68—4—0			
	369	0	3
Remaining amount of Hossagame Beriz since 1243 for which instalments are fixed ..	2,485	13	8
Add amount of Beriz on account of Estates newly cultivated previous to 1243 and for which instalments are fixed ..	185	6	4
Total (See Col. 169, Statement E) being the amount of Hossagame estates for which instalments are fixed ..	2,671	4	0

instalments were fixed. The present forms of Hossagame accounts are defective and required some alteration; but as the Board have desired* that the forms of Jamabandi accounts are not to be changed, without their sanction, I shall not make any alteration until their instructions on the subject are received.

36. In para 7 of their proceedings under reply, in reference to the observations in my report in Fasli 1252, on the operation of the existing Revenue system, the Board state, that they

have shown that the increase in the Revenue of the District which I had exhibited in favour of the present system, "is only apparent from the oversight of including "in it the collections of the pergunnahs recently acquired from Coorg". To this I beg leave to observe, that the accession of the Coorg Maganes was not overlooked by me, though it was certainly an omission not showing the addition to the Junma of the District in Fasli 1244 from the reannexation of these Maganes. That circumstance, however, does not at all affect the correctness of my statement,

	Amount inclusive of Kumeri.	
	Rs. A. P.	
Land Revenue Settlement of 1243	16,73,649—11— 3	
Ditto of 1254 18,57,786— 6—10		
Deduct Coorg. 80,284— 1— 6		
	17,77,502— 5— 4	
Increase ..	1,03,852—10— 1	

37. With respect to the remarks of the Board in the same para, that the improvement of the Revenue is attributable "to the favourable character of the "seasons for the last five or six years, the effects of which have been exemplified "in the increased Revenue of almost every District, under this Presidency". I would

been regularly kept only since Fasli 1243, and it is owing to the want of the necessary details of the Hossagame Beriz anterior to that year, that the discrepancies in question have occurred. The particulars in the margin will show that Rupees 185—6—4 on account of old Hossagame forms part of Rs. 2,671—4—0 which was suspended on lands newly cultivated, and for which

as exclusive of the addition from Coorg Maganes, there has been a progressive improvement in the Revenue of the whole District since Fasli 1243, and the positive increase now amounts to Rs. 1,03,852—10— 1 as shown in the margin.

beg to observe, that the seasons in other parts of this Presidency, whether as to Produce, or Prices, are no criterion for judging of the seasons on this coast, which is affected by different monsoons, and totally different markets, so that what may prove very favorable seasons for the Ryots on the other side of the Peninsula, may be quite the reverse here. Owing, happily, to the general regularity of the S. W. Monsoon, the cultivators of this coast have seldom to complain of any great losses in their crops, and the last few years have been equal to the average, but the

Fasli.	Average price per Corgee.			Commutation price per Corgee.			Increase.			Decrease.		
1245	52	15	4	56	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	8
1246	55	11	2	56	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	10
1247	56	7	3	56	0	0	0	7	3	0	0	0
1248	67	1	3	56	0	0	11	1	3	0	0	0
1249	70	14	10	56	0	0	14	14	10	0	0	0
1250	59	9	4	56	0	0	3	9	4	0	0	0
1251	48	11	3	56	0	0	0	0	0	7	4	9
1252	44	9	8	56	0	0	0	0	0	11	6	4
1253	52	0	8	56	0	0	0	0	0	3	15	4
1254	54	4	5	56	0	0	0	0	0	1	11	7

The statement in the margin shows, that in six out of the last ten years the prices have been below the commutation Rate.

38. In the same para* the Board proceed to draw a comparison between the

* Para 7. 17 years from $\frac{1209}{1799/1800}$ to $\frac{1225}{1815/16}$ Fasli, in which the Tarao was fixed, and the last 17 years from $\frac{1236}{1826/27}$ to $\frac{1252}{1842/43}$; and also between the first ten years of British Rule from $\frac{1209}{1799/1800}$ to $\frac{1218}{1808/9}$, and of the last ten years, from $\frac{1243}{1833/34}$ to $\frac{1252}{1842/43}$ the result of which they would appear to infer is unfavorable to the present system, though it is not expressly said so.

39. I must take the liberty to observe on this, that the comparisons drawn by the Board, do not exhibit any fair representation of the result of the present system, nor can I perceive, in fact, how they apply to the point urged by me, viz: the continued improvement of the Revenue, which is observable in every Taluk of the District, from the commencement of the system. Rightly to exemplify its effects, it should be shown, that for a series of years immediately preceding its introduction (exclusive of seasons of extraordinary distress) the Revenue had been stationary, or rather declining, as is admitted by the Board in their Proceedings

11th January 1836 Para 22.

* Fasli 1243.

on the first report of the * settlement under Mr. Viveash's system; while from

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Collections of 1215 being the highest of the first 10 years	Rs. 17,26,332—4—5	A. 4—5	P. 5
Collections of 1254	18,51,970—15—10		
Deduct collections of lower Coorg	79,996—13—1		
	17,71,974—2—9		
Increase in 1254	43,581—14—4		
Average of 10 years from 1209 to 1218	17,00,167—12—2		
Ditto of 10 years from 1245 to 1254	18,17,763—13—7		
Deduct lower Coorg	76,523—5—8		
	17,41,240—8—4		
Increase above the latter average	41,072—12—2		

40. A material point also, which should in fairness be taken into consideration in drawing any comparison between the present, and former state of the collections is, the all important question to the Ryot, of *prices*. In this respect, the difference to the disadvantage of the cultivator, between the first ten years of our rule, and the last ten years, is no less than 28 per cent. as shown in the margin. Had any thing approaching to a similar state of the markets, existed in the present day, there is little doubt that the Revenue might have been brought up to the full standard.

Prices at the Sea Port of Mangalore.

Average of the first ten years from 1209 to 1218 per Corgee	. 82—1—6
Average price of the last 10 years from 1245 to 1254 per Corgee	. 58—11—7
Decrease	. 23—5—11
Percentage	. 28—7—6

41. It may be urged perhaps, that the increase in the population and stock of cattle, is sufficient to account for the increase of Revenue during the period in question. But on this point, I would beg to refer the Board to their proceedings * dated 11th January 1836; where it is shown, that there had been an equal increase in the population and cattle, in the period of five years preceding the introduction of the present system, with a stationary or rather declining revenue, which the Board agree with the Collector in thinking "warrants the conclusion that the Sirkar has not secured all "which a correct system would have entitled them to." It is, therefore, I think, not an unreasonable inference, that the steadily progressive increase in the Revenue since that period, is to be ascribed to the operation of a more correct system.

42. Of the soundness of the principle of the present system indeed, no one who has had sufficient experience of the working of it, can entertain any doubt. I would confidently appeal to the opinions of the several very able Officers who have been associated with me in administering the Revenue affairs of the District for the last six or seven years; and especially to that of Mr. E. Maliby who has perhaps had greater experience in all parts of the District than any other Officer; but if the opinion of all those who have had the best opportunities of testing the efficiency of the system in question, is to be held cheap, and theory and conjecture, are to be preferred before experiment and fact, I much fear that the present unquestionable prosperity of this fine Province is in jeopardy.

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43. From the remark made by the Board in the conclusion of Para 7 of their *proceedings, viz., that in the Taluks to which the Tarao did not extend, and in which an increase in the Revenue is observable, Mr. Viveash's revision has not taken place, I am almost induced to suppose, that notwithstanding all the figured statements that have been submitted on this subject, the Board do not yet fully apprehend the working of the present system in all its parts. The fact is, that the operation of Mr. Viveash's system has applied in a *greater degree* to those Taluks, than to any others in the District, the modification of the beriz having been more extensive in them, than in any others, as will appear from the accompanying *statement. The Tarao had previously greatly relieved the higher assessed Estates in those Taluks to which it extended, and they did not, therefore, stand in need of so much revision as the other Taluks in which the Kadim Beriz remained unaltered. It is chiefly owing to the relief given to those Taluks, by the operation of the present system, that numbers of Estates previously valueless, owing to the heavy burden of the assessment, have been brought into a profitable state, followed by an increase in the Government Revenue. Had the increase in those Taluks, been owing to the survey and registry, as the Board would appear to infer, there was nothing to prevent the improvement taking place before the introduction of the new system, which, however, was not the case, the Revenue having been previously nearly stationary.

44. The existing system not having originated with me, I cannot be supposed to entertain any undue affection towards it. My advocacy of it from the first, has proceeded from a thorough conviction of its being a wise and beneficial measure both for the Government and the People. The former is proved, I think, by its having caused a steadily increasing Revenue for a series of years, not observable in any former period since our acquisition of the Province, and which has been collected with unexampled ease and regularity. The latter is shown by the improved condition, which the revision of the assessment, has given to a large number of Estates, for which it was formerly difficult to find occupants; and also, by the general rise in the value of landed property of late years, to which I have no doubt, the belief in the stability of the present revision of the assessment, has greatly contributed. The particulars of the several classes of Estates, as they are affected by the existing system, have been so fully explained in my letter to the Board dated 30th July 1842, that it is unnecessary to swell this Report by entering into any details. But as this is, perhaps, the last time I may have an opportunity of addressing the Board on the subject, I have felt it my duty to place on record my deliberate opinion of the beneficial character of the system, after seven years experience of the working of it; and of the evil that would result from any material alteration in its provisions.

45. In order to secure every advantage to the Government, I am of opinion that it would be desirable to have all the lapsed, or Sirkar Geni Wargs, surveyed, with the view of accurately defining their boundaries; and also any remaining Sirkar waste for the same purpose: whenever also there may be good reason to believe that lands have been clandestinely appropriated and added to Estates, these should be examined, and brought to account, as is in fact now done. But any thing like

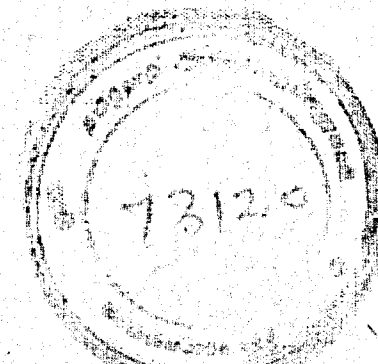
50. On the above grounds I am of opinion, that any alteration in the principle of the original assessment of this Province, would be highly inexpedient. Amongst a people so excitable and so tenacious of their rights in the soil as the Canarese, any such alteration must inevitably create the utmost discontent and dissatisfaction, if not positive opposition. The effect of it would be to check at once the improvement now going on; to lower the value of land throughout the Province, and with that, a reduction in the Government Revenue would inevitably follow. A lasting suspicion would at the same time be introduced of the justice and of the stability of the acts of the Government; and after all, I firmly believe that little or no practical advantage to the Government would be gained, and for the sacrifices made, the large sums that must be expended in the survey of a country physically so difficult as this is.

they were not prepared to expect when the scheme was originally proposed; and which they seem to think involves the whole system in confusion and uncertainty. The causes which have rendered these transfers unavoidable, have been so frequently stated to the Board in former reports, that I will not now dwell upon them. Looking merely to figured statements these alterations may probably appear serious defects, though they are in reality of no practical importance, and furnish no valid objection against the measure. A steady approximation has been making towards the end originally proposed by Mr. Vivesash, namely the bringing up all Estates to the maximum Beriz as will appear from the statement in the margin; and if it can be shown, moreover, that notwithstanding the alterations that have been found necessary, the actual result of 11 years operation of the system in question, has equalled, if not exceeded the anticipations originally formed of it, it may be reasonably inferred, that the interests of Government at

No. of Wargs.	Amount of Beriz.
31,255.	10,35,339—2—6
6,636.	3,46,583—1—3
37,921	13,81,922 3 9
41,332.	14,58,438—10—11
1,165.	56,838—1—3
42,497	15,15,276 12 2
4,576	1,33,354 8 5
	<i>Increase.</i>

least, have not suffered by the modifications allowed.

Para 13. "it is calculated that at the expiration of 12 years "from and after Fasli 1243, should nothing occur to "interrupt the progress of the arrangements, the annual revenue to Government from "the whole District will amount to Rupees 17,34,405—11—0 which exceeds the "average of 34 years by the sum of Rs. 52,880 and is Rs. 6,013 above the amount "ever realized in any one year".



53. Now the actual result of 11 years' operation of the system exceeds the anticipated result by	
Settlement of 1254 exclusive of Coorg.	17,71,974—2—9
Ditto of 1243	16,81,308—5—6
Add anticipated Increase	53,097—5—6
	17,34,405—11—0
Increase	37,568—7—9
Add Salt Beriz in 1243 deducted in 1254	11,746—0—2
	49,314—7—11

This excess is of course to be attributed to the result of the arrangements made with respect to the Estates under

investigation, which it was anticipated would still further increase the Revenue, though the amount expected under that head was not stated. When these results are weighed it may be well I think to ask, whether we should be justified in setting aside a system which has produced them, as a failure; and whether, instead of altering it for the sake of some fancied advantage, it would not be wiser, to use a homely phrase, "to let well alone".

54. What advantage the Board can contemplate by a return to the former system of uncertainty and periodical examination of produce on those Estates on

*Proceedings dated 29th May 1845,
Para 15.

which a modification of the Beriz has been recommended, which their late instruction* would involve, I am at

a loss to conceive. By such a procedure a door would be opened to fraud and continued interference on the part of the petty Revenue Officers, which it has been one object of the present system to put a stop to.

55. In conclusion, and briefly to recapitulate the principal points of the question under discussion, I would observe that the system established by Mr. Viveash is no innovation, it is no new plan which now calls for the consideration of the Board. It is merely the extension of the settlement of Mr. Harris to those cases in which it was unavoidably imperfect. The settlement of Mr. Harris has now been established for 26 years, and guaranteed to the people by every pledge that Government can give. Its very name was a guarantee given by the Government for its fixity. On the faith of this guarantee property has descended in families, and been subject to every species of transfer for years, and under this system the district has generally flourished, and the value of landed property has greatly increased.

56. I cannot but put out of the question altogether, the idea of any alteration in Mr. Harris's settlement with the view of *equalising* the assessment on Estates; proportionately to their present value; and I can only consider that the question now under consideration is, whether it is desirable that Mr. Viveash's extension of the system, should receive the sanction of Government. The object of that extension (and its effect) is to relieve the heavily assessed Estates from a burden which depreciated their value, depressed the cultivator, and paralyzed improvement. It abandons no claim but one which for 45 years the Government never has realized, and which in the opinion of those who examined the Estates, the Government never could realize. The inquiry has been made with care, and the extent of the land upon which the assessment is thus fixed, is ascertained.

It leaves the question of encroachments made by other proprietors untouched. It creates, or strengthens the most valuable of all institutions, a right of private property, firmly fixed in the habits and feelings of the people. Its effects are already visible in an increasing revenue, and a marked rise in the value of landed property and I must repeat, it is no new system, it is only completing a system commenced 26 years ago, and already applied to two-thirds of the District.

57. To cancel Mr. Viveash's extension, is to throw back the district 10 years, to destroy the confidence of the people in a settlement which ten years' experience led them to believe to be permanent, to repress habits of industry which the system has most undoubtedly engendered, and for what?—that Government may hold over the most unfavorable Estates of the District, a claim which they never have realized, and which in the opinion of every Officer who knows the District ought to be abandoned.

58. With respect to the observations of the Board in para. 9 of their Proceedings under reply, in which they suppose the new cultivation there alluded to to be concealments brought to light in the year in which the assessment on them was

*18th January 1845, Para. 27.
†30th June 1842; Para. 26.

brought to account, I beg to observe; that it has been already explained both by Mr. Thompson* and myself,†

that the term Hossagame does not necessarily imply concealed cultivation. Hossagame now brought to account is chiefly land newly brought under cultivation, which is not allowed to be taken up without the previous permission of the Collector. The strictest attention has been paid to this point for several years past; and though in a country like Canara, in a land with hills and rivers in every direction, and in many parts covered with forests, some concealed cultivation is unavoidable, I am persuaded that instances are now rare in which they are not discovered, and brought to account. The doubts and fear therefore expressed by the Board on the subject in the para. under remark, are I think without foundation.

59. The Board direct that a statement similar to the one forwarded with my Report* of the 17th October 1843

*Para. 47, marked J.

shall continue to be submitted. This

statement was prepared to show the cause of 129 Estates being transferred from the head of Bharti to Kum-Bharti and contained no information of any concealed cultivation as the Board would appear to suppose. All the information that can be required on this point, will I believe be found in Hindi Statement G.

60. The instructions of the Board* relative to the distribution of Pattas shall be attended to in the current Fasli.

*5th December 1844, Para. 11.
29th May 1845, Para. 18.

The Proceedings under acknowledgment not having been received before

the commencement of the settlement for 1254 they could not be carried into effect in that Fasli.

61. The instructions of the Board which have been approved of by Government relative to the discontinuance of the practice of giving Mool-Pattas to the occupants of Sirkar Geni wargs, shall be strictly attended to for the future but I conceive it is not the wish of Government that those Mool-Pattas which have already been granted under the sanction of the Board dated 31st August 1807 should be cancelled.

62. In Para. 7 of their Proceedings the Board remark on the deficient information afforded relative to the transfer of Estates from one class to another. On this point I beg to state, that the causes which render these transfers necessary, have been so often dwelt upon in former reports, and were shown so fully in detail in my letter to the Board of the 30th June 1842 that it seems almost a waste of time to recapitulate them. It is generally in the maganes bordering on the Ghauts, that the Bharti wargs occasionally become partially waste, and require some indulgence. But in the numerous small Estates in this District, the loss of several head of cattle, the running away of the Dhiers, or slaves, the sickness or death of some member of a ryot's family, or other unavoidable calamity, renders necessary a temporary suspension of the Government demand, which is always reassessed in the following year, unless some peculiar cause should render it desirable to extend the period of reassessment. Such temporary suspensions of the demand are unavoidable under any settlement; but as I have before stated, they form no practical objections to the present system.

63. In their Proceedings on the settlement of *1251 and †1253 the Board remark that sufficient information has not been afforded of the circumstances under which entirely waste Gardens are brought under cultivation, and how they are classed. I beg to explain that on an application being made for bringing a waste Garden into cultivation, an inquiry is ordered into its condition, and the period for bringing up the full assessment thereon is fixed in reference to the state in which it is found to be at the time. The waste Gardens are chiefly in the Balaghaut Taluks; and they are found in various stages of dilapidation. The longest period allowed for bringing them up to the full assessment is 12 years, and seldom less than nine. When assessed in this manner, they are transferred to the head of Wyda Estates.

64. The rule laid down by the Board in para. 11 of their *proceedings with respect to the disposal of arrears will be carefully attended to. I propose submitting a separate report on the state of the arrears from Fasli 1245 to 1252 as called for by the Board and †Government.

65. With respect to the observations of the Board in para. 12 of their *proceedings, I beg to enclose a †statement abstracted from that marked A, which will at one view show the effect of the inquiry made by the Collector during the annual settlement. The amount under inquiry in 1246 was Rupees 1,76,280—15—1 which is reduced to Rs. 1,43,700—8—9 during the year under report. The amount disposed of under this head in the course of nine years being Rs. 32,580—6—4.

66. The *instructions of the Board in para. 17 of the proceedings under reply with regard to the discontinuance of the new or fifth head for Estates of a certain description, which had been opened at the former †recommendation of the Board, shall be attended to. At the same time I must express my opinion, that the retention of this head is desirable, as it clearly shows the number of Estates which from unavoidable causes have been temporarily transferred from the head of Bharti, which under the former arrangement, which must now be reverted to, was not so clearly distinguished.

67. I have the honour to submit the *report of the Sub Collector Mr. Parker, which, as it is simply an exposition of the settlement of the mauks reported upon, does not call for any particular remark. The report of Mr. Ward the Additional Sub Collector has not yet reached me; but shall be forwarded as soon as received.

68. I must apologize for the delay of a few days beyond the time prescribed for sending in this report which has been chiefly occasioned by a press of other business.

I have &c.
(Signed) H. M. BLAIR,
Principal Collector.

